



NEBRASKA **CAREER SCHOLARSHIPS**

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

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NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Opportunity.

DEPT. OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

INTRODUCTION

The Nebraska Career Scholarships program, implemented in January 2021 after the passage of LB1008 (2020), is a collaboration between the Nebraska Department of Economic Development (DED) and Nebraska community colleges. This program provides scholarships to students pursuing degrees in programs of study that lead to careers in identified shortage areas, or in-demand skilled trades related to the shortage areas, that meet the workforce needs of Nebraska.

In 2020, Governor Pete Ricketts said, “Connecting the next generation of Nebraskans to great opportunities in our state is key to helping our kids make Nebraska their home. These scholarships will help to equip young Nebraskans to enter careers in fields with high-demand for new talent, such as engineering, healthcare, and IT. This adds to the pipeline we’ve been building to connect young Nebraskans with great-paying careers so that they can enjoy the Good Life. Now, students will also have the opportunity to apply for a Career Scholarship as they prepare for to enter fields where our state has a workforce shortage.”

Scholarships are awarded to first-time students and transfer students and may be up to \$5,000 per year. Students must be enrolled in an eligible program, which is one that leads to careers in identified shortage areas or in-demand skilled trades related to the shortage area, as determined by DED. Identified shortage areas and related in-demand skilled trades all fall within the following nine categories:

1. Business, Financial & Administrative Operations
2. Computer & Technology Assistance
3. Architecture & Engineering
4. Healthcare Practitioners & Technical
5. Farming, Fishing, & Forestry
6. Construction & Extraction
7. Installation, Maintenance, & Repair
8. Production
9. Transportation & Material Moving

DED is directed to allocate the General Funds among Nebraska community colleges and report information to the Clerk of the Legislature and the Governor each year. The Nebraska community colleges are directed to determine eligibility of scholarship recipients; receive and process applications for awards to individual scholarship recipients; disperse awards directly to eligible scholarship recipients during the fiscal year; and collect information on each scholarship recipient and report to DED.

DISBURSEMENTS

Three million dollars in aid has been awarded to the Nebraska community colleges since February 2021 for the purposes of this program.

	Aid Awarded in Feb 2021	Aid Awarded in Fall 2021
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Central Community College	\$143,300	\$286,600
Metropolitan Community College	\$332,000	\$664,200
Mid-Plains Community College	\$68,200	\$136,400
Northeast Community College	\$133,600	\$244,800
Little Priest Tribal College	\$0	\$22,400
Southeast Community College	\$251,500	\$502,900
Western Nebraska Community College	\$71,400	\$142,700

REPORT

Legislative Reporting Requirement 1: Total number of students enrolled in each eligible program of study in the prior academic year and such program's enrollment as of census date each year thereafter.

Reporting notes:

- Enrollment reflects total program enrollment, regardless of individual student scholarship eligibility.
- Enrollment could include a duplicated headcount if a student is enrolled in more than one program category.
- Enrollment in for-credit programs includes number of students enrolled on October 15; enrollment in non-credit programs includes total students enrolled in programs that began within the fall term's beginning and end dates.

	2019	2020	2021
Business, Financial & Administrative Operations	2758	2544	1234
Computer & Technology Assistance	1463	1645	481
Architecture & Engineering	423	381	275
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	3286	3197	870
Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	306	305	183
Construction & Extraction	879	899	438
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair	1538	1535	757
Production	695	618	298
Transportation & Material Moving	101	101	39
Total	11449	11245	4575

	2019	2020	2021
Degree Programs	5975	5792	3983
Diploma Programs	626	520	455
For-Credit Certificate Programs	525	485	112
Non-Credit Certificate Programs	2164	2254	68
Total	9290	9051	4618

*Missing data from colleges

Legislative Reporting Requirement 2: The number of scholarship recipients in each program.

Reporting notes:

- Count of scholarship recipients is deduplicated across terms and programs of study (if a scholarship recipient is enrolled in more than one program of study a primary program of study is identified).

	2020-2021	2021-2022
Business, Financial & Administrative Operations	0	4
Computer & Technology Assistance	0	11
Architecture & Engineering	0	13
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	0	26
Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	0	10
Construction & Extraction	0	42
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair	0	16
Production	0	16
Transportation & Material Moving	0	0
Total	0	138

	2020-2021	2021-2022
Degree Programs	0	130
Diploma Programs	0	7
For-Credit Certificate Programs	0	1
Non-Credit Certificate Programs	0	0
Total	0	138

**Missing data from colleges*

Cohorts

	2020-2021	2021-2022
Business, Financial & Administrative Operations	0	4
Computer & Technology Assistance	0	12
Architecture & Engineering	0	13
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	1	30
Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	0	10
Construction & Extraction	0	42
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair	0	17
Production	0	16
Transportation & Material Moving	0	0
Total	1	144

	2020-2021	2021-2022
Degree Programs	1	136
Diploma Programs	0	8
For-Credit Certificate Programs	0	1
Non-Credit Certificate Programs	0	0
Total	1	145

**Missing data from colleges*

Legislative Reporting Requirement 3: The total number of first-time freshman scholarship recipients retained in year two and a comparison of the retention rate of first-time freshman scholarship recipients to the overall retention rate for first time freshmen.

Reporting notes:

- Scholarship recipients who are enrolled in an eligible program as of the census date of the following academic year's fall term are considered retained.
- Data includes only first-time students; it does not include transfer students.

Data not available, scholarships are only in their first year.

Legislative Reporting Requirement 4: The total number of first-time freshman scholarship recipient completers (certificates, diplomas, degrees) and a comparison of the on time award completion rate of scholarship recipients to the overall on time completion rate for all first-time freshman students.

Reporting notes:

- On-time completion for this report means full-time and part-time students completing a for-credit program of study within 150% of normal time and/or the completion of a non-credit certification.
- The on-time completion rate compares on-time completers to all students, including students who drop out or stop out.
- Data does not include scholarship recipients enrolled in programs that have not reached the on-time completion definition above.
- Data includes only first-time students; it does not include transfer students.

Data not available, scholarships are only in their first year.

Legislative Reporting Requirement 5: The number of scholarship recipients obtaining jobs in Nebraska within five quarters of completing the program of study using Department of Labor data.

Reporting notes:

- Data includes scholarship recipients who obtained a job in Nebraska within five quarters after the quarter in which they completed their program of study or as of September 30 each year, whichever is sooner.

- Due to the timing of the report, this may not include all program completers where five quarters after the quarter in which they completed the program of study have not passed.

Data not available, scholarships are only in their first year.

Legislative Reporting Requirement 6: The average salary of scholarship recipients, as determined by the Department of Labor, for the fifth quarter following program of study completion.

Reporting notes:

- Data includes scholarship recipients who completed their program of study and five quarters have passed after the quarter in which they completed their program of study by September 30.
- Due to the timing of the report, this may not include the salaries of all program completers where five quarters after the quarter in which they completed the program of study have not passed by September 30.

Data not available, scholarships are only in their first year.

Legislative Reporting Requirement 7: The number of students in each program of study participating in an internship, apprenticeship, clinical position, or major-related field of employment during enrollment and comparing participation rates for scholarship and non-scholarship recipients.

Data not available, scholarships are only in their first year.