

Return of Federal Financial Aid For Withdrawing from College

The Federal Government has established a policy for returning Federal financial assistance. This policy results in students who choose to receive financial aid but do not attend class, having to repay financial aid they received but did not earn.

Your financial aid (which is funded by tax dollars) is awarded to you contingent on you attending and successfully completing your coursework. Therefore if you withdraw or drop out of school, you may owe the college money and you may be responsible for repaying part or all of your financial aid back to the Federal Government, as a result of not “earning” the financial aid you were awarded.

This policy applies to all financial aid recipients who are receiving Title IV funds. Title IV funds consist of Direct Loans, PELL grants, FSEOG, and any other individual Title IV award received. It is your responsibility to read and understand all related information regarding the rules of this policy.

Consequences of Withdrawing

A student who withdraws will have their financial aid adjusted based upon the date of their official or unofficial withdraw.

Official Withdrawal– A student withdraws from the college when the student with an advisor or the records office completes an Official Withdrawal form.

Unofficial Withdrawal – A student unofficially withdraws when they stop attending class and does not notify anyone of their intentions to withdraw.

If it can be documented that you have stopped attending classes through attendance rosters, you will be considered an **Unofficial Withdrawal**.

A student who unofficially withdraws will have all F’s recorded on their academic transcript, and may be placed on a financial aid warning or considered academically ineligible.

A student who **Officially Withdraws** earns aid based on the number of days they attended college. The amount of aid earned is calculated from the first day of the semester until the student’s official withdraw date, up to the 60% point in time of the semester. After completing the 60% point of the semester all financial aid is considered earned.

A student who officially withdraws after completing 60% of the term is considered to have earned 100% of their financial aid.

Procedure for Repaying the US Government

The Financial Aid Office will notify you if it is determined that you owe a repayment of grants to the Federal Government, and you will remain ineligible for federal and state aid until you resolve your repayment. You can make these arrangements by calling The U.S. Department of Education, Debt Collection at 1-800-621-3115 or 202-205-2880. If you have any questions about the Return of Title IV Funds Policy, please contact the Financial Aid Compliance Officer at 515-576-7201 Ext. 1034.