



Payment Options for Continuing Education Programs

I. Alternative Loans For Your Education

Most major banks or other lenders (such as federal programs or credit card companies) offer Alternative Loans to assist you with college/educational expenses.

Contact your bank/lender and request an application for an Alternative Loan. If approved, your bank/lender will send Austin Community College information for your enrollment and ACC's Financial Aid Office will contact you to get specific information about the program/course you want to take.

The steps to getting an Alternative Loan for your educational expenses include:

- Determination of your credit worthiness
- You cannot be in default with a student loan at ACC
- Contact your bank/lender and complete their application
- Contact the ACC Financial Aid office to inform them about the specific program/course you want to take
- The ACC Financial Aid office certified, as appropriate
- Payment for your courses usually goes directly the ACC Financial Aid office

ACC Financial Aid Office / Highland Business Center
5930 Middle Fiskville Road, Austin, TX 78752
Phone: 512.223.7872 Fax: 512.223.7963

II. Texas Public Education Grant (TPEG)

The Texas Public Education Grant is available for certain Continuing Education workforce courses and programs (see current schedule for additional information). This financial aid option, if approved, covers tuition and fees for desired courses.

The form to apply for funds from TPEG is available on the college website at the below link:

<http://continue.austincc.edu/files/registration/tpeg.pdf>

Applications for the next school year (September – August) typically begin in March for the upcoming semesters.

Please contact the Financial Aid Office for full information and to apply.

III. ACC Payment Plan

- An Installment Payment Plan may be available for selected sections in Continuing Education. Please check with the cashier to verify if your class is eligible for a payment plan.
- CE Classes must meet the following requirements to be eligible for an Installment Payment Plan:
 - Section must be coded with a payment plan tuition code.
 - Students can register for classes and set up a payment plan when registration opens for Continuing Education classes
 - For a payment plan, students must register for classes by **the first day of the start of the standard, 16-week college semester.**
 - The last day to enroll in a payment plan is **the second day of the start of the standard, 16-week college semester.**
 - *Note: Students registering for classes after the semester start date will not be eligible for an installment plan; they must pay for classes in full at the time of registration.*

In order to sign up for the tuition installment plan you must:

- Be registered for an eligible course
- Pay the down payment on your tuition, plus any course related fees and student activity fees by your payment deadline
- Pay the full amount of any other applicable fees stated in the ACC Catalog and schedule

IMPORTANT Payment Deadlines:

For Fall and Spring semesters:

- The down payment of 1/3 is **due when the payment plan is set up.**
- The first installment of 1/3 is due on a **date-specific Friday of the following month.**
- The second installment payment of 1/3 is due on a **date-specific Friday of the next month.**

For summer semesters:

- The down payment of 50% is **due when the payment plan is set up.**
- The final installment payment (50%) is due on a **date-specific Friday of the following month.**

A Payment must be made by 5 p.m. on the payment plan deadline.

A \$20 late fee is charged on late payments.

For additional information on installment payment plans go to:

<http://www.austincc.edu/support/admissions/tuitioninstallment.php>

IV. Workforce Solutions – Capital Area

<http://www.wfscapitalarea.com/>

A. Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Program

Workforce Solutions offers financial assistance to eligible individuals for job search assistance, training, and other support services through funding from the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) program.

What does WIA provide?

WIA is a no-cost employment program designed to give job seekers the support and/or skills training they need to find a job. Specifically, WIA can provide:

- Job search assistance
- Child care assistance while in training
- Transportation assistance
- Interview clothing and uniforms
- Tools needed for your new job
- Funding for basic skills and occupational training

B. Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) for Workers is a federally funded program that helps workers who are adversely affected by foreign imports or job shifts to a foreign country. Assistance is provided to eligible workers in the form of reemployment services, training, job search, relocation, and support benefits in the form of Trade Readjustment Allowances (TRA), a Health Coverage Tax Credit (HCTC), and/or Alternative/Reemployment Trade Adjustment Assistance (ATAA/RTAA) for older workers. The TAA program serves those who are adversely affected by foreign imports or job shifts to a foreign country. To qualify, applicants must be laid off from a job covered under a trade petition certified by the U.S. Department of Labor.

V. Goodwill Industries of Central Texas

<http://www.austingoodwill.org/wds/werc.html>

Workforce and Education Readiness Continuum (WERC)

WERC is a City of Austin-funded network of 11 strategic partners linked to help prepare Austin-area residents to enter or reenter today's competitive job market. Designed to seamlessly provide services ranging from GED and ESL through job-readiness and college-level training, WERC connects 38 provider locations to create "no wrong door" for workforce and education services. As clients progress along the continuum, they're equipped with the tools and support they need to achieve self-sufficiency.

- Pre-employment training in computer, applications skills, resume and interviewing skills
- Job search assistance including job leads
- Supportive services, including vouchers for work clothing, tools, and transportation
- Training and certification in industry trades:
 - Certified Nurse Aide
 - Administrative Assistant
 - HVAC
 - CDL – Truck Driving
 - PC Technician
 - Plus others

Who is eligible?

- 18 years or older
- Resident of Travis County
- Proof of income
- Eligible for employment be available and willing to attend training

Goodwill Industries of Central Texas
1015 Norwood Park Boulevard, Austin, TX 78753
512.637.7100

vi. Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS)

<http://www.dars.state.tx.us/drs/vr.shtml>

The Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program helps people who have physical or mental disabilities prepare for, find or keep employment. Gaining skills needed for a career, learning how to prepare for a job interview or getting the accommodations needed to stay employed are just a few of the ways this program helps people with disabilities increase productivity and independence.

Services are provided based on individual needs. Some of these services are:

- Medical, psychological and vocational evaluation to determine the nature and degree of the disability and the consumer's job capabilities,
- Counseling and guidance to help the consumer and family plan vocational goals and adjust to the working world,
- Training to learn job skills in trade school, college, university, on the job or at home,
- Hearing examinations, hearing aids and other communication equipment, aural rehabilitation and interpreter services for the deaf and hearing impaired,
- Medical treatment and/or therapy to lessen or remove the disability,
- Assistive devices such as artificial limbs, braces, and wheelchairs to stabilize or improve functioning on the job or at home,
- Rehabilitation technology devices and services to improve job functioning,
- Training in appropriate work behaviors and other skills to meet employer expectations,
- Job placement assistance to find jobs compatible with the person's physical and mental ability, and
- Follow-up after job placement to ensure job success.

Consistent with the primary purpose of the program, Vocational Rehabilitation services also contribute to the support of persons with disabilities in the community as well as support their movement from nursing homes and institutions to community-based settings.

A person is eligible if:

1. The person has a disability which results in substantial problems in obtaining employment;
2. Vocational rehabilitation services from DRS are required by that person to prepare for, get or keep a job and
3. The person is able to get or keep a job after receiving services.

Services will be determined through informed consumer choice, that is, after providing information about options and alternatives. Please note that consumers can be served by only one DRS program at a time.

How to Apply:

To apply for VR services, call, write or visit the DARS Division for Rehabilitation Services (DRS) office nearest you and request an appointment to meet with a counselor. If you need help in locating a DRS office in your area, you may call the DARS Inquiries Line at 1-800-628-5115. When you contact the local office, please let us know if you need translator services or other accommodations for your appointment. You may also find a list of local offices at: www.dars.state.tx.us

VII. IDEAYA

www.ideaya.org

IDEAYA is a scholarship foundation that provides funding for deserving, low-income, high school graduates up to the age of 21 with a GPA below 3.0 who

- are unlikely to receive the required financial support and guidance to gain viable employable skills beyond high school
- have limited employment options

Email contact: chairperson@ideaya.org