



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, and books paid by DCFS if they are not paid by financial aid grants. Payment requests can be submitted for vocational training 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
- Has not used his/her four semesters of payments
- Must apply for financial aid through FAFSA and designate community college to receive funds

Benefits:

- Payment of in-district community college tuition, fees, and books not covered by financial aid grants for a maximum of 4 semesters, and
- Services and assistance as required from my caseworker and/or Department Education Advisors

Caseworker Responsibilities:

- Assist youth with completing school enrollment and FAFSA
- Complete applicable portion of CFS 407-3, review with youth and have youth sign Service Agreement, and provide letter documenting DCFS guardianship to youth. Caseworker must also ensure the youth submits the completed CFS 407-3 form to the community college.

Youth Responsibilities:

- Submit completed 407-3 to school for each semester payment is being requested
- Provide letter of verification of DCFS guardianship status to the community college
- Send an official copy of class schedule and grades to caseworker within two weeks after I receive them

Payment Request Process:

Completed CFS407-3, along with individual schedule and invoice, must be submitted by community college to DCFS for each semester that payment is being requested to:

Community College Payment Program, DCFS/OETS Business Office
5415 N University Street, Suite 103, Peoria, IL 61614
Phone (309) 693-5150 • Fax (309) 693-5433

Direct questions to the Office of Education and Transition Services

Chicago
312-814-5959

Peoria
309-693-5150

Springfield
217-557-2689

