

First Credential Scholarship FAQ (Previously PRIME)

Is the PRIME scholarship going away?

Yes. The PRIME program is transitioning to the First Credential program following the passage of [HB260](#), effective July 1, 2025.

A master plan is in development and expected by November 2025. Updates will be shared at ushe.edu/first-credential-scholarship/ as they become available.

I've been taking courses to qualify for the PRIME scholarship. How does this change impact me?

Class of 2026: If you graduate in 2026, the requirements and application process remain the same as in previous years:

- Submit an online application (published by USHE)
- Complete the 2026-27 FAFSA (opt out for an approved reason)
- Complete one of the following high school experiences:
 - [5 general education concurrent enrollment courses](#) (each in a different GE category),
OR
 - 6 courses or 300 hours in a CTE program at a Utah technical college, **OR**
 - A youth apprenticeship

Class of 2027 and beyond: Future eligibility will align with the First Credential master plan. Updates will be shared here once the plan is approved.

How do I know if a course will qualify?

Coursework eligibility for the First Credential program is determined by the Utah State Board of Education. Please review the three pathways above and consult your high school counselor for guidance.

How do I apply for the scholarship?

The 2026 application will be available on this page from January 5, 2026, to March 20, 2026.

For answers to additional questions, contact the USHE scholarship team at scholarships@ushe.edu.

Can you tell me more information about the First Credential Scholarship?

- A master plan is in development and expected to be finalized by November 2025. Requirements for a First Credential are determined and verified by the Utah State Board of Education. Please contact your high school counselor for more information about completing the required courses.
- **A physical or digital certificate is not required**, as it was in previous years. Eligibility is determined by the Utah State Board of Education, which reviews completion of the required coursework, not the possession of a certificate.

I am a high school counselor with questions. Who can I contact?

- **Concurrent Enrollment** questions: Christy Schreck - christy.schreck@schools.utah.gov
- **CTE Programs**: Jonathan Frey - jonathan.frey@schools.utah.gov
- **Scholarship Process**: USHE State Aid Team – scholarships@ushe.edu | 801-646-4812