

Financial Aid Award Guide

1) What do I need to do next?

1. Accept or Decline awards. Awards may be accepted electronically on Eagles Online for students with a valid NCCU pin# or by signing and returning one copy of the award notification within 15 days (*please remember to place an "A" for accept or an "R" for Reject for each award*).
2. New Stafford and Plus Loan borrowers must complete a Master Promissory Note online at <https://dlenote.ed.gov>. Plus loan borrowers must return the enclosed Plus Loan Credit Check form then complete the Master Promissory Note online.
3. If this is the first time you have borrowed a Federal Stafford Loan at NCCU, you must complete a Stafford Loan Entrance Interview. Complete the interview online at www.dl.ed.gov

2) How and When Will I Receive My Financial Aid?

1. For grants, scholarships, Stafford Loan Funds and PLUS Loan funds, our office reviews your enrollment and other eligibility criteria and authorizes payment to your student account
2. Your awards may increase, decrease, or be cancelled, depending on eligibility reviews. If your aid is canceled for any reason, you are responsible for paying all tuition, fees, and book charges you have incurred.
3. For grants, scholarships and processed loans for repeat borrowers, funds are credited to the students' accounts approximately one week before classes begin for students enrolled full-time and after the end of the drop/add period for part-time students

3) How many Credits Do I Need to Take?

Awards cannot be disbursed until you have registered for the minimum number of credits. If you fall below these minimum credit requirements by dropping or withdrawing from classes, your awards may be canceled or reduced.

1. Pell, SEOG, NCCU, Eagle, ACG, EARN, SLOT award amounts will be based on 12 hours. These grant funds will be reduced for students who are enrolled part-time.
2. Stafford Loans and PLUS Loans require half time status each semester (**for undergraduate 6 hours & for graduate/professional 4.5 hours**)

4) What Else Do I Have to Do To Receive and Keep My Aid?

1. Enroll in a Degree or Certificate Program

For all Federal and State aid programs and many scholarship programs, you must be enrolled in a certificate or degree program and must be taking courses toward that program. **Special students are ineligible for financial assistance. Graduate students taking undergraduate courses are ineligible for aid.**

2. Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

To remain eligible for Federal and State Aid you must meet the **Financial Aid** academic progress standards. These SAP standards are different from the college's general Academic Standing Policy. SAP standards include a specific GPA, completing 67% of all attempted credits and completing your program before you exceed 186 attempted credit hours. Withdrawals can cause SAP suspensions. Review the SAP Policy at www.nccu.edu/ssa.

3. Tuition Surcharge

Undergraduate students who attempt 140 hours or more which will be charge a tuition surcharge. The surcharge is 25% of his or her tuition (only tuition, not fees). Students are charged the tuition surcharge in the first semester in which enrollment exceeds 140 attempted hours.

5) What Happens If I Drop, Withdraw, or Audit a class or Receive all Non-Passing Grades?

1. Your award letter lists the amount of financial aid you will receive for various levels of enrollment. You cannot receive aid for *Dropped* or *Audited* courses.
2. If you withdraw from a course after the tuition refund date, it is a "*withdrawal*". You will be charged for "*withdrawn*" courses and **withdrawals can lead to violations of the Financial Aid SAP Policy**.
3. If you withdraw from all your courses or stop attending them before completing more than 60% of the semester, you may have to repay all or a portion of the financial aid that you received.

6) What If My Financial Situation Has Changed?

If your family experiences an extreme change in its finances due to circumstances such as illness, disability, divorce or unemployment, you can have your eligibility re-evaluated based on your new family financial circumstances. Request a "Special Circumstance" form after June 1. Submit all of the requested documentation to our office. Please allow a minimum of 15 days for the review process.

Stafford Loan Disbursement Dates

LOAN PERIOD	1st. Disb.	2nd Disb.	(30 Day Delay) New Freshmen
Fall and Spring (8/17/09 through 4/30/10)	8/7/09	12/28/09	9/17/09
Fall Only (8/17/09 through 12/12/09)	8/7/09	10/12/09	9/17/09
Spring Only (1/6/10 through 4/30/10)	12/28/09	3/4/10	2/6/10

Stafford loans are disbursed in two disbursements at the beginning and mid-point of the loan period. For new students, the Department of Education delays loan disbursements for 30 days. The disbursement date indicates the earliest date loan proceeds can be applied to your account. For students who are expecting refunds from loan proceeds, checks are normally prepared by the Student Accounting Office within 14 days after the loan has been disbursed