



RECONNECT TO WORKFORCE

TENNESSEE RECONNECT offers up to five semesters at a community or technical college tuition-free for eligible adults who have not completed a college degree or technical certificate. This provides participants enough time to earn a two-year associate degree or a technical certificate in a high-demand career or technical field. Many programs may even be completed in a year or less.

RECONNECT TO WORKFORCE is an initiative to help Tennesseans receiving unemployment benefits to use the Tennessee Reconnect program to earn a college degree or a career or technical certificate. Enrolling full-time through Reconnect will fulfill the work search requirement of unemployment benefits.

Who qualifies?

For Tennessee Reconnect, students must:

- Not already have an associate or bachelor degree.
- Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen, and have been a Tennessee resident for at least one year preceding the date of application for the grant.
- Complete the FAFSA and be deemed an independent student.
- Be admitted to an eligible institution (a public community or technical college).
- Be enrolled in a degree or certificate program.
- Participate in an advising program.

Reconnect to Workforce also requires students be enrolled full-time:

- 12 credits per semester at a community college, or;
- 30 hours a week at a TCAT

What programs qualify?

All Reconnect-eligible programs qualify and should be reported as such in your weekly unemployment confirmation. Claimants should continue normal reporting to continue to qualify for unemployment benefits.

ChattState TN Reconnect Guidelines and Info Sessions chattanooga.state.edu/tnreconnect.

How Does a Student Get Started

- [Attend a TN Reconnect Info Session](#).
- [Complete the Tennessee Reconnect Grant Application](#) or [Complete the Tennessee Reconnect Grant Application](#).
- [Apply to ChattState](#).
- If you have previously taken any courses, you will need to obtain college transcripts. Typically, these can be requested in the registrars' offices of the college you attended.
- Fill out your [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#).



QUESTIONS? TALK TO A RECONNECT NAVIGATOR.

ChattState has qualified staff to answer your questions about going to college, assist you in the decision-making process, help you with the FAFSA form, and navigate your educational pathway. Attend one of our TN Reconnect Info Sessions.

Do unemployment benefits get extended because a student is enrolled in Reconnect?

No.

Does the Reconnect grant expire at the same time as my unemployment benefits?No.

Although unemployment benefits have ended, students may still qualify for the Tennessee Reconnect grant.

