



Brothers and Sisters,

Below you will find the latest update from Eastern Gateway Community College President Michael Geoghegan and the OAPFF Higher Education Initiative Program.

The OAPFF will continue to monitor all activity related to the free college program and how it affects each of us. We will also continue to provide amazing benefits for our members.

If you have any questions about the OAPFF Higher Education Initiative please contact OAPFF Director of Operations, Bill Mastroianni at Bmastroianni@oapff.org or Dr. Carl DeCarlo, Program Director of Fire Science at Cdecarlo@egcc.edu

Dear Gators,

As you know, we have been involved in good faith and fruitful negotiations with the U.S. Department of Education over the past several months.

Through these in-depth discussions, we have jointly come to an agreement we believe will position Eastern Gateway Community College to continue our mission to put our students first and offer the lowest cost option for you to continue on your path to a higher education.

In order to move forward with productive settlement negotiations, we will no longer offer a last dollar scholarship (Free College Benefit program) to new students enrolling at Eastern Gateway.

We appreciate that the U.S. Department of Education has agreed to allow Eastern Gateway to offer the last dollar scholarship for the Fall Semester to continuing students who were enrolled in classes in the Spring and/or Summer semesters in 2023. After Fall semester 2023, the Free College Benefit will officially end and not be eligible for any student.

To be eligible for this last dollar scholarship benefit for Fall semester 2023, continuing students who were enrolled and taking classes in the Spring or Summer must be enrolled, registered and assigned classes by **August 28, 2023**.

For new students enrolled in Fall 2023, the new restructured tuition and fee model will be in effect: <https://egcc.edu/about-us/institution/tuition-and-fees/>

We know that for so many students this last dollar scholarship benefit has been transformative.

Eastern Gateway is proud of the fact that more than 20,000 students have graduated

from our community college with no debt.

We are committed to investing in your academic success.

Eastern Gateway is committed to putting our students first and doing everything we can to help you pursue your dream of an affordable higher education credential.

We will work with both continuing and new students to put you on a path to a higher education degree at Eastern Gateway or at another higher education learning institution.

We will work with the continuing students who were enrolled during the Spring and/or Summer semesters to provide you with the last dollar scholarship for the Fall Semester before the program goes away.

If you are a continuing student from the Spring and or Summer, make sure you are enrolled, registered and assigned classes for Fall Semester by **August 28** to be eligible for one more opportunity to receive a last dollar scholarship.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this update and we stand by to support your continued academic success.

Sincerely,

Michael Geoghegan, MBA, CPA,

President

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EASTERN GATEWAY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE





Fire Science AAS

The Fire Science Program is designed to provide entry level and advanced education for those students seeking a career in fire and emergency services, as well as current practitioners seeking career advancement. Students completing the Fire Science Program will earn an Associate Degree. The program is delivered through an online modality, offering maximum flexibility and access, and explores topics such as building construction, incident mitigation practices, fire behavior, fire prevention, incident command and control, and firefighter health and safety. The program provides additional areas of study such as written communications, sociology, and organizational behavior to ensure students are prepared for success in the contemporary fire and emergency services.

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