

Financial Aid Terms of Award

General Financial Aid Award Requirements

1. The Financial Aid Awards are contingent upon:

- a. Tarrant County College (TCCD) receiving the actual anticipated federal and state funds, which could change upon passing new federal and state legislation.
- b. Be admitted as an undergraduate student seeking a degree at TCC (Admission and Registrar).
- c. For Financial Aid Purposes:
 - Transfer students must have all official transcripts submitted and evaluated by Admissions and Records
 - High School/GED recipients must submit their diploma or transcript to Admissions
 - Failure to submit transcripts may result in the cancellation of future aid
- d. Achieve and maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) guidelines (including, but not limited to):
 - Achieve a 2.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA)
 - Achieve a minimum of 67% completion rate of all attempted hours (both TCCD and transfer hours)
 - Complete your degree program within 150% of the published program length
 - Certain programs may have additional eligibility criteria
 - Student Financial Aid Services (SFAS) reviews SAP for federal programs at the end of each semester
 - To review each program description, use the “View Award” drop-down option in the “My Awards” section of your MyTCCTrack portal or visit your SFAS office for more information

2. Eligible Degree Program:

Students must have a valid degree program on file with the Admissions Office to receive financial aid. Only classes required for your degree program will be eligible for funding.

3. SAI and Financial Aid Eligibility:

Beginning with the 2024-2025 academic year, the Department of Education (ED) will assign a Student Aid Index (SAI) to replace the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) for determining financial aid eligibility. Each academic year, the student's financial need will be assessed, and adjustments to the aid amount will be made based on available funds, regulations, and new circumstances. Annual application submissions and the submission of required documentation will be the student's responsibility.

4. Selective Service Requirement is for students born male and receiving state financial aid programs:

- a. Must complete a Selective Service State of Registration form or have Selective Service verified.
 - Further information on Selective Service registration requirements for state programs can be found at www.sss.gov

5. Attendance Requirement/Dropped or Canceled Class(es)/Withdrawal/Repeats/Remedial Class(es)

- a. Establish Attendance: To earn the funds disbursed, students must show attendance in all of their classes or have a documented, academically related activity at least once before the official date of record (ODR). This applies to both in-person and online classes. If a student fails to attend all their classes, all Federal grants and loans will be canceled, and the student must repay the funds to TCC. If a student only shows attendance in some of their classes, their Federal Pell Grant will be adjusted based on the actual attendance, and the student must repay the difference to TCC.
- b. Dropped or Canceled Class(es) Before the Official Date of Record (ODR): Financial aid will be recalculated, and the student is required to repay TCC if the following occurs:
 - Students adjust their hours on or before the ODR for the semester
 - Student drops a class or, a class is canceled on or before the ODR for the semester, *and* the new enrollment drops to a level lower than the original level used to pay aid
- c. Combination of Terms: For students who have a combination of long-term and short-term class(es) within the same semester, the official date of record (ODR) for ALL classes will be based on the ODR for the *latest starting class* and aid will be recalculated if students withdraw from hours before the ODR for the latest starting class.
- d. Withdrawal from One or More class(es) after ODR: Students who withdraw from one or more class(es) or fail ALL classes after the ODR will have their attendance reviewed to determine if they stopped *attending* before completing 60% of their scheduled class(es). Students who do not attend up to 60% may be required to repay funds to TCC, the Federal Government, or both. This includes students who may have passed one or more class(es) but failed to complete 60% of *other* scheduled classes. **Visit SFAS before withdrawing!**

- e. **Repeated Class(es):** Financial aid will only fund a previously passed class (D or better) once. Any passed class(es) repeated more than once cannot be included in the enrollment level and will not result in receiving additional aid. In addition, any class repeated for a better grade after the student completed their degree audit, is *ineligible* for financial aid funding.
 - f. **Remedial Class(es):** Students may receive financial aid for up to 30 hours of remedial classes. Remedial classes begin with 0 and must have a numeric value in the second digit (ex. 0361).
- 6. Financial Aid at Multiple Colleges:** Federal regulations stipulate that students can receive federal aid *at one institution per semester*. If funds are received at two institutions, then the student must repay the funds to one of the institutions.
- 7. Incarcerated Students:** Students enrolled in an approved Prison Education Program (PEP) may be eligible to receive a Pell Grant.
- a. **What is a PEP Program?**
 - PEP Programs lead to credentials such as a certificate, associate's, or bachelor's degree, and are offered in a correctional facility by a college
 - Incarcerated students must contact their education staff at their correctional facility to see if a PEP program is available, and what additional criteria for the program apply
 - b. **What aid is available for students in the PEP program and how to apply?**
 - Eligible students may receive a Pell Grant that will only cover tuition, fees, books, and supplies
 - Pell funds may also cover license, certification, or first professional credential costs
 - Students must complete an online or paper FAFSA each academic year
 - Please note that students who receive Pell Grant while incarcerated are ineligible for a refund

Financial Aid Programs and Payment Procedures

1. Federal Pell Grant:

- a. Eligibility is determined by a federal calculation using the student's family size, dependency status, marital status, income, and poverty guidelines. Students will be notified in the offer letter if they qualify for a Pell Grant.
- b. Payments are determined based on the student's enrollment. This is a federal regulation that is effective each semester.

2. Pell Grant for Summer

- a. SFAS will determine the remaining amount of Pell Grant available for the summer, and the student can check eligibility through the MyTCCTrack portal.

3. Lifetime Eligibility Usage (LEU)

- a. Pell-eligible students are limited to the equivalent of 6 full-time semesters of Pell Grant (600%). This includes Pell Grant awards received at prior institutions. The student will be notified when approaching LEU.

4. Federal Supplemental Opportunity Grant and Texas Public Educational Grant

- a. Payment procedure will mirror the Federal Pell Grant as described above.

5. Texas Educational Opportunity Grant (TEOG):

- a. The requirements for this award are as follows:
 - Achieve a cumulative GPA of 2.0 and a 67% competition rate during the initial year of the award
 - Subsequent years require a cumulative GPA of 2.5 and a 75% completion rate
 - Recipients are limited to 75 attempted hours, 8 semesters, 4 years from the first semester awarded, or completion of an associate degree or whichever occurs first
 - SFAS reviews SAP for state funding at the end of each spring semester
 - Ineligible students may request a hardship provision by submitting a written appeal to any campus SFAS office
- b. **Stars of Tomorrow (SOT):** If the offer letter includes a SOT award, the following must occur:
 - Submit a final *high school transcript* to the Admissions and Registrar
 - Enroll for at least six credit hours
 - Review the SOT orientation found at www.tccd.edu/starsoftomorrow
 - Award amounts are prorated based on enrollment level:

(1) 12 or more hours	\$ 1000
(2) 9-11 hours	\$ 750
(3) 6-8 hours	\$ 500

6. TCC Book Scholarships:

- a. A student must have a 2.75 cumulative GPA.
- b. Must be enrolled in at least 9 credit hours.
- c. Funds will be applied to tuition.

7. Federal Work-Study (WS) is an award for an employment opportunity to earn money to help pay education expenses.

- a. What do you need to know about WS?
 - A WS award does not guarantee employment
 - Students must apply, interview, and be hired by a campus department
 - Students must remain enrolled and maintain 6 credit hours (required on the degree plan) for employment
 - Students may work up to a maximum of 19.5 hours per week
 - A background check is required for all TCCD employees and employment is contingent upon the results of the background check
 - Students should contact [Career Services](#) for information regarding student employment
- b. Payment procedures for WS:
 - Funds *are not* paid in a lump-sum payment with other financial aid funds
 - Funds are earned by working and receiving a paycheck from a student employment position
 - Payments are directly deposited into the student's checking account on the 15th and the last working day of the month

8. Federal Direct Loans

- a. If the offer letter includes a Federal Direct Subsidized or Federal Direct Unsubsidized loan amount, the following requirements apply to all loan recipients:
 - Complete an online loan Entrance Counseling and Master Promissory Note (MPN) at www.studentaid.gov
 - Enroll in and maintain *6 credit hours* (hours must be required on the degree plan) and maintain SAP guidelines before receiving the loan
 - Upon approval, ED will send a disclosure statement detailing the total loan amount, individual disbursement amounts, and projected disbursement dates
 - Remember, this is a loan that must be repaid to the Department of Education
 - Students who graduate or drop below 6 credit hours, are required to complete Exit Counseling at www.studentaid.gov
 - All one-semester loans are disbursed in two equal disbursements
 - Students whose full tuition is not paid by the first day of class, must make payment arrangements with Business Services to ensure their class(s) are not dropped

9. Refunds: All TCC refunds are processed through [Business Services](#) and [BankMobile Disbursements](#), a technology solution powered by BMTX, Inc. Students must set up their preferred [Refund Choice](#) before funds are disbursed.

- a. Financial Aid Payment Schedule:
 - Disbursements are based on the individual start date of each class and paid approximately 7 days before the class begins
 - Eligible financial aid awards will be applied first to tuition and fees before refunds are processed
 - TCC processes additional refunds twice a week for the current term, and once a week for prior terms
 - Once a student has received 100% of their eligible funds, the student is responsible for any additional tuition and fees
- b. Mini-mesters (e.g. Maymester or Wintermester) are classes that start in between semesters.
 - Students must pay for these classes at the time of registration or set up a payment plan to avoid having classes dropped
 - Enrollment during a regular semester is required to receive funds for mini-mesters
 - Hours will be combined with the upcoming standard term