Lifetime Pell Grant Limits

Effective July 01, 2012. Students are eligible to receive Pell grant for up to 12 full time semesters. This applies to all students regardless of when they received their first Pell grant. A student attending as a half-time (6 units) student is considered as having used half of a semester for purposes of tracking the Pell grant limits.

- For example, if your maximum Pell Grant award amount for the 2012-2013 school year was $5,550, but you only received $2,775 because you were only enrolled for one semester, or because you were paid as a half-time student 2 semesters, you would have used 50% of your maximum award for that year.

- If in the following school year, you were enrolled only three-quarter time, you would have used 75% of your maximum award for that year.

75% of your maximum award for that year. Together, you would have received 125% out of the total 600% lifetime limit.

- To check your remaining eligibility, go to: www.nslds.ed.gov

High School Verification

Effective July 1, 2012,

- High School Diploma or its equivalent, as is approved by the State of CA, is now required to receive federal student aid.

- Some students will be required to bring official documentation proving the receipt of a HS diploma or its equivalent

Foreign HS diplomas may have to be translated and evaluated.

First time Cal Grant recipients will be required to report their graduation dates via their Web Grants account. www.csac.ca.gov

Students needs to be ready to comply with these requirements when asked for documentation.

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) & Course Repeatability

Starting with the 2011-2012 academic year, federal regulations have added “Pace Quantitative Standard”, a new element to monitor academic progress for financial aid students. Pace Quantitative Standard: Maintain a cumulative completion rate of 66.7% (2/3) of all attempted units and a current completion rate of 66.7% (2/3) at the end of every semester.

“Completing” units is defined as receiving a grade of A, B, C, D, P.

Students repeating courses will be allowed to continue to benefit from financial aid based on a new course repeatability regulation: Units in which a student is enrolled will be counted for financial aid payment as long as the student has never passed the course. Passing grades are: A, B, C, D, P.

If the student passes a course and wishes to repeat it to improve his/her grade; financial aid will allow one repetition after passing the course. Courses from which a student withdraws are not considered repeated coursework.

Refer to the Mission College catalog for the College’s course repeatability policy since they are different.

**
Pell Grant and Loans will be divided into four payments per year, two payments in the Fall 2013 semester in increments of 50% and 50% and two payments in the Spring Semester in increments of 50% and 50%.

- Payments are issued to students once eligibility has been determined.
- Payments are issued twice a semester (on the HigherOne Debit Card or ACH Processing).

Fall 2013 Payment Dates are:
- 08/21/13
- 10/25/13

Spring 2014 Payment Dates are:
- 1/22/14
- 3/21/14

Summer 2014 Payment Date is:
- 06/20/14

*All dates are subject to change.

Federal Work Study

Federal Work Study:
If you plan to apply for a Federal Work Study Job you will need to create a profile account on the Smart Hires website. Please see link below
www.smarthires.com

Federal Loan Changes

- Community College—3 year limitation
- Grace period begins when enrolled in less than 6 units
- Interest begins accruing during the grace period
- Interest rate for both subsidized and unsubsidized is now 3.8%

HigherOne Debit Cards

Our district has gone green and replaced paper checks mailed to your home address with our HigherOne Debit Card (MY WVMCCD Card). All students will receive a card in the mail. Financial Aid payments also go to the HigherOne Debit card.

If you activate, please choose between:
- Debit card—your refund will be loaded within 24 hours of processing.
- ACH Processing—your refund is transferred automatically to your personal account for immediate use within 24 hours of processing.

ATM’s are located on both Mission College (Welcome Center lobby) and WVC (bookstore) campuses for your convenience.

Please activate your card as soon as you receive it. Instructions will be provided. Even if you are not currently expecting a refund from the Mission College Financial Aid Office, we may have a refund for you in the future.

California Dream Act Application (AB 131)

*Assembly Bill (AB) 540 was passed in 2001 to allow non-resident students in California to pay resident fees at California’s public colleges and universities. In October 2011, AB 131 was signed and allows students eligible for AB 540 to also apply for state financial aid like the University of California grants, State University Grants, and Board of Governor’s Fee Waiver for 2012-13 school year and Cal Grants for the 2013-14 school year.

The California Dream Act Application is the financial aid application for AB 540 eligible students.” AB 131 is effective January 1, 2013.

Complete application instructions and the Dream Act Application are available online at: www.caldreamact.org