



STUDENT FINANCIAL AID BULLETIN

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TOPICS:	M.J. Foster Promise Program 2026-2027 Award Year Updates

Several changes to the M.J. Foster Promise Program will become effective for the 2026-2027 award year, beginning on July 1, 2026.

Award Allocation

The M.J. Foster Promise Program allocation has been increased by \$14,500,000 for the 2026-2027 award year. This brings the total funding available for awards to \$23,750,000. The 2026-2027 program application opens July 1, 2026.

Initial Eligibility

Effective for the 2026-2027 M.J. Foster Promise Program award year, the annual decrease in the minimum age requirement for initial eligibility has been paused. In accordance with [Act No. 642](#) of the 2026 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, an applicant must meet the following minimum age requirements to be initially eligible:

- Be at least twenty-one years old in the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 award years.
- Be at least eighteen years old in the 2028-2029 award year.
- Be at least seventeen years old in the 2029-2030 award year and thereafter.

Returning M.J. Foster Promise Program students who were at least 20 years old in the 2024-2025 award year and at least 19 years old in the 2025-2026 award year will continue to be eligible if they maintain continuing eligibility per the program rules.

Please contact MJFoster.Promise@la.gov if you have questions about a specific student's eligibility.

Eligible CIP Codes

On June 9, 2026, the Education to Workforce Advisory Council determined that the following programs will not be eligible for funding under the M.J. Foster Promise Program for the 2026-2027 academic year, beginning July 1, 2026.

- 510601 – Dental Assistant
- 510713 – Medical Insurance Bill and Coding Specialist
- 510805 – Pharmacy Technician Assistant

Students who enrolled in the ineligible programs prior to June 9, 2026, will be allowed to complete their program of study utilizing M.J. Foster Promise Funding.

The Council will reassess the eligibility of these programs every three years.

Please update your records and communicate this important information to your students and other stakeholders.

Payment Request Submission and Processing

Schools are no longer allowed to pre-bill. Payment requests for students whose classes begin on or after July 1, 2026 must be submitted after verification that the student has been enrolled through the census date. Per M.J. Foster Promise Program rules, a school's census date is either:

1. At the end of the fourteenth class day for semester schools (the ninth class day for quarter and term schools), or
2. For any qualifying summer sessions, students attending proprietary schools, or students enrolled in a program that is not provided on a traditional semester/term basis, at the end of the time to drop and receive a full refund for the course of study in which the student is enrolled.

The payment status "verified" will no longer be used because payment requests should be submitted after the payment request's census date has already passed. **Payments should not be placed into a "verified" status.**

A billing deadline of **November 30, 2026** has been set for payment requests for students with start dates from **July 1 through October 31, 2026**. The deadline for corrections of rejected payments in this period is December 15, 2026. We will provide further guidance if funds remain available after all on-time payments in this period are processed.

Payments will be processed and paid in the order in which they are received as long as funding is available. **Payment requests and corrections submitted after the stated deadlines will not be processed unless funding remains after all on-time payments for the award year have been paid.**

Please contact MJFoster.Promise@la.gov with any questions or concerns.