



## ASCENT

ASCENT is Colorado legislation that allows Denver Public Schools (DPS) and other school districts to pay the tuition, fees and cost of textbooks for one full year (fall and spring) of college for participating students. Passed into law in 2009, the purpose of ASCENT is to improve academic programming and create a path for students to enroll in college courses and earn credits while in high school.

Specifically, the program gives high school students the opportunity to attend college as full-time students if they have met the specific qualifications. Students are eligible to enroll in a minimum of 12 credit hours each semester at one of many participating community or technical colleges. The program gives students the chance to get a head start on earning a certificate, associate's degree, or bachelor's degree while saving money.

### How to Qualify

To participate, high school seniors must do the following:

- **Apply by submitting *ASCENT Agreement and Registration* form during December of senior year.**
- **Meet all DPS high school graduation requirements.**
- **Complete and pass 12 credit hours (typically four classes) of college coursework prior to the end of the 12<sup>th</sup> grade year. These courses must be 100 level or higher and must be on the student's high school and college transcripts.**
- **Have at least a 2.75 cumulative or overall grade point average (GPA).**
- **Apply and be admitted to any Colorado community college and/or technical school (Emily Griffith Technical College and Pickens Technical College exclusively).**
- **Must be college ready as determined by SAT/ACT subject scores, B or higher in high school junior level Math and English courses (with an unweighted 3.0 GPA) and/or the passing of concurrent enrollment developmental education courses (CCR 092 and MAT 050 or 055).**
- **Register with College Opportunity Fund (COF).**

**\*Additional eligibility criteria may be requested in order to be selected for the program.**



## ASCENT Program Application Process

### Required Documents

- All students interested in ASCENT program participation are required to submit a one (1) page response to the prompt provided below.
- All students interested in ASCENT are required to submit at least one (1) letter of support from a school and/or community leader (i.e. teacher, counselor, principal, pastor, mentor, coach, etc.).

These documents are ***due no later than Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018.*** Late documents will not be considered in the selection process.

All documents must be scanned to the ASCENT Program Manager, LaRae Scott-Jennings and/or the Coordinator, Jessica Buckmaster.

### Essay Prompt

- Why are you interested in participating in the ASCENT program and how will participation in the program assist you in being successful after high school?

#### **ASCENT Program Manager:**

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#### **ASCENT Program Coordinator:**

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