

# pact

Connecticut State Colleges and Universities

CSCU

# PROGRAM

## ➤ The Pledge to Advance Connecticut, or PACT, is Connecticut's free community college program.

Public Act 19-117 established a last dollar scholarship program intended to cover the out-of-pocket expenses (tuition and fees) to attend a CT community college.

The CT Board of Regents (BOR) was charged with implementing the program to launch in fall 2020. A steering committee convened in fall 2019 to recommend policy and procedures to the BOR for a decision at the 12/19/19 meeting.

## ➤ GOALS OF PACT

- Mitigate excess debt for students and families;
- Increase community college student enrollment;
- Support student retention efforts;
- Support on-time completion.

## ➤ AWARD

- Awards range from a minimum of \$250 up to the full amount due for tuition & fees less other forms of need-based financial aid.
- Covers tuition and fees including student activities, transportation, mandatory usage fees.

## ➤ STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

PACT will support students who are entering the fall 2020 semester and beyond.

### To qualify, students must:

- Be a Connecticut high school graduate and in-state resident;
- Be a full-time (12 credit) student attending college for the first time;
- Complete the free federal application for financial aid (FAFSA) annually and accept all awards;
- Remain in good academic standing;
- Apply and register by July 15 (Fall) or Nov. 15 (Winter/Spring) for priority consideration;
- Be continuously enrolled & complete by the 72-credit (3 year), 36-month limit; and
- Be matriculated into one of the college's many degree or approved certificate programs.

*College credits completed prior to high school graduation will not preclude a student from participating in PACT. Developmental education is included in enrollment status, and there is a provision that enables students with documented disabilities to participate.*

## ➤ PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

- Intend to include non-credit courses in combined workforce programs.
- In extenuating circumstances, qualifying students may appeal to a committee in the CSCU System Office.
  - For instance, medical emergency or military deployment, selective admission program that requires less than full-time enrollment, part-time enrollment in final term.
- The program is subject to funding limitations and availability.
- If the amount funded by the legislature is not enough to cover all student awards, the college will pro-rate the awards for all who have registered by the priority deadlines.

➤ **QUESTIONS? [www.ct.edu/pact](http://www.ct.edu/pact)** ➤

