



Community College Payment Program

The Community College Payment Program allows youth under DCFS Guardianship enrolling in an Illinois community college the opportunity to have their in-district tuition, fees, required books, supplies, uniforms and equipment, paid by DCFS if they are not paid by financial aid grants. Payment requests can be submitted for career and technical education programs that are part of the community college curriculum. **Requests for out-of-district and prior fiscal years' tuition will not be approved.**

Eligibility Criteria:

- Must be a youth for whom DCFS is legally responsible
- Must be accepted for enrollment by an in-district community college
- Must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)
- Must apply for financial aid through FAFSA within required deadline set by the college, designate community college to receive funds, and provide all documentation requested by the school. FAFSA funding is to be used before requesting payment from DCFS.

Benefits:

- Payment of in district community college tuition, fee, required books, supplies, uniforms, and equipment not covered by financial aid grants.
- Services and assistance as required from my permanency worker and/or DCFS education advisors.

Permanency Worker Responsibilities:

- Assist youth with completing school enrollment, FAFSA, financial aid, and all other paperwork requested by the school.
- Complete CFS407-3, review with youth and have youth read and sign Service Agreement portion of application.
- Submit completed CFS407-3 to DCFS Community College Payment Program Coordinator at least 30 days prior to class start date.

Youth Responsibilities:

- Complete ALL necessary steps to receive FAFSA related financial aid.
- Participate in education support/tutoring offered by school to maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP).
- Send an official copy of class schedule and grades to caseworker within two weeks of having access to them.
- Sign FERPA forms allowing school to communicate with permanency worker and CCPP coordinator.
- If the youth does not drop classes by drop/add date, he or she will be responsible for paying bill.

Payment Request Process:

Community College must submit the completed CFS407-3 along with student schedule, invoice and proof of financial aid status for each semester that payment is being requested to:

DCFS Community College Payment Program
2001 NE Jefferson Avenue, Peoria, IL 61603
Phone: 309-671-7969 • Fax: 309-671-7946

Illinois Department of
DCFS
Children & Family Services
www.DCFS.illinois.gov