

## Care Forward Colorado - Updated 1/18/23

### Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Q: What is Care Forward Colorado SB 22226?**

**A:** Care Forward Colorado is a state funded program to revitalize Colorado's healthcare workforce through zero-cost, short-term training programs at community and technical colleges. Starting in Fall 2022, students who enroll in an eligible **healthcare certificate programs** and complete all requirements may have **tuition, fees, and course materials covered** as Care Forward Colorado funding allows.

2. **Q: What programs qualify for funding?**

**A:** You can find details on the eligible program list on the website at <https://www.arapahoe.edu/care-forward-colorado>. The programs at ACC include:

EMT Certificate (12 credit hours)

Medical Assistant Certificate (29 credit hours)

Medical Office Technology Billing & Reimbursement Certificate (25 credit hours)

Medical Office Administrative Assistant Certificate (9 credit hours)

Nurse Aide Certificate (6 credit hours)

Paramedic Preparation Certificate (32 credit hours)

Phlebotomy Certificate (7 credit hours)

3. **Q: What students qualify for funding?**

**A:** Students who enroll in an eligible **healthcare certificate programs** (listed above), complete the [FAFSA](#) or [CASFA](#), and complete the attestation are likely eligible. Students must be eligible for Colorado Residency for tuition purposes (individual exceptions MAY be made for students residing in Colorado who have not yet been here for 12 consecutive months).

4. **What are the requirements for students to receive Care Forward funds?**

**A:** 1. Complete of FAFSA or CASFA (if you cannot complete FAFSA) and

2. Enroll in one of ACC's eligible healthcare certificate programs and enroll in courses required for that program and

3. Complete the Care Forward Attestation:

[https://arapahoecommunitycollege.formstack.com/forms/2022\\_2023\\_care\\_forward\\_colorado\\_attestation](https://arapahoecommunitycollege.formstack.com/forms/2022_2023_care_forward_colorado_attestation)

5. **Q: How long will the Care Forward funding be available?**

**A:** The Care Forward funds are finite. Awards started in fall 2022 and will continue until the money is awarded to students or until fall 2024 (funds will likely be depleted before fall 2024).

6. **Q: How are the Care Forward funds distributed?**

**A:** The Care Forward funding model requires that these are last-paying funds. Meaning, if students have other (non-loan) funds (i.e.: grants or scholarships) that are directly going toward these costs, we are required to reduce the Care Forward money.

7. **Q: When is the Care Forward money distributed?**

**A:** The Care Forward funds will be distributed after the main census for the semester. Students can identify their census date by signing into the myACC portal, clicking on the student tab, and looking at their detailed schedule with the withdrawal dates. \*Census is the last day to drop a course without financial responsibility.

8. **Q: Can students receive funding if they are enrolled in an Associate of Arts (AA) or Associate of Science (AS) and the certificate is part of their AA or AS program?**

**A:** Students who are taking the courses (NUA courses are the most common) as part of the AA or AS program are not eligible. An eligible certificate program (listed above) must be the primary major.

**9. Q: Can students that are enrolled in the Associate of General Studies - Pre-Nursing-major use Care Forward to cover their CNA courses?**

**A: Unfortunately, no.** The funds are intended to help students get certifications and then go directly into the workforce. Funds declared in this grant are not to pay for prerequisite courses for Nursing school. Once you have your healthcare experience, please consider returning to ACC for one of our many degrees in the Health pathway to help grow your career.

**10. Q: Does the program need to be my primary major if I am enrolled in multiple programs?**

**A:** Yes, if a student is enrolled in multiple programs, the eligible program must be the primary major.

**11. Q: Do I need to complete a signed attestation to receive the funding?**

**A:** Yes, as of 12/14/22 the state requires a signed attestation from each student receiving the Care Forward Colorado funding.

**12. Q: How do I submit the attestation?**

**A:** Eligible students should have received an email from financial aid with a link to the attestation form (link below). The form is also available on the ACC Care Forward website.

[https://arapahoecommunitycollege.formstack.com/forms/2022\\_2023\\_care\\_forward\\_colorado\\_attestation](https://arapahoecommunitycollege.formstack.com/forms/2022_2023_care_forward_colorado_attestation)

**13. Q: What happens if I do not complete the attestation?**

**A:** Students will not receive funding until the attestation is completed.

**14. Q: What does the attestation say?**

**A:** Students will need to confirm the following:

"I have experienced an economic loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic or suffered another form of economic loss such as:

- lost or adverse changes in employment,
- experienced unemployment or underemployment
- increased food or housing insecurity,
- formerly incarcerated,
- had to withdraw from college after March 13, 2020,
- K-12 student on or after March 13, 2020
- eligible for a Federal Pell Grant
- eligible for free or reduced lunch
- eligible for Head Start
- eligible for a childcare subsidy
- eligible for SNAP or TANF
- another economic loss"

**15. Q: Can I receive Care Forward funds for more than one program?**

**A:** Possibly, depending on fund availability. You may only receive funds for the outside costs (i.e.: uniform, books, supplies) for one program. Beyond the first program, the funds will only go toward tuition and fees as last payer.

**16. Q: How do I get assistance completing a FAFSA or CASFA?**

**A:** FAFSA Labs are in person at the ACC Littleton Campus in room M1640 from 1:00 - 6:00pm on Mondays. Our partners at the Educational Opportunity Center at Community College of Denver (CCD) are also ready to help you with the FAFSA. You can schedule a virtual (Webex) appointment: Monday - Friday from 8am – 5pm. Call EOC's main number at 303.352.8746 or email them at [eoc@ccd.edu](mailto:eoc@ccd.edu). For assistance with the CASFA, contact [ACC's Financial Aid Department](#).

**17. Q: Will any expenses need to be paid up front?**

**A:** Students will need to pay for any supplies needed for the first day of class. These costs will be reimbursed.

**18. Q: Is there a deadline for submission of the FAFSA/CASFA for students to receive the funding?**

**A:** No, but funds are awarded as applications are complete and as money remains available.

**19. Q: When will I be notified about receiving the funding so that I can make other financial arrangements, if necessary?**

**A:** This depends on when you get all your documents submitted. We will begin awarding on a first-come, first-served basis after census day and will continue to award funds until all applications have been reviewed or the money runs out.

**20. Q: Some programs (Medical Office Technology programs in particular) have been telling students that payment needs to be made a month in advance. Some students are not able to pay everything in advance. What are we advising these students?**

**A:** Care Forward is paid as a reimbursement. You won't be dropped from your classes, but please be aware that if you attend beyond the census date, you are responsible to pay for each class regardless of whether you qualify for the grant. It is in your best interest to make alternative payment arrangements, like enrolling in a payment plan. Your chances of getting Care Forward funding and the amount you will be awarded will not be affected by making payments or payment arrangements for your account.

**21. Q: Will the program help pay for uniforms, testing or state exams?**

**A:** These expenses, as determined by each department chair, are included in the reimbursement amount.

**22. What if I have a degree or certificate already, can I still qualify?**

**A:** Yes.

**23. Q: Do I need to be a Colorado resident?**

**A:** Students must be eligible for Colorado Residency for tuition purposes (individual exceptions MAY be made for students residing in Colorado who have not yet been here for 12 consecutive months).

**24. Q: If students withdraw or fail, do they need to pay any of the tuition?**

**A:** This is a state grant funded program that currently does not require repayment of funds for failed classes, however, failing classes could impact your financial aid in the future.

**Additional Questions?**

Prospective and new students, contact Kathryn Kenyon, Success Coach at [Kathryn.kenyon@arapahoe.edu](mailto:Kathryn.kenyon@arapahoe.edu) or Admissions at 303.797.5637

Continuing students, contact Financial Aid at [financialaid@arapahoe.edu](mailto:financialaid@arapahoe.edu) or 303.797.5661