



Dawson Promise

What is Dawson Promise?

Dawson Promise is a program aimed at helping unaccompanied youth who are experiencing homelessness or aging out of foster care obtain a two-year education free of debt.

Through Dawson Promise, students are provided opportunities that before may have seemed out of reach.

Setting Montana
Youth for Success

"Dawson Promise gave me an opportunity everyone said I wouldn't have. All through high school, I was told there was no way I could go to college. I was determined to prove them wrong and this program helped me do that. Transitioning to college was hard, but Dawson Promise made sure to help me every step of the way. They helped me get a job, supported me through classes, and provided support with every obstacle that came my way. They helped me focus on schoolwork without having to worry financially. They helped to provide food on the weeks I couldn't provide it for myself. Forever grateful for this support." - Testimony from Alyssa Chaska (pictured above)

Questions?


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In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, all student information is held strictly confidential.



Learn Today. Lead Tomorrow.

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Learn more about Dawson Promise and how you can earn a certificate or two-year degree from Dawson Community College without debt!



What will participation in Dawson Promise look like?

- DCC's Financial Aid office help students complete their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- A mentor will help students through the admissions and enrollment processes and introduce them to their academic advisor.
- Students will work one-on-one with their advisor to determine a course of study for their chosen program and will meet periodically to discuss progress.
- Students will be provided with year-round, on-campus housing. Students can move into campus housing and begin classes as soon as they graduate from high school.
- Students will be provided a community host family through the Adopt-a-Buc program. Host families assist students in their transition to the community.
- The Human Resources team will help students obtain on-campus employment.
- Students will be provided with various life skills training; such as, resume writing, personal finances and budgeting, interviewing skills, grocery shopping tips, and more.
- Students are required to be enrolled as full-time students for the Fall and Spring semesters and as part-time students for Summer semesters. Grade checks are completed twice each semester and all students must maintain a 2.0 GPA.

Dawson Community College offers all students...

- 13:1 student to faculty ratio
- 15+ career and technical programs
- Seamless transfer degrees
- Faculty advisors
- Individual tutoring
- Computer labs
- Laptop loan program
- Library
- Vibrant student life with numerous student-led clubs and groups
- Free mental health counseling
- Food service
- Community support
- On-campus One Health medical clinic liaison services



How do students apply for Dawson Promise?

Eligible individuals must complete the Dawson Promise Application and Intake Form. Contact the Dawson Promise coordinator for an application. To be eligible to apply for the Dawson Promise program individuals must:

- Be a resident of Montana.
- Have graduated high school or obtained a HiSET/GED within the past 2 years and is under 23 years old.
- Be an unaccompanied youth who meets one of the below categories:
 - Has aged-out of foster care
 - Is a youth experiencing homelessness, per HUD.

Individuals who do not meet all of the above requirements, yet have extenuating circumstances, may inquire with the Dawson Promise coordinator to submit an appeal to be considered for eligibility.