

Your *Passport* will help you cross the college border

Earning a living after high school can be challenging. But in college, you'll gain valuable skills.



A degree or certificate after high school can help you develop confidence, learn about the world, and get a job earning more money than you might imagine.



WASHINGTON
**HIGHER
EDUCATION**
COORDINATING BOARD



www.hecb.wa.gov/passport

Passport to College Promise Program

917 Lakeridge Way SW

PO Box 43430

Olympia, WA 98504-3430

Phone: 360-753-7846

Toll Free: 1-888-535-0747

Fax: 360-704-6246

E-mail: passporttocollege@hecb.wa.gov

Think you can't go to college?

Think again.

The state of Washington has created the **Passport to College Promise** just for foster youth like you.

This new program is designed to encourage foster youth to prepare for and succeed in college.



This is *your* Passport to College.

Am I eligible?

You are eligible for this program if:

- You spent at least one year in care after your sixteenth birthday.
- You emancipated from foster care on or after January 1, 2007.
- You are a Washington resident.
- You will be enrolled at least half-time in an eligible college by age twenty-one.
- You have not earned a bachelor's or professional degree.

Colleges will confirm your eligibility when you enroll.



What do I need to do?

Step One: Get a Passport consent form from your case worker, or download a form from the Higher Education Coordinating Board Web site at: www.hecb.wa.gov/passport

Step Two: If you are interested in the program, mail, e-mail, or fax the completed consent form to the Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Step Three: Get ready for college. Take the right classes and develop an educational plan with a trusted adult.

Step Four: Identify yourself as a Passport student when you apply for admission or register for classes.

How can the Passport to College Promise Program Help Me?

You may be eligible to receive the following:

- A scholarship, along with other assistance, that will go toward your tuition and living expenses for up to five years of higher education. The maximum need-based scholarship amount is currently \$3,000 per year—starting in the fall of 2010.
- Guidance from college academic and financial aid counselors.
- Support finding housing during breaks and over the summer.
- Special consideration for the State Need Grant and State Work Study.



Check out these other college and career resources available for foster youth:

Governor's Scholarship
www.collegesuccessfoundation.org/gs/index.htm

Educational Training and Voucher (ETV)
<http://independence.wa.gov/programs/etv.asp>
Phone: 1-877-433-8388

Independence for Foster Youth
www.independence.wa.gov

Foster Care to 21
www.independence.wa.gov/programs/fc21.asp

Casey Family Programs
www.casey.org