Chapter 13 – Iowa Vocational-Technical Tuition Grant

Established in 1973, the Iowa Vocational-Technical Tuition Grant (IVTG) provides need-based financial assistance to Iowa residents enrolled in career and technical education (CTE) programs at Iowa community colleges or barber and cosmetology arts and sciences programs at eligible barber/cosmetology colleges. A Historical Appropriations Summary can be found on the Iowa Department of Education's Higher Ed and Postsecondary Readiness Reports site.

A. Eligibility

1. College/University

NEW! To be eligible to participate in IVTG, institutions must be either an Iowa-supported community college defined in Iowa Code Section 256.192 or a School of Barbering and/or Cosmetology Arts and Sciences licensed under chapter 157 located in Iowa. Students attending the following colleges are eligible to receive IVTG awards:

Participating Colleges

IVTG Participating College	College/University Sector	Location
Des Moines Area Community College	Community College	Des Moines
Eastern Iowa Community College	Community College	Clinton, Muscatine, Bettendorf
Hawkeye Community College	Community College	Waterloo
Indian Hills Community College	Community College	Ottumwa, Centerville
Iowa Central Community College	Community College	Fort Dodge
Iowa Lakes Community College	Community College	Estherville
Iowa Valley Community College	Community College	Ellsworth, Marshalltown
Iowa Western Community College	Community College	Council Bluffs
Kirkwood Community College	Community College	Cedar Rapids
North Iowa Area Community College	Community College	Mason City
Northeast Iowa Community College	Community College	Calmar, Peosta

IVTG Participating College	College/University Sector	Location
Northwest Iowa Community College	Community College	Sheldon
Southeastern Community College	Community College	Burlington
Southwestern Community College	Community College	Creston
Western Iowa Tech Community College	Community College	Sioux City
American Hair Academy	Barber/Cosmetology	Mt. Pleasant
Aveda Institute	Barber/Cosmetology	Des Moines
Capri College	Barber/Cosmetology	Cedar Rapids, Davenport, Dubuque, Waterloo
College of Hair Design	Barber/Cosmetology	Cedar Falls
Faust Institute of Cosmetology	Barber/Cosmetology	Spirit Lake
Iowa School of Beauty	Barber/Cosmetology	Des Moines, Sioux City
La James College of Hairstyling	Barber/Cosmetology	Mason City
La James International College	Barber/Cosmetology	Cedar Falls, Davenport, Fort Dodge, Johnston
PCI Academy	Barber/Cosmetology	Ames, Iowa City
SOHO Hair Academy	Barber/Cosmetology	Council Bluffs, IA

2. Student

NEW! In addition to the general eligibility requirements found in Chapter 1, eligible IVTG recipients must be admitted and in attendance in a Title IV-eligible CTE program of study of at least 15 weeks in length or a Title IV-eligible barber and cosmetology arts and sciences program.

3. Programs of Study

NEW! Eligible students must be enrolled and attending programs of study defined by the Iowa Department of Education as CTE programs or barber and cosmetology arts and sciences programs.

B. Application Process

Students must complete the Free Applications for Federal Student Aid (FAFSAs) as described in Chapter 1. Applications for the 2026-27 academic year must be submitted on or before July 1, 2026.

C. Selection of Recipients

Grants are awarded to eligible students by college officials. Recipients must be on-time applicants (meeting the July 1 priority deadline) whose Student Aid Index (SAI) is within the parameters defined by the Iowa Department of Education's Bureau of Iowa College Aid (Iowa College Aid). The Application Receipt Date on the student's Institutional Student Information Record MUST indicate that the student met the priority filing deadline.

Eligible students must be enrolled and in attendance in programs of study defined by the Iowa Department of Education as CTE programs. If arts and science classes are required as part of a CTE program, those courses should be included when calculating awards. IVTG recipients' Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes are reported by college administrators in the Iowa College Aid Processing System (ICAPS®).

Students who have not yet begun taking core CTE classes are not eligible to receive IVTG, as these students are not currently enrolled and in attendance in CTE programs.

Students who are enrolled in core CTE classes, and have begun taking those classes, sometimes are enrolled in subsequent semesters during which no official core CTE classes are being attended. These students are making progress toward completion of their CTE programs and will be allowed to receive IVTG.

If a student enrolled in an eligible IVTG program of study subsequently withdraws from the core classes during that term of enrollment, the student remains eligible for the IVTG disbursement for that term of enrollment.

Students with a bachelor's degree may receive IVTG if they enroll in eligible programs at eligible colleges.

D. Awarding

Community Colleges

The maximum IVTG award for the 2026-27 academic year is $1,100 for eligible Iowa students who enroll on a full-time basis (minimum of 12 hours per semester or the quarter equivalent).

Eligible students who do not receive the maximum award during the 9-month academic year may receive additional funding for summer (up to the maximum annual award) if summer awards are authorized (according to the awarding schedule below). However, no summer payment may exceed the amount the student would have received for a term during the 9-month academic year. Summer awards are not authorized in 2026-27.

IVTG awards are restricted to tuition/fees. When IVTG is awarded in combination with other tuition/fee-restricted funds, total tuition/fee-restricted funding cannot exceed total tuition and mandatory fees charged to the recipient. In most cases, the IVTG award is reduced to comply with this policy. For recipients of Chapter 33 veterans education tuition payments, the IVTG award should be applied to tuition and mandatory fees prior to the calculation of the Chapter 33 tuition/fee award.

Awards must be made on accurately calculated SAIs. Eligible students may receive the corresponding IVTG each term based on their SAI:

Maximum Award for Full Time (12+) Credits

SAI Range	Annual	Semester	Quarter
201-300	$200	$100	$67
301-400	300	150	100
401-500	400	200	133
501-600	500	250	167
601-700	600	300	200
701-800	700	350	233
801-900	800	400	267
901-1,000	900	450	300
1,001-1,100	1,000	500	334
1,101-6,800	1,100	550	367

In order to determine amounts for students enrolled less than full time, use enrollment intensity percentages. For example, if a student is enrolled in 11.5 credits with a SAI of 5,000 they would be eligible for 96%, rounding to the nearest percent, of the maximum term award making the student eligible for $528. (550*(11.5/12) = 550*.96=$528). Round awards to the nearest dollar. Total awards for all terms cannot exceed the annual maximum. Part time students must be enrolled in at least 3 semester hours or the equivalent to receive IVTG.

NEW! Barber and Cosmetology Colleges

The maximum IVTG award for the 2026-27 academic year is $1,100 for eligible Iowa students who enroll on a full-time basis (900 clock hours).

Eligible students who do not receive the maximum award during the 9-month academic year may receive additional funding for summer (up to the maximum annual award) if summer awards are authorized (according to the awarding schedule below). However, no summer payment may exceed the amount the student would have received for a term during the 9-month academic year. Summer awards are not authorized in 2026-27.

IVTG awards are restricted to tuition/fees. When IVTG is awarded in combination with other tuition/fee-restricted funds, total tuition/fee-restricted funding cannot exceed total tuition and mandatory fees charged to the recipient. In most cases, the IVTG award is reduced to comply with this policy. For recipients of Chapter 33 veterans education tuition payments, the IVTG award should be applied to tuition and mandatory fees prior to the calculation of the Chapter 33 tuition/fee award.

Awards must be made on accurately calculated SAIs. Eligible students may receive the corresponding IVTG each term based on their SAI:

Maximum Award Based on Clock Hours

SAI Range	Annual	450+ Full Time (F)	337.5 - 449 Three-Quarter Time (P)	225 – 337 Half-Time (H)	112.5 - 224 Less-Than-Half Time (L)
201-300	$200	$100	$75	$50	$25
301-400	300	150	113	75	38
401-500	400	200	150	100	50
501-600	500	250	188	125	63
601-700	600	300	225	150	75
701-800	700	350	263	175	88
801-900	800	400	300	200	100
901-1,000	900	450	338	225	113
1,001-1,100	1,000	500	375	250	125
1,101-6,800	1,100	550	413	275	138

NEW! ICAPS Reporting

Because clock hour programs often have unique start dates, refer to the following chart to determine the correct term to report for award certification. If a term starts before September 1 (but after July 1) and the student is continuously enrolled through September 1, the student can be reported for Term 1. All other terms should be certified based on the term's actual start date, according to the following table.

Term	On or After	On or Before
1	September 1	October 14
2	October 15	January 1
3	January 2	February 14
4	February 15	March 31

Term	On or After	On or Before
5	April 1	June 30
6	Awards not Authorized	Awards Not Authorized

E. Award Offer

Institution officials should provide financial aid offers to all IVTG recipients. Award offers must clearly indicate award amounts and the state programs from which students will receive funding. All notices concerning state grants must include the following award notification statement:

"The amount of grant money you receive from the Iowa Department of Education may change based on state funding."

F. Renewal and Lifetime Eligibility

Applicants may apply for a second year, and in some cases a partial third year, of IVTG awards.

Generally, a recipient may receive up to 4 full-time semester awards, or the quarter equivalent. However, students enrolled in CTE programs that require additional classes (including liberal arts classes) to complete the program, and who are making satisfactory progress toward completion of the program, may continue to receive IVTG for up to one additional semester of study (for a maximum of 5 semesters of full-time enrollment eligibility).

ICAPS determines the lifetime maximum by the usage of points. IVTG has a maximum limit of 2.5 points. The chart below indicates the point values used per term based on the enrollment status indicated in ICAPS.

Points Established by Enrollment Status

Enrollment Status	Credits	Semester Points	Quarter Points
Full-Time (F)	12+	0.5	0.333
Three-Quarter Time (P)	9-11	0.375	0.25
Half-Time (H)	6-8	0.25	0.167
Less-Than-Half-Time (L)	3-5	0.125	0.083

Information about previous payments is found in ICAPS under the 'Payment History' section of the student record or by utilizing the grant history report.

Students who have received the maximum grant for two years may regain eligibility after a two-year absence from the community college if they re-enroll in a new CTE program major.

G. Disbursement of Funds

Chapter 3 provides a complete description of the payment process.

H. Changes/Corrections

Any changes in awards must be provided to Iowa College Aid electronically via ICAPS by the reporting deadlines established in Chapter 3 of the Iowa Student Financial Aid Guide.

I. Verification/Compliance

College/university officials are responsible for completing any required federal verification procedures and for coordinating all aid to ensure compliance with student eligibility and allowable award amounts. Verification requirements align with federal student aid verification requirements, as authorized under Title IV of the Higher Education Act, as amended.

For students selected for federal verification, one disbursement of state-funded student financial aid may be made prior to completing the verification process as long as college/university officials have no reason to believe application information is inaccurate. If students become ineligible for aid due to verification activities, refunds must be made to state-funded programs.