

Foster Youth Fee Waiver Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

First, check out the [Who, What, When, Where, & Why Fact Sheet](#) and the [Steps to Obtain Fact Sheet!](#)

Why is it called a “fee waiver,” as opposed to a “tuition waiver?” I thought it paid for tuition, not fees.

The NSHE Foster Youth Fee Waiver is known as a “fee waiver” because it covers most course registration fees that qualifying NSHE undergraduate students are charged when they register for (enroll in) college courses (specifically the [base course registration fees](#), as well as any applicable lower-division laboratory fees, for all eligible courses in which you are enrolled). “Tuition” is an extra course registration fee that only applies to out-of-state students. Don’t worry; the fee waiver covers the largest fees associated with enrolling in college courses!! And, you can use your other financial aid (like the Pell Grant) to cover your smaller student fees and other expenses within your annual Cost of Attendance!



Does the fee waiver cover ANY NSHE course?

NO. State-supported academic credit-bearing courses that lead to a degree or certificate (i.e. courses eligible for government-funded financial aid)—including distance education (online), independent learning, and continuing education courses—are **ELIGIBLE** for the fee waiver. Self-supporting courses (i.e. courses ineligible for government-funded financial aid)—including self-supporting independent study and correspondence courses—are **INELIGIBLE**.

Can high school equivalency certificate recipients be admitted to and use the fee waiver at any NSHE school?

NO. The admission requirements vary by school. UNLV and UNR both require a high school diploma for first-year/freshman admission, whereas the other 5 NSHE institutions (NSC, CSN, GBC, TMCC, and WNC) accept the TASC, HiSET, or GED for admission purposes.

NOTE: NSC is not “open access,” like the 4 community colleges, so admission is not guaranteed.

If I am enrolled in more than one NSHE school at a time, or if I transfer from one NSHE school to another, can I use the fee waiver at multiple schools? Is there a funding cap?

YES, you can receive the fee waiver at multiple NSHE schools; and, **NO,** there is not a funding cap. As long as you qualify for the fee waiver and are eligible to receive financial aid at the school(s) in question, you can receive the fee waiver at multiple schools, for as long as you qualify. There is no cap on the total fee waiver-specific dollars that you can receive; and there is no cap on the total number of academic years for which you can receive the fee waiver.

Are there any fees associated with course registration that are NOT covered by the fee waiver?

YES. The following fees are NOT covered by the fee waiver:

- Laboratory fees for all courses numbered AT OR ABOVE the 300 level or those at any level exceeding \$100
- Per semester fees, such as the Health Service fee
- Special course fees for purposes other than class supplies—including individual instruction, third-party charges, and special transportation requirements
- Technology fees

If I already have a bachelor’s degree and am under age 26, can I receive the fee waiver for graduate school?

NO. The fee waiver is limited to undergraduate courses.

Is there a per-semester credit enrollment minimum, in order to receive the fee waiver?

NO. The fee waiver is prorated to match the exact number of credits in which a student is enrolled. However, be aware that other forms of financial aid require enrollment in 6+, 9+, or 12+ credits per semester.

Am I eligible for the fee waiver if I am receiving Court Jurisdiction, Funds to Assist Former Foster Youth (FAFFY), and/or Education(al) and Training Voucher (ETV) funds?

YES! The fee waiver only covers course costs; so, those funds and other forms of financial aid are still accessible to you and necessary to cover other school and living expenses.

Can I receive the fee waiver if I was adopted?

YES! As long as you were in the custody of a Nevada child welfare agency, at or after age 13 (for at least one day)—and as long as you meet all other eligibility requirements—you can receive the fee waiver.

Are students who were in the custody of a Nevada child welfare agency, at or after age 13, but placed out of state—for treatment or through an Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children (ICPC)—eligible for the fee waiver?

YES! Eligibility is based on being in the custody of a Nevada child welfare agency, at or after age 13. It does not matter if you were in an out-of-state placement and/or attended (or even graduated from) an out-of-state high school.

Are students who were in the custody of an out-of-state child welfare agency, at or after age 13, but placed in Nevada—for treatment or through an Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children (ICPC)—eligible for the fee waiver?

NO. Eligibility is based on being in the custody of a Nevada child welfare agency, at or after age 13. If you were in the custody of an out-of-state child welfare agency, you are unfortunately ineligible for the fee waiver. However, you may be eligible for foster care-specific college resources from your state of dependency.

Can I receive the fee waiver during the semester in which I turn 26 years old?

YES! As long as you have not yet reached your 26th birthday by the first day of the semester, you can receive the fee waiver during the semester in which you turn 26 years old.

More questions about the fee waiver policy/requirements?

Contact **Laura Obrist**, with the [NSHE Fostering Success Initiative](#).

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NOTE: Fee waiver contacts for each NSHE school and Nevada child welfare agency are listed on the [fee waiver form](#).

