[Print Page](#)

Partners in Education

CHA residents can earn a certificate or associates degree from City Colleges for free or low cost.
[Get Started with PiE](#) [Explore City Colleges of Chicago](#)

Program Overview

CHA residents can earn a certificate or a degree from City Colleges of Chicago for free or low cost. This is possible through a partnership with CCC called Partners in Education (PiE). PiE covers expenses such as tuition, uniforms, books, and exam fees. [Please click here to see important dates](#).

[Interested in obtaining your GED with CCC?](#)

[Interested in earning college credit with CCC while in high school?](#)

Benefits of the Program

PiE participants are eligible for the following support.

- Help with the enrollment process
- Academic advising
- Referrals for career coaching
- Tuition and other expenses

Eligibility for the Program

Program eligibility for CHA residents includes

- Must be a current CHA resident
- Must have a High School Diploma or GED
- Cannot have past debt with the City Colleges of Chicago

- Past student loans must be in good standing
- Attend an Info Session

Getting Started with PiE

1. **Attend an Info Session**

   See a [list of available sessions below](#).

2. **Complete Post-Orientation Forms**

   You will be emailed two forms after orientation:

   1. Career Advisement Form
   2. Training Agreement

   Be sure to read, sign, and submit your forms to keep moving in the process.

3. **Apply to the City Colleges of Chicago**

   Take note of your student ID number, which is given when you apply - you'll need this later.

   [Apply to CCC](#)

4. **Apply for Financial Aid**

   The PiE program is a last dollar program. It fills in the financial gaps after you've received FAFSA funding. You may be eligible for the FAFSA Pell Grant which is federal funding for students who meet income requirements.

   [Apply for financial aid using the FAFSA form](#)

   What is the FAFSA® form?
   Colleges and career schools use the FAFSA form to determine how much financial aid you're eligible to receive, which could include grants, scholarships, work-study funds, and loans.

   You must apply for aid every year, but with the right information in hand, it's easy.

   If you would like assistance with completing the FAFSA, reach out to our education team at education@thecha.org.

5. **Complete Program Enrollment Requirements for City Colleges**

You'll receive information on next steps from City Colleges. Complete the steps below to continue with PiE.

Orientation and Placement Testing: If you are new to City Colleges of Chicago, please check with your campus-based college Admissions team to learn more about new student orientation and placement testing**.**

Academic Advising and Registration: Schedule a time to meet with your advisor to go over placement test scores and develop an academic plan.

6. **Register for Class**

7. **Apply for a tuition voucher from PiE**

Let the Project Coordinator know at ccccha@ccc.edu you have completed the above steps.

A Partners in Education staff member will provide you with more information on applying for a tuition vouchers after all necessary program requirements have been met. Please allow 3 to 5 business days for a staff member to respond to your request for financial academic assistance.

Information Sessions

You must attend on-time and for the entire duration of the session. Please bring a notebook and pen to take notes and know your CHA Client ID number.

Virtual Orientation

You will need to download Zoom before joining a Zoom meeting on a computer or mobile device. Otherwise, you will be prompted to download and install Zoom when you click a join link.

August 14, 2025 6:30PM August 27, 2025 10:00AM August 27, 2025 12:00PM September 4, 2025 6:30PM September 18, 2025 6:30PM

Similar programs you may be eligible for

[LevelUp: 6 steps to Economic Power](#)

CHA's LevelUp Program, (formerly known as the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program), helps participants achieve financial stability while working towards their educational, professional, and perso

[Technology Access and Education](#)

We live in a world that's more online than ever. We help residents confidently handle digital tasks in their daily lives by providing education, technology, and internet access.