



About Pell Grant Recalculation

Date

Pell Grant recipients who change their enrollment status (adding or dropping classes) will have their eligibility recalculated throughout the semester. For full-term students, this is typically at the time of the 2nd Pell Grant disbursement in October for Fall, March for Spring or July for Summer. Students in short term/late starting classes will have their awards recalculated on the day their classes start. Not further Pell Grant adjustments are made after the 2nd Pell Grant disbursement or last late starting class for which the student is already enrolled in begins, whichever is later.

Students who drop courses may be required to repay a portion of their disbursement. Students have the option to enroll in later starting classes within the same term to retain their eligibility and avoid an overpayment before their last late starting class begins or 2nd Pell Grant disbursement, whichever is later. *It is critical that students always contact the college financial aid office before dropping any classes in the term to determine the financial impact.*

Generally, the classes a student is enrolled in **AND ATTENDING** will determine the amount of financial aid grant money received. If the student is enrolled and attending less than full-time as of final course start date for the term, the Pell Grant will likely be less than what was reported in the initial award notification which was based upon full-time status. The Pell Grant is adjusted at the time of the 2nd Pell Grant disbursement or late starting course start date to the actual student enrollment.

For financial aid purposes, there are generally 4 enrollment levels:

- Full-time (12 or more credits)
- 3/4-time (9 -11.5 credits)
- 1/2-time (6 – 8.5 credits)
- Less than 1/2-time (0.5-5.5 credits)

What does this mean for you?

If you increase or decrease your enrollment level through the term until the 2nd Pell Grant disbursement or the last late starting class for which you are already enrolled in begins, whichever is later.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you **decrease** your enrollment **after** the first class day but on or before the 2nd Pell Grant disbursement date or start date for the last late starting class for which you are already enrolled, your aid will be decreased as well to match your enrollment (as

already explained). However, you may still owe some tuition and fee charges to the school

because of the refund policy. Students in this situation will be responsible for any balance owed the Cashier's Office.

Additionally, since Pell eligibility begins on the first day of classes, students who drop all their classes during the add/drop period (and before the course census date) will be considered a Return to Title IV (R2T4).

If you increase your enrollment level after the 2nd Pell Grant disbursement or last late starting class begin date, your Pell Grant will not be increased, except in the case of Direct Loans. This means, for example, that a student who is enrolled in 10 credits as of the last Pell Grant disbursement, and who later adds a 2-credit class, will not have their Pell Grant adjusted upward to the full-time level. Rather, the aid will remain at the 3/4-time level. However, if the student adds a 2-credit course later in the semester, and stays enrolled in all 12 units through the class start date, the student will be paid at the full-time Pell Grant amount.

If you decrease your enrollment level after the last course start date, your Pell Grant will not be reduced. This means, for example, that a student who is enrolled in 15 credits as of the last course census date, and who later drops a 5-credit class, will not have his/her aid reduced to the 3/4-time level. Rather, the aid will remain at the full-time level. However, for Satisfactory Academic Progress purposes, the student will be held accountable for completing a full-time course load. If a student has Direct Loans, and drops below 6 hours, any future disbursements will be canceled per federal regulations.

Late Start Classes If you register for late-start classes, your Federal Pell Grant for that course will be awarded and disbursed to the student on the next scheduled disbursement date after the course start date. Loan disbursements will be released after you have started classes totaling at least six credits.