



## You've chosen a great path for your future! What's your next step?

### STEP 1 Begin Adult Education

To receive the Futures for Frontliners (F4F)-Path 2 scholarship, you must enroll (or already be enrolled) with a state-approved adult education program to earn a high school diploma or prepare for a high school equivalency exam.

#### Enroll in a state-approved adult education program.

- Use the [Adult Education Services Locator](#) to obtain contact information for a participating program near you. Call or email the provider and be sure to let them know that you were accepted into the F4F-Path 2 program.
- The adult education provider may send you an online registration link or take your information by phone. They will ask questions to determine your educational goals and identify other supports you may need to be successful.
- You will be asked to take a pre-test to determine the appropriate level of classes for you. They will also help you determine if you should take classes toward a high school diploma or prepare for a high school equivalency exam (GED® or HiSET®).
- Don't delay your enrollment! To remain eligible for this scholarship, you must begin attending your adult education class **by December 1, 2021**, and attend regularly. Review the attendance requirements with your adult education provider.

#### Plan your path to community college or a skills training program.

- A career navigator will help you select a qualifying program offered by your local community college or approved training provider that will lead to an associate degree or industry-recognized certificate or credential.

- ✓ They will also help you plan a timeline for enrollment; you may enroll in college or skills training while finishing your diploma or equivalency, or after you have attained it.
- ✓ Make a financial plan for costs that are not covered by the scholarship, such as course materials, textbooks, transportation, daycare, and living expenses.
  - Your adult education provider and your local [Michigan Works!](#) office can help you explore other education and training support programs for adults.
  - A community college representative can help you identify additional sources of student financial aid.

## STEP 2 Apply for College or Skills Training

Each training provider or community college has its own process you must complete to apply and/or register. Your career navigator will be there to help if needed! Here are some common steps:

### □ Complete the online application form.

All community colleges and most training providers have online applications. Before you start the form, you may need to create an online account.

### □ Submit your transcript.

The application process may require you to submit your transcript. Here's how you can access your transcript:

- ✓ If you earned your high school diploma, your adult education provider will give you a copy of your transcript or you may be directed to order your transcript from [Parchment.com](#). To order one, you'll need to create an online account, provide basic information, and use a credit card to pay \$3.25.
- ✓ If you attained your high school equivalency, create an account to order your GED® or HiSET® transcript from [DiplomaSender.com](#). You will be asked for your name, birthday, when and where you took your high school equivalency exam. A copy is available for free within 12 months of attainment. It costs \$22 to reorder one, and you can pay by credit card or money order.

### □ Complete placement testing.

Colleges may ask you to take a reading, writing, and/or math test as part of the application process. They use these tests to identify areas where you may need or want additional support in your first college courses, especially your initial English or math course.

- ✓ Since you have recently earned your high school diploma or equivalent, you may be able to submit your transcript instead of taking a placement test.
- ✓ If you've recently taken the SAT®, ACT®, AP®, College-Level Examination Program (CLEP®) or Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB®) tests, you may be able to submit your test scores instead of taking a placement test.
- ✓ If English is your second language, you may be required to demonstrate your language proficiency. This is done through the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language), IELTS (International English Language Testing System) or an institution-specific exam.

**Some students are nervous to take a placement test. That's understandable! Remember, no matter your score, you ARE college material.**

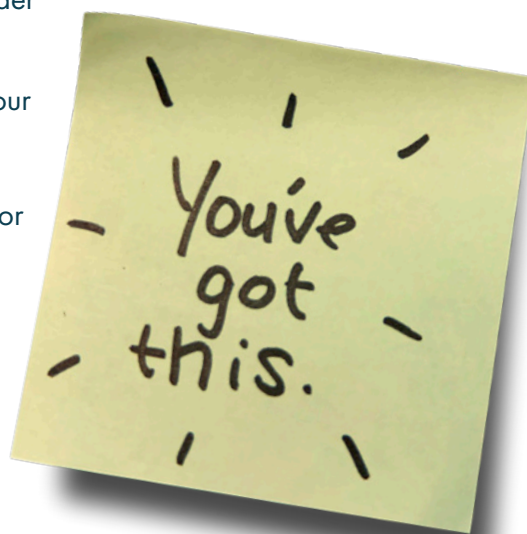
If the test results show that you might benefit from extra support in your first college English or math course, you are not alone. Most colleges offer extra support in these initial courses either in a dedicated support course taken in addition to an English or math course, or in a special section of an English or math course where the support is built in. This keeps students moving forward on their path to graduation while receiving extra attention and practice to refresh their writing or math skills.

Check your college's website for their policies or ask a college admissions counselor.

#### **Verify the scholarship payment arrangements.**

If you've chosen to attend a program with a private training provider, your adult education provider will need to verify your scholarship eligibility and let them know where and to whom to send a bill for your eligible expenses. Touch base with your adult education provider to make sure this information is communicated.

If you've chosen to attend a community or tribal college, tell your financial aid advisor that you are participating in F4F-Path 2. They can verify your eligibility once you've completed Step 3 below. If they have any trouble verifying that you are eligible for the scholarship, you or your advisor can contact our office at [LEO-AdultEd@michigan.gov](mailto:LEO-AdultEd@michigan.gov) for assistance.



### **STEP 3 Submit Your FAFSA**

If the program you selected accepts financial student aid from the federal government, the Futures for Frontliners scholarship requires you to complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Your career navigator or college admissions counselor can help you determine if you must do this step.

#### **Gather your materials.**

To complete the FAFSA, you'll need your:

- Social Security number or Alien Registration Number.
- Driver's license, if you have one.
- Previous year's federal income tax return, if you filed.
- Bank account statements.
- Previous year's W-2 form (and for your spouse, if married).

#### **Create an FSA ID at [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov).**

An FSA ID is a username and password you'll use to complete, sign, and submit your FAFSA. To create one, you'll need your social security number and date of birth. You'll also need to provide an email address or mobile phone number.

**Complete the online form at [FAFSA.ed.gov](https://fafsa.ed.gov).**

- ✔ **There's an app for that!** The FAFSA application is also available for free on the myStudentAid app from the U.S. Department of Education. Look for it in the Apple App Store or Google Play.
- ✔ **Never pay to apply.** Completing the FAFSA is always free. Make sure you are at the official FAFSA site.

**Sign and submit the FAFSA.**

One of most common mistakes students make is not signing their FAFSA. Since it's electronic, you will sign using your FSA ID and password. Once your FAFSA is submitted, you'll see a confirmation page and receive a confirmation email.

Don't worry if the FAFSA indicates you're not eligible for federal aid. There are no income eligibility requirements for this scholarship.

Feeling overwhelmed or stuck? Experts are available to help you complete the FAFSA.

- ✔ Chat with the federal FAFSA team online at [FAFSA.ed.gov](https://fafsa.ed.gov) or by phone at **1-800-4FED-AID (1-800-433-3243)**.
- ✔ Contact the financial aid office at your college.

## **STEP 4** Begin College or Skills Training

**Participate in orientation.**

Some programs require students to participate in orientation either on campus or online. For adults, sometimes orientation is optional. We strongly recommend you participate! Orientation helps you get to know campus and better understand the academic, financial, and personal resources available. During orientation, you may also meet with an academic advisor and register for classes.

**Register for classes.**

Depending on the program you selected, your classes may be offered on a fixed schedule or you may have the flexibility to choose your classes. If the classes are flexible, an academic advisor can help you select classes that work for your schedule and help you move quickly toward graduation.

- ✔ Review your continued eligibility requirements with your adult education provider or college financial aid advisor.

If you have any questions, please email [LEO-AdultEd@michigan.gov](mailto:LEO-AdultEd@michigan.gov).