

CCCS LAST MILE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

OVERVIEW

Last Mile Scholarships are awarded to students pursuing an Associate's Degree or certificate who have completed 75% of program requirements and have a financial barrier that is delaying completion. Students who have reached this stage have proven they can succeed in college. However, they may have financial obstacles that limit the number of classes they can take which delays their academic progress. Scholarship support for students who are near completion enables these students to focus on their studies, take additional classes, and graduate when it might otherwise not be possible.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Students receiving Last Mile Scholarships will meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Pursuing an Associate's degree or certificate
- Have a maximum of 15 credit hours remaining to earn an Associate's degree or completed 75% of program requirements for certificates
- Be able to complete the credential in the semester in which the scholarship is sought
- Have a minimum GPA of 2.0
- Have unmet financial need as defined by the U.S. Department of Education (tuition, fees, books, and materials) in the range of \$100-\$2,500
- Have additional need or have exhausted Pell eligibility or VA benefits or have a demonstrated hardship (academic, personal, health, etc.) or financial constraint (employment, etc.)
- Be eligible for in-state tuition

Scholarships may be used for tuition, fees, books, and materials and will pay directly into the student's college account.

SELECTION PROCESS

The selection process is administered by CCCS Financial Aid in partnership with college financial aid offices. Awards are made throughout the year, as financial aid sees fit, with no requirement that funds be distributed evenly across semesters. The Foundation awards funds directly to the colleges once provided with detail on recipients and awards from CCCS Financial Aid.

STUDENT PROCESS:

• The student will need a copy of their degree/program audit and should then contact the Financial Aid Office.

FINANCIAL AID OFFICE PROCESS:



- The financial aid office will complete a Last Mile Eligibility Verification Sheet for the student.
- Completed forms will then be emailed directly to Karla Nash (<u>karla.nash@cccs.edu</u>) and to the College Financial Aid Director.

THE CCCS AWARDING PROCESS:

- Eligible students will be awarded based on the order the verification sheet is received via email.
- Funding is limited and awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.
- CCCS will note the status of the request in the student's file when the sheet is reviewed.
- Financial Aid Directors and the Staff member submitting the form will be informed of the status of the request.
- Funding will be transferred by check from the Foundation for Colorado Community Colleges directly to the student's college.