DC FUTURES PROGRAMPROGRAM
OVERVIEW AND POLICY GUIDANCE

Last Updated: January 2026

Please Note: Only current DC Futures participants are eligible to apply for funding for the 2026-27 academic year. Due to funding constraints, the DC Futures Program is unable to provide funding to students who would be new applicants to the program for the 2026-27 application cycle. At this time, only current (2025-26 academic year) DC Futures participants are eligible to apply to receive DC Futures Program funding for the 2026-27 academic year.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The DC Futures Program (DC Futures) provides college and career coaching and funding for low- to moderate-income District of Columbia residents to earn their first associate or first bachelor's degree in majors leading to high-demand jobs. The program funds tuition and fees in the form of scholarships and provides other financial support in the form of coaching participation stipends and emergency funding for participants enrolled in and attending select District of Columbia postsecondary educational institutions. Students who apply and are accepted to the DC Futures Program receive significant coaching and student services that support participants through personal and financial barriers.

DC Futures was created in 2021 under the Office of the State Superintendent of Education's (OSSE's) authority to administer scholarships aimed at expanding access to higher education for residents of the District of Columbia (D.C. Law 24-159; D.C. Official Code § 38-2602(b)(29A)). Scholarships provided by the DC Futures Program are supported by local District of Columbia funds.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Applicant Acceptance

DC Futures serves District of Columbia residents of any age who have graduated from any high school or who have received a National External Diploma Program (NEDP) diploma or passed the GED and are pursuing their first associate or first bachelor's degree. Applicants must meet District of Columbia residency requirements for this program, and financial/income requirements in order to be eligible to participate in DC Futures. Applicants must affirm their enrollment intentions (institution, degree, and major) upon application to the Program.

District of Columbia Residency Requirements

Applicants must be able to demonstrate that they have been a resident of the District for the 12 months preceding their application. The applicant must submit proof of District residency. Acceptable documents for proof of residency are listed in Appendix A. Applicants who complete the 2026-27 DC Tuition Assistance Grant (DCTAG) Application in the DC OneApp (and have submitted all necessary documents) and are deemed eligible for DCTAG do not need to re-submit residency documentation for the DC Futures Program application, as OSSE will confirm applicant residency using their DCTAG application records. Applicants who have not been deemed eligible for the aligned DCTAG award period must submit documents via the DC Futures Program application through the Application for Postsecondary Studies (APS).

Applicants younger than 24 years of age[1] are deemed to have their parent/guardian's residency unless the applicant meets one of the following exceptions:

- Applicants who are married or separated but not divorced;
- Applicants who provide at least half the support for a child or other dependent;
- Applicants serving as active duty military;
- Applicants who have had both parents deceased since age 13, were in foster care, or were a ward or dependent of the court;
- Emancipated minors or students in a legal guardianship; or
- Unaccompanied/homeless youth.

District residency for applicants 24 years of age or older as of Dec. 31 of the school year in which they are applying for support is determined by their own residency without exception.

Financial Need Requirements

Applicants must have a District household taxable income below $100,000 or below 400 percent of the federal poverty line for any household with four or more people. Please note that this is a measure of income issued annually by the federal Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the income eligibility for DC Futures will align to those updates once per application cycle.

Table 1. Income Eligibility 2026-27 Award Year*

Household Size	Maximum Annual Income
3 or fewer	$109,280
4	$132,000
5	$154,720
6	$177,440
7	$200,160
8	$222,880

For families/households with more than eight people, add $22,000 for each additional person.

**This table was last updated in January 2026. It will be updated again in January 2027 when the updated HHS income thresholds are published.*

For most applicants younger than 24 years of age, financial need is determined by their parent/guardian's financial circumstance. OSSE follows the criteria established by the US Department of Education federal financial aid regarding student/parent dependency situations.

Applicants can establish income eligibility through District of Columbia tax documents. Applicants can also be deemed income-eligible based on their participation in the District of Columbia's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Applicants may also demonstrate income-eligibility through receipt of services via the District of Columbia's homeless services continuity of care system.

Application Process

[1] Student age as of Dec. 31 of the school year they apply for funding.

The DC Futures online application is available on the OSSE website and is conducted via an online system called the Application for Postsecondary Studies (APS). Only current DC Futures participants are eligible to apply for funding for the 2026-27 academic year. Due to funding constraints, the DC Futures Program is unable to provide funding to students who would be new applicants to the program for the 2026-27 application cycle. At this time, only current (2025-26 academic year) DC Futures participants are eligible to apply to receive DC Futures Program funding for the 2026-27 academic year.

All DC Futures applications must be submitted, including all supporting documents, using the timeline outlined below.[2] Specific application opening and closing dates will be posted on the OSSE website for each academic year. Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit all documents electronically and will only be able to submit documents in-person in the case of an extenuating circumstance.

Table 2. Application Timeline

	Traditional Year (Fall 2026 – Spring 2027)
Application Opens	Feb. 2, 2026
Application Closes	Aug. 21, 2026
Award Amount	Up to $8,000

Application: Required Information

Applicants are required to submit their personal information (name, contact information, parent/guardian information) through Application for Postsecondary Studies (APS). If eligible, applicants for the DC Futures program will also be considered for the Mayor's Scholars Undergraduate Program through completion of the application via APS. OSSE recommends that applicants complete the DCTAG application through the DC OneApp before they apply for the DC Futures Program.

Applicants will be asked to provide the name of the partner university in which they intend to enroll (or where they are currently enrolled) as well as their intended major (or current major). Applicants will also be asked to agree to allow program partners to share relevant data in order to enable efficient administration of services.

For assistance with the application, applicants should email the DC Futures Program office at osse.dcfutures@dc.gov.

Applicant Statement of Enrollment Intentions

Applicants will state their enrollment intentions when applying to DC Futures. These intentions should include enrollment in:

- An eligible partner university or college within the next academic year, and
- A degree-seeking program, and
- A major aligned to a high-demand industry.

Applicants will also be required to affirm that they are pursuing their first associate or first bachelor's degree.[3]

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[2] The deadline each year is subject to change based on a variety of circumstances.

[3] Residents who possess a bachelor's or associate degree that is not recognized in the U.S. may be eligible to participate in DC Futures. This decision is up to the receiving institution (DC Futures partner university). Examples may include instances where the receiving institution is unable to read a transcript or diploma (a translation or interpretation issue) or where the institution on the diploma is outside of the U.S. and the receiving institution is unable to determine whether it is accredited in accordance with their expectations. The Department of Education states, "in most instances, they [entities named on source page] will request that students obtain a credential evaluation to determine how one's non-U.S. credentials compare with U.S. credentials. Such evaluations are carried out by private, non-governmental entities for a fee." DC Futures partner colleges or universities may help a student with this process but are not required to do so.

Students enrolled in non-degree certificate programs are not eligible for DC Futures.

Applicants who provide false or fraudulent information in their DC Futures application will be deemed ineligible or immediately terminated from the program and may face legal prosecution.

DC Futures applicants do not need to be enrolled at a partner university or college *at the time of their application* to DC Futures. Once approved for participation in DC Futures, participants may begin coaching before their enrollment at a partner college or university is confirmed. Because enrollment intentions may only be verified during the DC Futures invoice process with partner universities or colleges for each semester of enrollment (as of the add/drop date), proof of enrollment at a partner college or university is not a requirement for acceptance to DC Futures. Any DC Futures participant who does not successfully enroll at a partner college or university may still receive coaching support and a coaching participation stipend for the duration of the program year, if they are accepted to DC Futures based on residency and financial/income requirements.

Please note: Only DC Futures participants who are enrolled at a partner college or university may access scholarship funds, emergency fund requests, and previous years' unpaid balance payment requests. These requests are processed through partner universities and colleges.

All DC Futures participants are strongly encouraged to enroll at a partner college or university as soon as possible. DC Futures will not withhold coaching support or stipends from participants who cannot enroll at a partner college or university, but the program does expect all participants to work with their coaches to take the necessary steps to successfully enroll at the partner college or university that best fits their postsecondary goals and personal situation. If a participant enrolls at a college or university that is not one of the three DC Futures partner colleges or universities, the participant may no longer receive coaching or a coaching stipend, and will remain ineligible for scholarship funds, emergency funds, or prior year balance request support.

Degree-Seeking Enrollment

When partner universities send invoices to OSSE for scholarship funds, the DC Futures Program office will confirm participants' enrollment at a partner university within a DC Futures approved major program.

Participants who complete an associate degree through the DC Futures Program and then choose to pursue their first bachelor's degree, also through the DC Futures Program, may apply but maximum award caps and time limits still apply.

Please Note: APPLICANTS WHO HAVE PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED A BACHELOR'S DEGREE ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR DC FUTURES.

Enrollment at a Partner College or University

Applicants must intend to enroll in one of the following partner college or universities. One month after the last day of the final course required for graduation from a partner college or university, a DC Futures participant is no longer eligible for program services, including coaching, stipends, or any other funding.

Table 3. Partner Colleges and Universities

Catholic University of America
Trinity Washington University
University of the District of Columbia University of the District of Columbia – Community College

List Reviewed & Updated as of January 2026

Partner college or universities will be required to complete a program participation agreement (PPA) with OSSE to outline terms of participation, data and reporting requirements, and other policies related to partner college or university participation. Colleges and universities may not apply to be eligible for their students to participate in DC Futures. Partner colleges and universities may be added or removed at OSSE or the Mayor's discretion, and in that instance, OSSE will notify the college or university.

Pursuit of Major Aligned with High-Demand Industry Requirement

DC Futures Program eligibility is contingent upon applicants and/or program participants pursuing and declaring a major aligned with one of the high-demand industries listed in the Approved DC Futures Major list provided on the OSSE website. The following fields are considered high-demand for the 2026-27 DC Futures application cycle.

Table 4. Majors Aligned to High-Demand Industries

A/V Technology & Communications
Architecture & Construction
Business Management & Administration
Education & Training
Finance
Health Science
Human Services
Hospitality & Tourism
Information Technology
Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security
STEM

OSSE used labor market data to identify high-demand industries and their associated educational requirements and then narrowed the list of high-demand occupations to include only those occupations that require an associate degree or higher. These occupations were then matched to federal career and technical education (CTE) career clusters.[4] Clusters that include at least four high-demand occupations were included as industries of study.[5] OSSE will request that partner colleges or universities review this list and update it relative to their course offerings once per academic year. Partner college or university programs that fall under these career clusters will be listed on the OSSE website.

Applicants will be asked to indicate their intent to pursue a major associated with a high-demand field when applying (the full list of approved programs is available on the OSSE website). Enrollment in a DC Futures approved major for the current year will be verified by the partner university or college the participant attends. Approved fields and associated majors will be updated annually on the OSSE website. Participants may switch between approved majors without penalty.

If an approved major aligned to a high-demand industry is removed from the list of approved programs after a participant's first year, the participant will remain eligible for DC Futures scholarship funds as long as the following criteria are met:

- The participant remains enrolled at the same university and in the same major;

[4] Due to the absence of arts occupations on the high-demand occupations list, the cluster Arts, AV/Technology and Communications was revised to AV/Technology and Communications.

[5] Hospitality and Tourism was added to the list despite not meeting this threshold because the industry is a high-demand sector identified in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Unified State Plan (dcworks.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/dcworks/publication/attachments/DC-WIOA-Unified-State-Plan-2020.pdf)

- The participant applies for DC Futures each consecutive year; and
- The participant continues to meet all other eligibility criteria.

Application: Required Documents

Any DC Futures applicant who already has a DCTAG application on-file *that was deemed eligible for the next academic year* can indicate this on the DC Futures application and will not have to upload additional documents.

Documentation required for DC Futures applicants who have previously submitted a completed application and required documents for DCTAG for the next academic year (2026-27 application cycle):

- **No additional required documents for the DC Futures application**

*Documentation required for DC Futures applicants who have **NOT** previously submitted a completed application and required documents for DCTAG for the next academic year (2025-26 application cycle):*

- Proof of District of Columbia Residency (see Appendix A for list of acceptable documents)
- Proof of Income Eligibility (see Appendix A for list of acceptable documents)
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Submission Summary (if student is eligible to submit FAFSA)

Applicant Selection

The number of DC Futures participants is contingent upon funding availability. **Due to funding constraints, the DC Futures Program is unable to provide funding to students who would be new applicants to the program for the 2026-27 application cycle. For the 2026-27 application cycle, only returning DC Futures participants are eligible to receive DC Futures Program funding.** Acceptance of returning applicants will be granted in the order in which completed applications are received (including submission of all correct documents), based upon the timestamp related to the final document the applicant submits.[6]

Applicants who are not granted funding because of funding restrictions or program capacity, but who meet application requirements, will be placed on a waitlist managed by OSSE. Applicants on the waitlist will be notified via email if a space in DC Futures becomes available.

Notification

After an application is completed, the applicant will be notified of their acceptance or denial status via email (this includes notification of denial because of ineligibility for any reason). Applicants have 10 business days after the date on their award letter to notify OSSE if they will accept or decline their opportunity to participate in DC Futures.

Reconsideration Process

All reconsideration requests must be submitted via the APS within 15 business days from the date of the ineligibility email notification that included the notification. Missing the application deadline is not an issue that may be appealed. Only information and documents submitted with the applicant's original application will be considered in this review. All reconsideration requests must be submitted via the Application for Postsecondary Studies (APS) within 15 business days from the date of the ineligibility email notification. Missing the application deadline is not an issue that may be appealed.

A designated OSSE team member who was not involved in the applicant's initial ineligibility determination will

[6] Once an applicant completes their application, it will be time-stamped. In cases where funding is limited, and all other priorities are equal, OSSE will use the time stamp to determine the order in which applicants are accepted until funds are exhausted. All applicants seeking DC Futures support must apply each year to participate in the upcoming school year.

review the documentation and provide the applicant with a written response documenting the results of the reconsideration process via email within 10 business days of the reconsideration request receipt. The results of the reconsideration process are final.

Renewal Criteria

Returning applicants are expected to meet the following criteria in order to remain eligible for the program:

- Continued District residency and income eligibility; and
- Completion of annual application with updated information and documentation.

Only current DC Futures participants are eligible to apply for funding for the 2026-27 academic year. Due to funding constraints, the DC Futures Program is unable to provide funding to students who would be new applicants to the program for the 2026-27 application cycle. At this time, only current (2025-26 academic year) DC Futures participants are eligible to apply to receive DC Futures Program funding for the 2026-27 academic year.

PROGRAM INFORMATION & PARTICIPANT REQUIREMENTS

Minimum Credit Requirement

Participants are expected to complete at least six credit hours per semester if enrolled part-time and at least 12 credit hours per semester if enrolled full-time.

These credit minimums do not apply to participants who are in the following situations:

- Participants who must complete developmental/remedial coursework in order to meet prerequisites for credit-bearing courses.
- Participants who took a university-approved leave of absence for one or more semesters. As long as the participant completed the leave of absence in accordance with university policy and is eligible to continue academically at the university, they will be eligible to apply the following year for funding as a returner, pending funding availability and compliance with all other program requirements.
- Participants who need less than the required number of credits to graduate.

Participants who fail to meet annual credit requirements could jeopardize their receipt of funds and support in future academic years. Additionally, participants must maintain Satisfactory Academic Performance (SAP)[7] requirements as determined by their partner college or university.

DC Futures Supports

DC Futures provides program participants with a range of supports. This section provides additional information about each support type including information on program time limits, scholarship awards, college coaching, emergency funds, and enrollment changes.

Program Time Limits

Participants who intend to pursue an associate degree program or other two-year degree programs can access program offerings for a maximum of four years.[8] Participants who intend to pursue a bachelor's degree program or other four-year degree program can access program offerings for a maximum of six years.

If a participant transitions from an associate to a bachelor's program, time-limit caps will reflect the bachelor's

[7] OSSE will determine SAP in accordance with US Department of Education financial aid requirements.

[8] Those years do not need to be consecutive, but all programming is based on the availability of funds.

degree program limits. It is the participant's responsibility to inform DC Futures of any change in level of program they are pursuing.

No DC Futures participant may receive more than six years of awards total ($48,000) (the time limit represents years of receiving awards not the time since the first award was received). When calculating remaining time to receive awards, staff will subtract the total participation time from the new maximum (bachelor's level).

Participation in the pilot period (October 2021 – July 2022) will not count against a participant's DC Futures time limit. However, partial award period participation will count as one award year toward a participant's time limit.

Scholarship Awards

Upon meeting the eligibility requirements for DC Futures, an enrolled DC Futures participant may receive scholarship funding on a first-come, first-served basis and as outlined in the above-described selection criteria. OSSE reserves the right to make final funding determinations based on available funds. As mentioned above, **due to funding constraints, the DC Futures Program is unable to provide funding to students who would be new applicants to the program for the 2026-27 application cycle. For the 2026-27 application cycle, only returning DC Futures participants are eligible to receive DC Futures Program funding.**

DC Futures provides scholarships to returning participants pursuing their first associate or bachelor's degree as detailed below:

Table 5. DC Futures Maximum Annual and Lifetime Scholarship Award Caps, by Program Type

Program Type	Semester Award Cap	Annual Award Cap	Lifetime Award Cap
Associate or two-year degree	$4,000	$8,000	$32,000
Bachelor's or four-year degree	$4,000	$8,000	$48,000

The scholarship funding is available for the fall and/or spring semesters for returning DC Futures participants. The scholarship award will pay for the following expenses, in this order, until the maximum award amount is reached, or until all tuition and fees are satisfied, whichever is first: (1) tuition and (2) fees.

Scholarship Payments

OSSE will provide DC Futures scholarship funds directly to partner colleges and universities. All scholarship-related transactions between OSSE and partner colleges and universities are completed in the APS as of 2023.

Partner universities are required to submit completed payment requests (invoices) for each DC Futures participant each semester, with a detailed cost breakdown.

OSSE provides partner colleges and universities with payment requests (invoices) each semester using a list of accepted students based on the partner college or university the applicant indicated planned enrollment for in APS. OSSE requires completed payment requests be returned to OSSE by the partner universities with a request for payment within 10 business days of the day after the course add/drop deadline for that partner university each semester. To ensure payment is completed in a timely manner, OSSE will include, with the original payment request, language indicating that the partner college or university must submit final invoices no later than Feb. 1 following the fall semester, and no later than July 31 following the spring semester.

In the invoice process, DC Futures will ask partner universities to confirm DC Futures participants enrollment in a high-demand field (major). If the participant is not enrolled in a high-demand field (major), the invoice for that participant will not be paid.

OSSE is not responsible for a partner university's failure to promptly and/or properly request payment on behalf of a DC Futures participant. Please note that it is the participant's responsibility to work with the partner university to ensure timely and proper submission of their payment request. Late or improperly submitted payment requests may prevent an eligible participant from receiving DC Futures scholarship funding or from receiving their funding award in a timely fashion.

Scholarship Reimbursement

If a participant is included on the payment request from a partner college or university and is then found not to have enrolled at that partner college or university during that semester or was not enrolled in a high-demand field (major), OSSE will notify the partner college or university of the reimbursement amount no later than 90 calendar days following the end of the semester.

Please Note: Additional information regarding participant responsibilities if/when they transfer or withdraw is provided in a subsequent section of this policy (Transfers and Withdrawals).

Should a partner college or university receive a reimbursement request from OSSE, they may appeal the request within 15 business days of receipt of the request by writing a letter including the amount, participant name(s), and reasons for appeal and sending it to the OSSE DC Futures Program Manager Melanie Fleming at Melanie.Fleming@dc.gov. The DC Futures Program team will respond with a determination for each appeal within 15 business days of receiving the partner university's appeal request.

Responsibility of Partner Colleges and Universities

Partner colleges universities must agree not to request from, or charge, any participant a fee for processing or handling any application, form, or data requested by OSSE related to this program. This includes reimbursement to OSSE for inaccurate payment requests.

Coaching Supports

DC Futures provides participants with a college coach to help navigate structural and academic burdens to college persistence and completion and aid in career planning. College coaching services are administered by grant funded community-based organizations (CBOs) or partner colleges or universities.

- To be eligible for the DC Futures coaching participation stipend, participants are required to **participate in an approved college coaching program**.
- Coaches will be assigned upon proof of enrollment at a partner college or university.
- Participants will be required to participate in engagement activities with their coaches at least once per month. Participation less than this may jeopardize a participant's ability to successfully re-apply for future award periods.

Due to the similarities between the DC Futures College Coaching support and those offered by DCPS Persists, DCPS Persists participants can substitute DCPS Persists coaching for DC Futures coaching. DC Futures may consider other coaching programs that are similar to the support DC Futures College Coaching offers, such as a model where an LEA may offer alumni support directly or through a vendor.

Participants choosing to make any coaching program substitution are required to submit a substitution form to their assigned DC Futures coach and have this substitution approved. Participants who are approved to substitute DCPS Persists coaching for DC Futures coaching are still eligible for other elements of this program including: scholarship funds, coaching stipends, and emergency fund access.

Coaching Participation Stipends

Coaching participation stipends will be administrated by the designated coaching partner monthly to be paid out to participants. Coaching participation stipends are contingent upon the participant's monthly engagement with the coaching partner.

Table 6. DC Futures Maximum Coaching Participation Stipends Caps

Program Type	Annual Stipend Cap	Lifetime Stipend Cap
Associate or two-year degree	$1,050	$6,000
Bachelor's or four-year degree	$1,050	$9,000

Please Note: The stipend is intended to be divided evenly by the months in an academic year – fall and spring – over 10 months (September-June). So, participants in partial award periods (e.g., fall 2025 only) will not be eligible for the maximum stipend amount, since the number of months with coaching participation will be fewer than those of a participant in the full academic year.

Regardless of time period, the monthly stipend is based on participation and disbursal is managed by the designated DC Futures College Coaching providers.

Emergency Funds

Emergency funds can be applied toward emergency expenses that would impact a participant's ability to remain enrolled at their partner university (i.e., food, housing, child care, transportation, health care, safety and security, and learning resources). Participants applying for emergency funding will be required to attest to the fact that the requests being made are truthful, necessary, and qualify as events that would force them to leave their partner university if they did not have the emergency funds. Participants will be required to maintain supporting documentation (records and receipts) of the expense(s) and an explanation of the unexpected nature of the emergency expense for at least seven years after the request for emergency funds is fulfilled in the case of an audit request. Partner colleges and universities will manage the emergency funds application process for their DC Futures participants, including the review and approval process and the disbursement of funds, as available, based on the application materials provided.

Emergency fund payments will be administrated by the partner university where the DC Futures participant is enrolled. Because of this, a DC Futures participant must also be enrolled at the partner college or university at the time of the emergency funds request to be considered for emergency fund support. Emergency fund requests are subject to the following annual payment caps.

Table 7. DC Futures Program Maximum Emergency Fund Payment Caps

Program Type	Annual Emergency Fund Cap
Associate or two-year degree	$1,000
Bachelor's or four-year degree	$1,000

Previous Years' Unpaid Balance Payment at Colleges and Universities

Participants can apply to their partner college or university to request a one-time use of emergency funds to pay a previous years' unpaid balance at any college or university. A DC Futures participant must also be enrolled at a DC Futures partner college or university at the time of the request to be considered for previous years' unpaid balance payment support. These funds are intended to enable participants to access transcripts and credits from colleges or universities they may have attended previously that can be applied to their current program. Because

participants must be enrolled to request this support, partner universities will affirm that they do not prevent participants from enrolling without an official transcript. Participants can request up to $1,000 in total for previous years' unpaid balance payment. This amount can be applied across multiple colleges or universities. Participants will be required to submit documents demonstrating their previous years' unpaid balance payment need to the partner college or university in order to access these funds. If participants use their emergency funds to pay a previous year's unpaid balance it will reduce the amount available for other emergencies. Participants have access to up to $1,000 annually to be used for emergencies or a previous year's unpaid balance.

Enrollment Status Changes

Enrollment at a partner college or university and within a major aligned with a high-demand industry are core program components of DC Futures. This includes degree completion and graduation; see enrollment intention section for more information.

Participants who withdraw from their partner college or university after the add/drop deadline at their college or university will remain eligible for coaching, stipends, and emergency funds for the remainder of the participation period, based on the terms outlined in this document. Participants who are not working with their coach to move toward enrollment at a partner university may jeopardize consideration for participation in future application and participation periods for DC Futures. These supports are intended to help participants overcome the barrier(s) that may have prompted their withdrawal and support their reenrollment in an appropriate, eligible degree program. Only enrolled participants are eligible for DC Futures scholarship awards.

Transfers and Withdrawals

Mid-Year Transfers (Between Partner Colleges or Universities)

If a participant transfers to another DC Futures partner college or university mid-year, they may be able to continue to receive their scholarship funds.[9] Participants who are transferring should notify DC Futures program staff via APS. Participants who are transferring should also notify their approved DC Futures coach. Participants will be asked to submit an updated financial aid award letter from the receiving partner college or university. If a participant transfers to a college or university that is not a DC Futures partner, the participant will no longer receive DC Futures supports.

DC Futures Program staff will review potential transfer participant requests at each partner college or university upon receiving the next semester's scholarship invoices. If a participant who transferred is inaccurately listed on a partner college or university's invoice, DC Futures Program staff will remove that participant prior to disbursement of funds to the partner university.

Program Transfer (Associate Degree Program to Bachelor's Degree Program)

If a participant transitions from an associate degree program to a bachelor's degree program, their maximum award caps (both annual and lifetime), and time limit cap will be measured using the highest limit and caps (i.e., bachelor's degree level limit and cap). No DC Futures participant may receive more than six years of support in total (the time limit represents years of receiving support, not the time since the first support was received). A participant who transfers from an associate degree program to bachelor's degree program should notify the DC Futures program office of their program transfer via APS. For additional information, review the following section on Maximum Award Amounts and Time Limits.

[9] Mid-year transfers are those that take place between academic semesters. Transfers that occur mid-semester are not eligible for DC Futures scholarship funding transfer.

Withdrawal (during or between semesters)
If a participant withdraws from their enrollment at their partner college or university, they should notify the DC Futures Program Manager Melanie Fleming at Melanie.Fleming@dc.gov or (202) 727-2824. They should also notify their DC Futures coach. The program manager, coaching staff, and PCE assistant superintendent will consider the participant's coaching participation and any events relevant to the participant's academic withdrawal to determine whether the participant may continue their participation in DC Futures coaching services. **Please note that the withdrawal process is not conducted via APS**. The participant's DC Futures coach will notify the participant of their status within the DC Futures Program within 30 days of the DC Futures program staff's receipt of the participant's withdrawal notification.

Reporting and Monitoring

OSSE will track key performance indicators to guide DC Futures Program improvement and monitor participant outcomes. The program anticipates monitoring the following metrics on a semi-annual and annual basis:

- Applicants;
- Enrollments;
- Award amounts;
- Persistence throughout DC Futures (credits per semester and credit accumulation);
- Program completion; and
- Participant post-graduation employment.

DC Futures Program staff will align participant, partner university or college, and program coaching partner data collections to facilitate the monitoring of these outcomes.

OSSE DC Futures Program Contact Information

DC Futures Program Office
Melanie Fleming, DC Futures Program Manager
Melanie.Fleming@dc.gov
OSSE Postsecondary & Career Education Division
1050 First St. NE
Washington, DC 20002

Appendix A

Table 8. District of Columbia Residency & Income Documentation Required for DC Futures Program Eligibility

As mentioned previously in this policy document, applicants to DC Futures who have already fulfilled residency and income documentation requirements via the DCTAG application for the 2026-27 application cycle do not need to resubmit documents with their DC Futures application. As such, applicants are encouraged to review the current year DCTAG documentation guidance and to consider applying for DCTAG before applying to DC Futures.

RESIDENCY & INCOME VERIFICATION (Submit one of the following):
2025 Filed/Processed D-40 Tax Return (signed and dated by parent/legal guardian)
2025 Filed/Processed D-40 Tax Extension (FR-127) **with** 2024 Filed/Processed D-40 Tax Return (**signed and dated by parent/legal guardian**) (prior year)
12-month (January–December 2025) Child Support Statement
12-month (January–December 2025) Retirement/Annuity Statement
12-month (January–December 2025) Social Security Disability Income (SSDI) or Social Security Income (SSI)
12-month (January–December 2025) TANF/SNAP/Food Stamp Statement
12-month (January–December 2025) Unemployment Benefits or Worker's Compensation Disability
2025 Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Documentation of Independent Student Status for the FAFSA & DCTAG
2026 Ward of the Court Letter
AND (One of the following, not older than **45 calendar days**, must have the following information on it: **Name, Date and Address**)
Bank or Mortgage Statement (Name, Date and Address Section) – credit card statements are not permissible documents
Pay Stub (Name, Date and Address Section)
Utility Bill (gas, water, cable, electric, land line phone)–no cell phone
Utility Letter (from landlord or on rental office letterhead, stating utilities are included in rent)

NOTE: Applicants younger than 24 years of age must submit the above documents from their parent/legal guardians.[10]

[10] Exceptions noted on page 1 of this document.