FOSTERING SUCCESS INITIATIVE EST. 2018

Foster Youth Fee Waiver
Who, What, When, Where, & Why

Who can use the Foster Youth Fee Waiver?

What are the INITIAL eligibility requirements for the fee waiver?

You must meet all four (4):

1) In foster care (adjudicated "ward of the court" status), in Nevada, at the age of 13 years and/or older (for at least one day);
2) Graduated from high school or passed the HiSET, TASC, or GED;
3) Completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA); and
4) Under the age of 26 years.

What are the CONTINUING eligibility requirements for the fee waiver?

1) You must complete the FAFSA for each academic year during which you plan to attend college, for even one semester.
2) You must meet institutional Title IV financial aid **Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)** requirements at your school (or have an approved SAP Appeal), starting with your 2nd semester as a fee waiver recipient (NOTE: SAP requirements do NOT apply to your 1st semester as a fee waiver recipient, even if you completed one or more semesters of college before you became a fee waiver recipient).
   - You must maintain a **cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0** (NOTE: Scholarships have differing GPA requirements, so any scholarships you are awarded may require a higher continuing GPA than the fee waiver requires).
   - You must receive **passing grades in a minimum of 66.67%-70% (depending on your school) of all attempted courses**.
3) You must be under the age of 26 years, on the first day of any semester for which you are seeking the fee waiver.

What is the Foster Youth Fee Waiver?

The fee waiver is a type of college financial aid that **covers the undergraduate base course registration (enrollment) fees** at any of Nevada's public colleges/universities. The fee waiver specifically *waives* the eligible base course registration (enrollment) fees, as well as any eligible lower-division laboratory fees, for all eligible courses in which the student is enrolled.

When can I use the Foster Youth Fee Waiver?

The fee waiver applies to the **fall and spring semesters** (summer term is excluded). Additionally, it can only be used by qualifying **undergraduate-level students who have not yet reached their 26th birthday, as of the first day of the semester**.

Where can I access the Foster Youth Fee Waiver?

The fee waiver can be accessed at any of the 7 degree-granting colleges/universities within the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE). Each school internally *waives* eligible course registration and lower-division laboratory fees for its qualifying students (the dollar amount of undergraduate fees charged/waived varies—based on the institution, total number of credits, and specific courses in which the student is enrolled).

Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) Colleges & Universities:

1) **University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV)**
2) **University of Nevada, Reno (UNR)**
3) **Nevada State University (NSU)**
4) **College of Southern Nevada (CSN)**
5) **Great Basin College (GBC)**
6) **Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC)**
7) **Western Nevada College (WNC)**

UNLV · University of Nevada, Reno · Nevada State University · College of Southern Nevada (Investing in Our Future. Students First.) · Great Basin College · TMCC Truckee Meadows Community College · Western Nevada College

Why is the course registration (enrollment) fee waiver important?

The fee waiver is important because it covers most course fees that qualifying students are charged when they register for (enroll in) college courses. This makes postsecondary education more accessible, because other "gift aid" (i.e. financial aid that does NOT need to be repaid, such as vouchers, grants, and scholarships) can be used elsewhere, to help cover additional critical expenses within students' full annual *Cost of Attendance* (per-semester fees, books, housing, food, transportation, and other living costs)—without the need for excessive student loans (which need to be REPAID, with *interest*/extra fees!) or work hours. This allows students to focus on their coursework, rather than how to pay for it.

For more information, check out the Steps to Obtain Fact Sheet and the FAQs Fact Sheet!

Contact **Laura Obrist**—statewide contact for the NSHE Fostering Success Initiative—with additional questions about the fee waiver policy/requirements, and the other financial aid and wraparound support resources provided by the initiative (lobrist@nshe.nevada.edu; 702-522-7035 - call/text).

IMPORTANT NOTE: The NSHE Foster Youth Fee Waiver form hyperlink always has the most updated version of the fee waiver form—with the correct eligibility information, as well as the correct contact information for the 7 NSHE colleges/universities, the 3 Nevada child welfare agencies, and NSHE System Administration (make sure that you access the current electronic version—NOT an older version, such as an old saved PDF or an old printed copy!).