

# Homeless Fee Exemption

in the Florida College System

## What is the Florida College System?

The Florida College System is a network of 28 community colleges, colleges and state colleges serving nearly a million Floridians.

It is the primary access point to higher education for Floridians, offering an array of programs designed to prepare students for entry into the workforce or opportunities to continue their education.

[Find a college near you!](#)

## > What is the Homeless Fee Exemption?

According to [Florida law](#), a student who is homeless may be exempted from paying tuition and fees at a Florida College System institution. For the purpose of the fee exemption, Florida law defines homelessness as, “A student who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence or whose primary nighttime residence is a public or private shelter designed to provide temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized, or a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.”

## > How can I find out if I am eligible for the exemption?

If you think you may be eligible for the homeless exemption, you should speak with someone in the admissions and financial aid offices of the college you seek to attend.

## > What paperwork is needed to determine if I’m eligible?

To qualify, students may need documentation from a homeless shelter, school district homeless liaison, transitional living program, runaway shelter or other documentation requested

by the college. Each college has its own process, so you need to ask the college you’re interested in attending about what is required.

## > What does the exemption cover?

This exemption covers tuition and fees only. This means that you will be required to pay other costs associated with college, such as textbooks, housing and food. Be sure to talk with the financial aid office and admissions office about additional fees.

## > What are other options to help pay for college?

There are many ways of keeping college affordable. Students should complete the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#) (FAFSA) as early as possible. The FAFSA is used by the college to determine eligibility for federal and state aid. The exemption does not cover the cost of books, housing or food. FAFSA can help you determine other sources of aid to help with costs not covered by the exemption. View [federal](#) and [state](#) financial aid programs.