

## What is the College Opportunity Fund?

The College Opportunity Fund is the process by which the Colorado Legislature provides state financial support to eligible undergraduate students for higher education. It was created by an Act of the Colorado State Legislature and signed into law by Governor Owens in May 2004.

## What does it mean?

When you apply and authorize use of the stipend for any given term, the college or university you are attending will receive the funding according to your enrollment, and you will see it appear as a credit on your tuition bill.

## What if you don't apply?

Then you'll actually pay your entire tuition bill. The state has put aside this money for you. If you don't use it, you will pay more tuition than students who take advantage of the stipend.

## Who is eligible?

Undergraduate students who are eligible for in-state tuition (or attending under an eligible tuition program that charges a special-category rate (concurrent enrollment, ASSET, or Military) and taking eligible undergraduate classes at Front Range Community College.

## How much is the stipend?

It will vary. The amount will be determined each year by the Colorado Legislature. For academic year 2014-2015, the stipend has been set at **\$75.00 per semester credit hour** for eligible students attending participating public colleges. For the current academic year tuition rates and stipend amount at FRCC, please visit our [Current Tuition Rates](http://frontrange.edu/paying-for-college/tuition-and-fees/current-tuition-rates) webpage at <http://frontrange.edu/paying-for-college/tuition-and-fees/current-tuition-rates>.

## Does the College Opportunity Fund replace financial aid?

The College Opportunity Fund is a payment made directly to your college on your behalf to cover part of the cost of your total in-state tuition. The stipend does not cover your entire share of total in-state tuition. Any financial aid you receive will be applied to your remaining share of in-state tuition. The College Opportunity Fund stipend is not a grant or a scholarship and does not impact your eligibility for student financial aid. The College Opportunity Fund is not a loan and does not have to be repaid.

## How do I apply for COF?

You can apply for your stipend online at <https://cof.college-assist.org/>. You only have to **apply once**, and you will receive the stipend every term that you register for eligible undergraduate courses, **authorize for that given term** and have not met your 145 credit hour life time limit.

## How many credit hours will COF pay for?

The College Opportunity Fund will pay for up-to a total of 145 credit hours towards your undergraduate education. Ongoing, you can check your specific credit hour account balance at the COF website <https://cof.college-assist.org> by signing back into your COF account.

### Do I have any options if I run out of COF Stipend hours?

If you meet the 145 credit hour limit, and want to continue your undergraduate education, you do have the right to request a waiver for more hours, and actually have several options available.

Contact [FRCCCOF@frontrange.edu](mailto:FRCCCOF@frontrange.edu) or your campus Advising Department for information about possible waiver options.

### Must I Authorize or Decline the stipend for my classes when I register?

Yes. **Each semester** that you register for classes, you will be asked to choose whether to **authorize or decline your COF stipend** for eligible credits. Typically at FRCC, your choice will roll over every term automatically, but you are responsible for verifying and/or updating your choice.

### How do I Authorize or Decline the stipend for my classes when I register?

This authorization step is part of the registration process. If you need to go back in and update your selection:

- Login to [eWOLF](#)
- Click on the "Student Finance" tab
- Look for the "College Opportunity Fund (COF)" box on the left side, and click on "Authorize COF at FRCC"
- Select a term, if necessary
- Choose to authorize or decline your COF stipend, and click "Submit"

Remember, if you do not authorize the COF stipend to be applied to your tuition, you will be responsible for total tuition without stipend. Review the difference of the stipend amount at <http://frontrange.edu/paying-for-college/tuition-and-fees/tuition-fees-by-credit-hour>.

### Can you use the COF stipend for all classes at FRCC?

Certain classes are not eligible for COF dollars including English as a Second Language, Continuing Education (non-credit courses) and some Gateway to College classes.

### I tried to apply for COF, but I am a non-resident. What now?

You must be classified as in-state student for tuition purposes, or attending under an eligible tuition program that charges a special-category rate (concurrent enrollment, ASSET, or Military). Visit [frontrange.edu/residency](http://frontrange.edu/residency) to see if you qualify for a tuition classification status change.

### What if I don't have a Social Security Number or a Permanent Resident Number?

The online COF application will ask if you want to provide a Social Security Number or a Permanent Resident Number, but neither are required to create a COF account, just optional. You are able to apply for COF funding and the COF computer system will generate a number that will display for you right away (or be emailed to you if you choose to apply for a COF account by paper application). You will need to provide this number to an Admissions and Records office at one of our FRCC campus locations.

Questions?

Contact [FRCCCOF@frontrange.edu](mailto:FRCCCOF@frontrange.edu)