



Community College Gap Assistance Program

January 2025

OVERVIEW

The Community College Gap Assistance program was established by the Nebraska Legislature in 2015 to address identified skilled workforce shortages. The program provides financial aid to low-income community college students enrolled in credit or non-credit programs of study that prepare them for jobs in high-need fields but are not eligible for Pell or state Nebraska Opportunity Grants, which serve only students enrolled in for-credit courses leading to certificates or degrees. The Gap Assistance program addresses an identified affordability and workforce preparation “gap.”

WHAT TYPES OF PROGRAMS ARE OFFERED?

Currently, a diverse list of over 360 non-credit and credit programs are available. The full list is available on the CCPE website at ccpe.nebraska.gov/gap.

Examples: OSHA, Welding, A+ Certification, Accounting and Finance, Bookkeeper, Medical Coding and Billing, Pharmacy Technician, Certified Nursing Assistant, Renewable Energy, EMT, Commercial Truck Driving.

WHAT CAN GAP COVER?

Partial or full amounts for tuition, required books and equipment, and fees (including industry testing).

WHERE DO STUDENTS APPLY?

In-person or online depending on the community college. Applicants should check with their community college contact person.

HOW IS THE PROGRAM FUNDED?

Funding for the Gap Assistance program, about \$2.2 million for FY24, is now provided through a quarterly transfer of 7% from the Education Improvement fund, which receives 44.5% of lottery proceeds.

BY THE NUMBERS

<i>Training Status (as of June 2024)</i>	<i>Cumulative</i>
Number of Completed Applications	2,626
Number of Approved Participants	2,465
Status of Approved Participants	
Waiting to Participate	13
Enrolled, not completed	207
Completed Training	1,694
Completion Rate	75%
Did Not Complete Training	551

COMMUNITY COLLEGE CONTACTS

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