

# Understanding Your Award Letter & Other Helpful Information

**Your Award Amounts:** Neosho County Community College produces award letters based on **full time** enrollment status. If you are enrolled in less than 12 hours, your financial aid will be adjusted. Your award amounts will be finalized for each semester when your classes have certified, which is the required date the instructor must verify each student who is currently enrolled and has attended. If you never attend class, you are not enrolled in that class and aid disbursement will not include those hours.

## Types of Financial Aid that may be listed on your Award Letter:

### Scholarships

For scholarship details refer to the Scholarship Handbook, available on the NCCC website www.neosho.edu/ProspectiveStudents/FinancialAid/Scholarships.aspx.

**Service Scholarships**-This is a unique scholarship emphasizing the importance of "service." Students receive \$1,460 in exchange for 60 hours of service performed each semester the award is received. Recipients must maintain a 2.0 career GPA and be enrolled full-time.

**Grants** - Grants are typically need-based aid that does not have to be repaid. Such awards might include Federal PELL & Federal SEOG (Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant). For more grant details please go to www.neosho.edu, select financial aid, then 'Financial Aid Handbook'

**Federal Work Study** - If you indicated an interest in campus employment on your Federal Application (FAFSA), have remaining eligibility for this need based work program, and if funds are available, FWS will be included with your financial aid awards. Do not use this work award to estimate your student account billing, as you will be paid for the work you perform, each month you work. This award is not guaranteed.

Campus job openings are posted. Students may contact departments with openings and interview for a campus job. Upon employment approval, the student completes employment paperwork with the Director of Financial Aid or their designee. Actual earnings are determined by the number of hours worked.

Loans-Loans are not included on NCCC award letters. Loans are a source of financial aid that must be repaid. Repayment begins six months after the borrower ceases to be enrolled at least half-time at any accredited higher education institution. NCCC participates in the Direct Loan program, which includes Subsidized Stafford Loans, Unsubsidized Stafford Loans and Parent PLUS Loans. All use the U.S. Department of Education as a lender and are guaranteed by the federal government. To learn more about loan programs or to apply for a loan, go to

https://www.neosho.edu/prospectivestudents/FinancialAid/LoanProcess.aspx

Payment of Your Student Account - The NCCC Business Office handles billing and payments on student accounts. For payment information contact <a href="mailto:payments@neosho.edu">payments@neosho.edu</a> or visit: <a href="http://www.neosho.edu/Portals/0/Departments/business\_office/Payment%20Options.pdf">http://www.neosho.edu/Portals/0/Departments/business\_office/Payment%20Options.pdf</a> and <a href="http://www.neosho.edu/Portals/0/Departments/business\_office/QUICK%20PAYMENT%20GUIDE%20BR">http://www.neosho.edu/Portals/0/Departments/business\_office/QUICK%20PAYMENT%20GUIDE%20BR</a> OCHURE.pdf .

**Books -** You may be eligible to defer your Bookstore charges based upon your financial aid award letter by checking with the Bookstore at your preferred location: Chanute 620.432.0400 or Ottawa 785.248.2823. If you are not able to defer your books, you may pay by cash, check, or credit card (they accept most major credit cards). Book Rental charges are \$17 per credit hour for most classes. You can expect to make book purchases for access cards, course packets, workbooks, nursing, computer, and Allied Health courses. Required book information will be shown on your student schedule after enrollment. <u>http://bookstore.neosho.edu/home.aspx</u>

#### **Disbursement of Financial Aid**

Disbursement of any grant/loan aid depends on when attendance for your latest starting class in that semester has been certified by your instructor; at the level you are enrolled. Typically, class certification dates are 25% into the class. (Certification is a process completed by instructors and the Registrar's office.)

# A Certification and Disbursement Example: You are enrolled as a full-time student in the fall semester. You have 10 credit hours that begin in August and one 3 credit hour late starting class.

- Your late starting class begins October 17 and lasts eight (8) weeks. This late start certifies as scheduled on October 28.
- Disbursement grants and loans will be scheduled shortly *after* October 28 (allow time for processing and updating your student records and account)

In addition, disbursements are coordinated with business office processing. The NCCC business office typically applies financial aid to student accounts bi-weekly. After applying financial aid to your account and paying any charges, please allow three (3) business days for the business office to mail any refund checks to you. Actual disbursement could occur up to two weeks following your last class certification.

Also, all loans are paid in at least two disbursements and the second loan disbursement will not occur until 50% or more of the loan period is completed.

#### Withdrawals and Financial Aid

Federal regulations require the use of the "Return of Title IV Funds" policy for all students receiving any type of federal aid, when calculating the aid a student can retain after withdrawing. This policy relates to Federal PELL and SEOG Grants as well as Federal Stafford and PLUS Loans. A return of Title IV funds calculation is required for students who receive federal aid and then withdraw, either officially and/or unofficially, prior to 60% of the term being completed. NCCC and the student may be required to return a portion of the student's Title IV funds to the U.S. Department of Education.

If a student attends the term through more than 60% of the term or officially withdraws after 60% of the term has been completed, they will not be required to return a portion of Title IV funds.

Students planning to withdraw need to complete a "Drop/Add Form" in the Registrar's Office. It is possible that a student who withdraws will still have an outstanding balance due the college.

For **non-federal and non-state** financial aid sources, 100% of aid is retained after 2 weeks. For more details, refer to the current College Catalog or Financial Aid Handbook.

NCCC complies with all ADA and EEO regulations. See the college catalog for a complete listing and procedures.

