



COLORADO

Department of
Higher Education

Info Sheet

Colorado Second Chance Scholarship Program

What is the Second Chance Scholarship?

The Second Chance Scholarship program seeks to reduce recidivism by awarding scholarships for the pursuit of a postsecondary credential and gainful employment by youth previously committed to the Division of Youth Services in the Colorado Department of Human Services. The scholarship is intended to help cover the costs of attending and obtaining a credential from a Colorado college, university or other postsecondary institution.

How does the program work?

Individuals will be invited to apply to the Colorado Department of Higher Education between March 1 and April 15 for academic programs beginning in 2020. Individuals are eligible for a scholarship of up to \$10,000 annually toward the cost of postsecondary education, depending on program cost and need. The Second Chance Scholarship Program staff will regularly meet with scholarship recipients to set education and employment goals and connect students with wraparound services to support students with the completion of a credential. Scholarship recipients will be required to maintain satisfactory academic progress toward their degree to keep/renew the scholarship.

Who is eligible?

To qualify, students need to meet ALL eligibility criteria. They must:

1. Be able to verify commitment to the Division of Youth Services (DYS) in the Department of Human Services.
2. Have been released from the DHS within the past five years at the time of application.
3. Be a U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident.
4. Be a Colorado resident, including through Advancing Students for a Stronger Economy Tomorrow (ASSET).
5. Demonstrate financial need, based on resources available to the applicant.
6. Be enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a student at an institution that offers postsecondary credentials (industry-recognized certificate or degree), including but not limited to an authorized occupational school, community college, public or private university, or other institution of higher education.

The application period for 2020-2021 **opens on March 1 and closes on April 15.**

Please stay tuned for more details and contact Sarah Pak, Second Chance Scholarship program coordinator, at sarah.pak@dhe.state.co.us to complete an interest form.