How Enrollment Changes Affect Aid

Julie Hostager
Cory Manning

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Office of Student Financial Aid

Hours Requirements for Aid Programs

- Federal Pell Grant
  - Prorated for less than full-time enrollment
- IMAGES Grant
  - At least half-time
- Work-study
  - 1 or more hours
- FSEOG (Federal Grant)
  - Prorated for less than full-time enrollment
- UI Scholarships
  - Full-time
  - Exception: last term before graduation

Hours Requirements for Aid Programs

- Federal Direct Loans
  - At least half time
- Nursing Loans
  - At least half time
- Private Loans
  - Varies by lender
Definition of Full Time & Half Time

**Full Time**
- Undergraduates 12 hours
- Graduates 9 hours

**Half Time**
- Undergraduates 6 hours
- Graduates 5 hours
- Exception: Short Hours Letter

**Summer Enrollment**
- Undergraduates 12/6 hours full/half
- Graduates Varies per College

Before Census Date
Census date – 10th school day of the semester

- **Grants**
  - Will be adjusted to hours on census date

- **UI Scholarships**
  - Will be cancelled for current and future semesters if student drops below full time
  - adm-appeals@uiowa.edu

- **Loans**
  - No adjustment to loans that have disbursed

- **Work Study**
  - No adjustment to work study, must fit within cost of attendance

After Census Date
Assuming all aid has released

- **Grants**
  - Can keep all grants

- **UI Scholarships**
  - Can keep current term UI scholarships
  - Will lose future UI scholarships if student drops below 12 hours

- **Loans**

- **Work Study**
  - No adjustment to work study, must fit within cost of attendance
Example 1

- Bob is enrolled in 14 hours, his financial aid disburses when the semester begins
- On the second day of class, Bob drops to 10 hours
- Bob has a full time Pell grant, a UI scholarship and a loan
- Bob doesn’t add any more credit hours

Will Bob’s aid be reduced?

Example 1 Answers

- Will Bob’s aid be reduced?
  - Pell grant is prorated to the 10 hour amount
  - UI scholarship is cancelled for current term, future UI scholarships are cancelled
  - Loan will not be adjusted

Example 2

- Bob is enrolled in 14 hours, his financial aid disburses with the start of the semester
- On the sixteenth day of class, Bob drops to 10 hours
- Bob has a full time Pell grant, a UI scholarship and a loan
- Bob doesn’t add any more credit hours

Will Bob’s aid be reduced?
Example 2 Answers

Will Bob’s aid be reduced?

- Pell grant will not be adjusted
- UI scholarship will be kept for the current semester, but future semesters will be cancelled
- Loan will not be adjusted

What if aid has not released and student wants to drop hours?

- Refer student to OSFA
- We want to try to release aid prior to students dropping hours to maximize financial aid
- Aid will need to match the student’s enrollment before it can release

Example 3

- Linda is in 12 hours and has a Pell grant, a UI scholarship, and a loan that hasn’t disbursed yet
- Linda has a family emergency and needs to drop down to 3 hours during the 3rd week of the semester
- Can her financial aid disburse after she drops the classes?
Example 3 Answers

- Can her financial aid release after she drops the classes?
  - Pell grant will be adjusted to the 3 hour level
  - UI scholarship will be cancelled, future scholarships canceled
  - Loans will be cancelled since at less than 6 hours

Example 3 Amended

- What if Linda worked with OSFA to get her aid released before dropping to 3 hours?
  - Pell grant will stay at full time level
  - UI scholarship can be kept for current semester, future scholarships canceled during semester review
  - Loans will stay at full time level

Semester Withdrawal

- Withdrawal will occur officially when the student initiates the withdrawal on MyUI or goes to the Registrar’s Service Center
  - The initiated withdrawal date is used to calculate the percentage of Federal aid earned by the student and the Office of the Registrar reduces term tuition & fees to the same percentage.
  - Days Attended ÷ Days in Enrollment Period = Percentage Complete
  - Return of Title IV aid withdrawal calculation is completed
    - Total Aid Disbursed x Percentage Completed = Earned Aid
  - Determine how much aid must be returned to the appropriate financial aid program
    - Total Disbursed Aid - Earned Aid = Unearned Aid to be Returned
  - Distribute the responsibility to return funds between the institution and the student
Withdrawal Letter Example

5/22/2019
TO: Ali Smith
ID: 123456

UNOFFICIAL ACADEMIC PROGRAM AND WITHDRAWAL

This letter is to inform you that you have been withdrawn from the University of Iowa on 5/22/2019. Federal and state regulations require that you return any federal financial aid that you have received or expect to receive. You are responsible for ensuring that this letter is delivered to your last known address. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact the Office of Student Financial Aid.

UNOFFICIAL ACADEMIC PROGRAM AND WITHDRAWAL

Date of Withdrawal: 5/22/2019

Office of Student Financial Aid

Unofficial Withdrawals

- Can occur when a student has no semester passing grades
  - W, I, F, U transcript not received
- OSFA contacts each course instructor to determine the last date of attendance or academic activity.
- If academic activity beyond the 60% point of the semester can be verified in even a single class by an instructor and the student began attendance in all classes, the student may not need to repay any financial aid.

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Office of Student Financial Aid
How Dropping Courses Affects Future Aid & Scholarship Eligibility

**Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)**
- **GPA** – University of Iowa Cumulative GPA.
  - Undergraduate students must maintain at least a 2.0 UI GPA
- **Pace** - hours completed/hours attempted
  - Minimum pace requirement is 67% or higher
  - Semester withdrawals & Retroactive withdrawals impact Pace
  - Transfer hours are included in the Pace calculation
- **Maximum Time Frame**
  - Federal guidelines limit financial aid eligibility to 150% of the semester hours of the intended degree program
  - Transfer hours are included in the calculation of maximum time frame

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**Takeaways**

- Try to get aid released before dropping classes
  - More adjustments will occur before census date
- Tuition appeals
  - https://registrar.uiowa.edu/tuition-related-links
- Scholarship appeals
  - adm-appeals@uiowa.edu
- Loan grace period starts if below 6 hours
- Dropping classes affects SAP pace

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**Questions?**

- 208 Calvin Hall
- 319-335-1465
- Financialaid.uiowa.edu
- Financial-aid@uiowa.edu

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