



COLORADO
Department of
Higher Education

FosterEd: A Pathway to Higher Education

Communications Toolkit



February 2026

Mission – We support students, advocate and develop policies to maximize higher education opportunities for all.

Vision – All Coloradans will have an education beyond high school to pursue their dreams and improve our communities.



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Talking Points

- In 2022, legislators created a program to provide higher education tuition assistance to foster students. Colorado has allocated more than \$2.5 million to aid students who have been in foster care with their postsecondary journeys.
- To support students' postsecondary journey, CDHE is introducing FosterEd. This program provides certain students who have been in foster care in Colorado an opportunity to attend any institution of higher education at no cost.
- The program allows students who have experienced out-of-home placement after age 13 to receive tuition to colleges and universities in Colorado.
- The state is dedicated to creating a pathway to postsecondary education or training for students who have experience in the foster care system. CDHE's FosterEd program helps students access financial support
- FosterEd expands opportunities for college and high-wage careers for thousands of individuals across the state who have been in foster care.
- We know that affordable access to higher education can be transformational. FosterEd provides a pathway to higher education at no cost.

Web Copy/Newsletter Blurb

English Copy

To encourage current and former foster students to continue their education, the Colorado Department of Higher Education announces FosterEd.

Click [here](#) to learn how the program works.

This program covers the full cost of attendance at Colorado colleges and universities. Coverage could include tuition, fees, living expenses (on and off campus), books and other expenses. Additional examples of costs covered include supplies, housing, food, local transportation, limited personal expenses, childcare where relevant, a computer allowance and medical insurance.

To apply, students should contact the financial aid office at their institution of choice.

Please reach out to a CDHE foster care navigator for guidance on completing the application.

Spanish Copy

Para animar a los estudiantes que hayan experimentado colocación fuera del hogar a continuar su educación, el Departamento de Educación Superior de Colorado anuncia FosterEd.

Haz clic [aquí](#) para saber cómo funciona el programa.

Este programa cubre el costo total de la asistencia a las universidades y colegios de Colorado. La cobertura podría incluir matrícula, tasas, gastos de manutención (dentro y fuera del campus), libros y otros gastos. Otros ejemplos de gastos cubiertos incluyen suministros, alojamiento, comida, transporte local, gastos personales limitados, cuidado infantil cuando sea relevante, una asignación para ordenadores y seguro médico.

Para solicitar, los estudiantes deben contactar con la oficina de ayuda financiera de la institución que elijan.

Por favor, contacta con un asesor de acogida de CDHE para recibir orientación sobre cómo completar la solicitud.

Frequently Asked Questions

Steps for enrolling in FosterEd for the 2025-26 academic year

- The student obtains Confirmation of Foster Care Experience form*.
- The student completes either the FAFSA or CASFA for the appropriate school year.
- The student completes the ETV application, if eligible.
- The student needs to complete and submit a [FERPA Consent Form\(opens in new window\)](#) to the institution the student plans to attend.
- The student needs to contact the FosterEd Liaison or financial aid office at the institution the student plans to attend to self-identify as eligible for the program before the identified semester deadline. The liaison will require proof of foster care experience, proof that the student successfully submitted their ETV application (if eligible), and a completed FERPA Consent Form. **No one else may self-identify on behalf of the student.**

Steps for enrolling in FosterEd for the 2026-27 academic year

- Obtain Confirmation of Foster Care Experience form*.
- Complete either the FAFSA or CASFA for the appropriate school year.
- Complete the [ETV](#) application, if eligible.
- Complete the FosterEd application available on the [FosterEd website](#).

* Beginning March 1, 2026, students will apply to the FosterEd program once per year through an online application available on the FosterEd website. This application will be for the 2026–27 academic year. All processes for the 2025–26 academic year will remain unchanged; students seeking support for Spring and Summer 2026 should continue to contact the financial aid office at their institution of choice to self-identify and connect with their designated financial aid liaison.

Please reach out to a CDHE Postsecondary Options Navigator for guidance on completing the application or for support navigating this process.

Other questions?

Student inquiries can be directed to fcnavigator@dhe.state.co.us.

Financial aid directors can direct their questions to fosterfinaid@dhe.state.co.us.

Promotion Resources

Graphics

[Go to the Graphics folder](#)

Social Media

Signature Hashtag: #FosterEd

Complementary Hashtags: #FosterAidCO #FosterStudentAid #EdColo #COLeg

CDHE Handles:

Facebook: [Colorado Department of Higher Education](#)

X (formerly Twitter): [@COHigherEd](#)

Instagram: [@CoHigherEd](#)

LinkedIn: [Colorado Department of Higher Education](#)

YouTube: [Colorado Department of Higher Education](#)

Sample Media Posts

English

- FosterEd supports high school graduates in their path to postsecondary success. Today, students can get their full tuition, fees, reasonable living expenses, books, and other expenses paid for. All Colorado resident students who have been in foster care after reaching age 13 are encouraged to apply. Visit the [FosterEd webpage](#) to learn more.
- Are you a high school graduate who experienced out-of-home placement? If so, (insert institution name here) wants to support your postsecondary journey by covering tuition, fees expenses and books! Visit the [FosterEd webpage](#) to learn more.
- The Colorado Department of Higher Education is partnering with (insert institution name here) to support students who have experienced out-of-home placement. With more than full tuition, fees, reasonable living expenses, books, and other expenses paid for with 2.5 million in aid available, we want to help pay for your tuition, fees, expenses, and books! Visit the [FosterEd webpage](#) to learn more.
- The state is dedicated to creating a pathway to postsecondary education or training for students who have experience in the foster care system. CDHE's FosterEd program helps students access financial support. Visit the [FosterEd webpage](#) to learn more.
- Colorado has a new program for current and former foster students that covers the cost of tuition and other expenses at Colorado colleges and universities. FosterEd unlocks opportunities for college and high-wage careers for thousands of individuals across the state who have been in foster care. Visit the [FosterEd webpage](#) to learn more.

Spanish

- FosterEd apoya a los estudiantes graduados de preparatoria en su camino hacia el éxito en la educación superior. Hoy en día, los estudiantes pueden pagar la matrícula completa, las tasas, los gastos razonables de manutención, los libros y otros gastos. Se anima a todos los

estudiantes residentes de Colorado que hayan estado en acogida después de cumplir los 13 años a que soliciten plaza. Visita la [página web de FosterEd](#) para obtener más información.

- ¿Eres un estudiante graduado de preparatoria que experimentó una colocación fuera de casa? Si es así, (insert institution name here) quiere apoyar tu camino postsecundario cubriendo matrícula, tasas, gastos y libros. Visita la [página web de FosterEd](#) para obtener más información.
- El Departamento de Educación Superior de Colorado colabora con (insert institution name here) para apoyar a estudiantes que hayan experimentado colocación fuera del hogar. Con más que la matrícula completa, tasas, gastos razonables de manutención, libros y otros gastos cubiertos con 2.5 millones en ayudas disponibles, queremos ayudarte a pagar la matrícula, tasas, gastos y libros. Visita la [página web de FosterEd](#) para obtener más información.
- El estado está dedicado a crear una vía hacia la educación o formación postsecundaria para los estudiantes con experiencia en el sistema de acogida. El programa FosterEd de CDHE ayuda a los estudiantes a acceder a apoyo financiero. Visita la [página web de FosterEd](#) para obtener más información.
- Colorado cuenta con un nuevo programa para estudiantes que hayan experimentado colocación fuera del hogar que cubre el coste de la matrícula y otros gastos en las universidades y colegios de Colorado. FosterEd desbloquea oportunidades de carrera universitaria y de alta remuneración para miles de personas en todo el estado que han estado en acogida. Visita la [página web de FosterEd](#) para obtener más información.

Additional Content

- Additional resources can be found on the [FosterEd webpage](#).
- Fact Sheet
- Slide Deck

- [Student Checklist](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Education and Training Voucher and FosterEd Glossary of Terms](#)