



Sean Grayson
President

—◆—
Marcia Knox
First Vice President

CALL : (888) 590-9009

VISIT: Council8Education.org

Free College Benefit



EARN YOUR CERTIFICATE OR DEGREE FOR FREE



A DEGREE FOR YOU OR YOUR FAMILY

Active and retired Council 8 members and their families are eligible to earn their Associate Degree online for free in partnership with Eastern Gateway Community College, or complete their Bachelor's Degree online with Central State University.



ZERO OUT OF POCKET COSTS

A last-dollar scholarship covers the difference between any federal grants and your tuition, fees, and e-books. Even if you don't qualify for any grants, your whole cost is covered!



EARN TRANSFERABLE COLLEGE CREDITS

Eastern Gateway Community College and Central State University are public, non-profit, regionally accredited schools, which means credits earned may be transferred to other schools.

PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

- Early Childhood Education
- Social Work
- Environmental Science
- Labor Studies
- IT and IT Help Desk
- Data Analytics
- Human Resources
- Business Management
- Criminal Justice

And More!

Simple enrollment:

- Submit an inquiry form at Council8Education.org
- Complete an application to Eastern Gateway Community College (Associate Degree or Certificate programs) or Central State University (Bachelor's Degree completion)
- Submit the FAFSA at fafsa.ed.gov

Any available federal grants or employer tuition assistance is used toward your tuition, fees, and e-books at EGCC or CSU. As long as your file is complete, the Free College Benefit will cover the rest.

In Partnership With



LEARN MORE & ENROLL TODAY
Council8Education.org (888) 590-9009

Unionized advisors will guide you every step of the way!



Free College Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who is eligible for this benefit?

Dues-paying AFSCME Council 8 Members and active retirees and their families: spouses/ domestic partners, children, grandchildren, dependents, siblings, parents, nieces, and nephews. (Step and in-laws, too!)

2. What will I need to obtain the benefit for me or my family?

You will need your member number, which is on your membership card. If you cannot locate your member number, please call 614-433-0303.

3. Does my family member need to be my dependent or live in my house? Is there an age limit for participation?

Eligible family members do not need to live in the same house, or be listed on your income tax form, and there is no age limit. They can enroll from anywhere in Ohio or across the country. They only need your membership number to enroll.

4. Why does a federal financial aid form need to be completed? If an eligible family member is applying will they need my income tax information?

EGCC, like every college, uses the FAFSA to determine how much your scholarship will be. The FAFSA is a US government form, so all information is with them. Unless the family member is a financial dependent, they won't need your tax info. However, even unofficial dependents are eligible.

5. Can more than one person in my family access this benefit at the same time?

Yes. All eligible individuals can attend, whether that is 1 person or 10 people. They will each have to complete the enrollment process separately and be able to provide your membership number.

6. What if I leave Council 8?

If you are laid off or leave the union due to no fault of your own, you will be permitted to continue and complete your degree with no cost. Anyone who voluntarily leaves the union will no longer be eligible for the Free College scholarship.

7. Will the coursework be able to transfer to a 4-year university if I decide to complete the first 2 years here and want to go on?

Yes. EGCC is an accredited community college in Ohio, so your credits are transferable to a 4-year university. EGCC has physical campuses in Youngstown and Steubenville.

Eligible members and family who have earned an Associate Degree or 60 or more credits with a 2.2 CGPA or higher from EGCC, or any accredited school, can enroll in the Bachelor's Degree Completion programs with Central State University with no cost.

Learn more and apply at: www.Council8Education.org or call 888-590-9009