WYOMING · STATE AID REFERENCE

Wyoming State Aid Cheat Sheet: Class of 2027

Hathaway Scholarship, the need-based supplement, Wyoming's Tomorrow, and Wyoming Works. For the 2027–28 school year.

Wyoming aid has two front doors: the **Hathaway application at the student's Wyoming college** (there is no state portal) and the **FAFSA**, which opens the need-based supplement, Pell, and college need aid. Hathaway pays only at the University of Wyoming and the eight community colleges. **What changed:** Senate File 47 raised every award about 40 percent for courses starting on or after July 1, 2026, and raised the need-supplement cap from $1,575 to $2,120. Handouts older than July 2026 are wrong.

The Programs at a Glance

Program	What it pays and who qualifies
Hathaway Scholarship (merit)	Full-time, per semester: Honors $2,360, Performance $1,770, Opportunity $1,180, Provisional Opportunity $1,180. Wyoming graduates who meet the GPA, test, and Success Curriculum requirements. UW or a Wyoming community college.
Hathaway Need-Based Supplement	**Honors: 100% of unmet need above $2,000, no dollar cap.** Other tiers: 25% of unmet need above $2,000, up to $2,120 a year. Minimum $150 per semester. Requires the FAFSA every year.
Wyoming's Tomorrow	Residents 24 and older with FAFSA need: $150 per credit, up to $1,800 per semester, $7,200 lifetime. Not in the same semester as Hathaway. Must register with Workforce Services.
Wyoming Works	Approved career programs at community colleges, Wyoming residents with FAFSA need. Standard and Critical caps are tied by law to Hathaway amounts; colleges currently publish different figures, so confirm with the college. Up to six semesters.
UW institutional aid	Automatic Cowboy Commitment (residents), competitive Trustees' Scholars, Cowboy Need Grant, WyoScholarships donor awards.

Deadlines to Post on Your Wall

Date	What
Open now	2027–28 FAFSA at studentaid.gov (opened September 2026)
December 1, 2026	UW Trustees' Scholars Award: application, transcript, scores received and student admitted
Before February 1, 2027	FAFSA filed for the UW Cowboy Need Grant (first-come, first-served)
Mid-March 2027	UW WyoScholarships donor awards (many close March 15)
Before the start of courses	Last chance to send a higher ACT, SAT, or CLT score for a higher Hathaway tier
Before the first day of fall 2027 classes	Hathaway application complete at the college. Late means the award starts a term late.
Four years after graduation	Outer limit to apply for Hathaway (May 2031 for a May 2027 graduate)

The Rules That Trip Families Up

- **Hathaway is not automatic.** Eligibility is; the money needs an application at the college before classes start.
- **Any test works.** ACT, SAT, or CLT; ACT superscores count. Cutoffs: 25 Honors, 21 Performance, 19 Opportunity, 17 or WorkKeys 12 Provisional.
- **The course list is a gate.** Missing one Success Curriculum course drops the student a tier, even with the GPA and score.
- **Part-time is allowed.** It is prorated. Finishing fewer credits than enrolled, or skipping a fall or spring, is what ends it.
- **Remedial courses don't count** toward the 12 credits and are never paid.

Where Hathaway Pays (and Where It Doesn't)

Eligible	Not eligible
University of Wyoming (Laramie) and the eight community colleges: Casper, Central Wyoming (Riverton), Eastern Wyoming (Torrington), Gillette, Laramie County (Cheyenne), Northwest (Powell), Sheridan, and Western Wyoming (Rock Springs). Honors, Performance, and Opportunity can use up to 4 full-time semesters at a community college, then the rest at UW. Provisional starts at a community college and can extend to UW after an associate degree.	Any out-of-state college and any private college, including Wyoming Catholic College. A 2026 bill to allow private-college use (HB 57) failed. Students leaving Wyoming should look at the Western Undergraduate Exchange.

Hathaway: Check These Things Early

Three gates, all required: high school GPA, a test score, and the Hathaway Success Curriculum. Ask the counselor for the student's Success Curriculum level in writing. The tier is set by high school results and never rises in college.

Tier	GPA	ACT	Success Curriculum	Per semester	Length
Honors	3.5	25	4 yrs each LA, math, science; 3 social studies; 4 arts, CTE, or world language (2 sequenced)	$2,360	8 semesters
Performance	3.0	21	Same as Honors	$1,770	8 semesters
Opportunity	2.5	19	Same core; 2 years arts, CTE, or world language	$1,180	8 semesters
Provisional	2.5	17 or WorkKeys 12	Graduation requirements plus 2 years arts, CTE, or world language	$1,180	4 at a community college, extendable

The need supplement, step by step	Example: Honors at UW, on campus (illustrative)
Cost of attendance minus SAI minus Hathaway, Pell, and all other grants = unmet need. Over $2,000 qualifies. Honors gets everything above $2,000. Other tiers get 25% of it, up to $2,120 a year. Recalculated every year from the FAFSA.	COA $26,000 minus SAI $3,000, Pell $4,000, Hathaway $4,720 = $14,280 unmet. Honors supplement $12,280; family share $5,000. Same student at Performance: supplement capped at $2,120; family share $16,340.

Counselor Calendar: What to Tell Students When

When	Tell seniors
October to December	File the FAFSA now. Here is your Success Curriculum level. UW Trustees' deadline is December 1.
January to March	One or two points short of 19, 21, or 25? Register for the next test. FAFSA in before February 1 for UW need aid.
April to May	After admission, find your college's Hathaway coordinator. Planning a summer course? Check your transcript graduation date.
June to August	Finish the college's Hathaway application before classes start. A June score still counts.
Juniors, any time	Plan the fourth year of math and science and the arts, CTE, or world language sequence.

Three Mistakes That Cost Wyoming Students Money

- **Skipping the FAFSA because Hathaway isn't need-based.** It shuts off the supplement, which for Honors students has no cap.
- **Waiting for an automatic award.** The application lives at the college and must be in before the first day of classes.
- **Taking a semester off.** See below.

The Semester-Off Trap

Hathaway requires enrollment every fall and every spring after it starts. One skipped semester ends eligibility. Regaining it takes a full fall or spring semester paid by the family, summer cannot fix it, and those semesters still count against the six-year limit to use the award. Before any semester off, transfer, or dropped class, the student asks the college's Hathaway coordinator first. Transfers between eligible colleges are allowed between semesters; tell both financial aid offices.

Free Resources: No Account, No Cost, No Data Collection

Resource	Where
Hathaway rules, eligible colleges, FAQ	hathawayscholarship.org · hathawayscholarship@wyo.gov
FAFSA and FSA ID	studentaid.gov
Full Wyoming guide with worked examples	collegereadyparent.org/wyoming/

No paywall, no accounts, no lead forms, no student data collection. Counselors and educators: you may freely copy, print, and distribute this sheet.
Corrections: leo@collegereadyparent.org. Verified October 29, 2026 against the Wyoming Department of Education Hathaway program pages and Senate File 47 (2026); Wyoming's Tomorrow and Wyoming Works from community college program pages; UW dates from the CollegeReadyParent database. Illustrative examples are not any college's published budget. Rules change: confirm with the college before making decisions. CollegeReadyParent is independent and not affiliated with any college or agency.