Foster Youth Financial Assistance Program

Bill Summary

Higher Education Support For Foster Youth (SB 22-008) requires that all public higher education institutions provide Colorado resident students who have been in foster care in Colorado at any time on or after reaching the age of 13, with financial assistance for the remaining balance of the student's total cost of attendance over the amount of any private, state, or federal financial assistance received by the student. These costs are split, with 50% of the cost being covered by the institution and 50% will be covered by the state.

Eligibility Criteria

- Placed in foster care (defined in 19-1-103, C.R.S.) in Colorado at any time on or after the student’s 13th birthday; or was in noncertified kinship care (defined in 19-1-103, C.R.S.) at any time on or after the student’s thirteenth birthday and was, at any time, adjudicated neglected or dependent pursuant to article 3 of title 19
- Attending at a state institution of higher education, local district college, or area technical college
- In their first 132 semester credit hours or 198 quarter credit hours
- Completed FAFSA/CASFA
- Completed application for Chafee Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Grant if eligible
- Enrolled in courses leading toward a certificate of completion, associate, bachelor’s, or postgraduate degree
- Satisfactory academic standing as defined by the institution of attendance
- Note, there is no age limit on this program

Cost of Attendance

This program covers the full cost of attendance at eligible Colorado institutions. The full cost of attendance varies from institution to institution but will cover full tuition, fees, reasonable living expenses (on and off campus), books, and other expenses. Examples of costs covered may include supplies, housing, food, local transportation, limited personal expenses, childcare where relevant, a computer allowance and medical insurance.

Please reach out to your institution’s financial aid office for more information.

To Solicit

- Students need to contact their institution of choice’s financial aid office directly.

For any questions or concerns, please contact fosterfinaid@dhe.state.co.us
Or visit: https://cdhe.colorado.gov/programs-services/foster-youth-financial-aid-program

For More Information

Colorado Department of Higher Education https://highered.colorado.gov/
Colorado Rises: Advancing Education and Talent Development http://masterplan.highered.colorado.gov/