

**You are responsible for reading all information and instructions pertaining to your award.**

If you are awarded a Federal or State Grant, **your award is based on full time** and will be prorated depending on your EFC and the number of credit hours you are enrolled in each semester.

- Students eligible for NC Community College Grant may be entitled to Full-time Plus Award for enrollment in 15 or more credit hours.

If you are enrolled in a **13 week or 2<sup>nd</sup> 8 week** class:

- You will **not** be paid for those credit hours until you have entered that class.
- You must register for late start classes before the financial aid recalculation date to receive financial aid for that class.
- You must remain in attendance through the financial aid recalculation date for hours to be considered in the financial aid award calculation.

**Financial Aid recalculation dates:**

Fall 2023: **Sept. 20, 2023**

Spring 2024: **Feb. 14, 2024**

Summer 2024: **June 3, 2024**

**Please note that some financial assistance has additional criteria that must be met in order to receive funding.**

**Financial Aid will cover 30 hours of remedial courses. Financial Aid will not be awarded for remedial courses taken in excess of those 30 hours.**

**Must be enrolled in at least 6 credit hours or more to receive the following state grant awards:**

- North Carolina Scholarship
- North Carolina Golden Leaf Scholars
- North Carolina Longleaf Commitment Grant

**NC State Grants are not available for use during the SUMMER semester.**

**YOU MUST DROP YOUR CLASSES PRIOR TO THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS TO AVOID CHARGES. FINANCIAL AID WILL NOT BE AWARDED FOR CLASSES YOU DO NOT ATTEND.**

**NOTE: The financial aid office has the right to change, modify, or cancel any award due to changes in the family financial circumstances, availability of funds, financial aid office error, or your receipt of outside assistance.**

## IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR STUDENTS RECEIVING FEDERAL/STATE STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

### TERMS of AGREEMENT

*I understand that in some instances award amounts are estimated and subject to change based on available funding and/or regulatory changes.*

*I understand that false or incomplete information submitted by me or on my behalf may result in the cancellation of my award and may require repayment of part or all of the funds disbursed to me.*

*I agree to repay any funds disbursed to me in error, for any period of time I was not eligible or enrolled.*

*I understand that if I do not attend classes my award will be cancelled and I will be responsible for any tuition, fee, and/or bookstore charges incurred. I understand that I must officially withdraw prior to the first day of the semester to prevent charges for tuition and fees.*

*I understand that if I receive financial assistance from PCC, I am required to notify the Financial Aid Office if I receive any other scholarships, loans, employer reimbursement or other assistance from sources outside the College prior to acceptance of outside aid.*

*I understand that I must update any changes in name, address, and telephone number with the PCC Admissions Office or items relating to financial aid eligibility with the PCC Financial Aid Office immediately.*

*I understand that I must notify the Financial Aid Office if I withdraw from classes at PCC. I understand that complete withdrawal on or before the 60% point in the semester may result in having to repay a portion or all of my federal financial aid. Complete withdrawal from classes may also result in repayment of unearned state grants. I also understand that excessive withdrawals may adversely affect my satisfactory academic progress in accordance with PCC's Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy.*

*I understand that it is important to keep copies of all financial aid award letters, registration and bookstore receipts as all or part of my award may be considered taxable income. I also understand that it is my responsibility to report this information to the IRS if necessary. (The Financial Aid Office is not responsible for determining the taxability of aid. Please consult with the IRS or a tax consultant.)*

*I understand that if I purposely give false or misleading information, I may be fined up to \$20,000, sent to prison, or both.*

Students, who receive financial aid and completely withdraw from classes during a semester or term, may be required to repay a portion of the financial aid funds. The unearned portion of Title IV Aid (Pell and SEOG) must be returned to the federal government. Calculations as to what amount needs to be returned will be made using the return of Federal Funds procedure as outlined by the Department of Education. Effective Fall 2012, students receiving state grants will be required to return any unearned portion of their state grants. Calculations as to the amount required to be returned will be made using the return of funds policy outlined by the NC State Education Approving Agency. Students will receive notification by mail if there are funds that need to be returned. When a student withdraws from classes, future eligibility for federal and state funding may be affected.

Please contact the Financial Aid Office for further details at (336) 599-1181, Ext. 4004.

## FINANCIAL AID

### SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS POLICY

Federal regulations require students receiving federal student aid to maintain satisfactory academic progress (SAP). All students who receive financial aid at Piedmont Community College will be evaluated on the following criteria:

#### **Minimum Grade Point Average (GPA)**

Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average at or above 2.0. If the cumulative GPA falls below a 2.0 after any term, the student will be placed on financial aid warning. Students will remain on financial aid warning until satisfactory academic progress is evaluated the following term. Students that do not have a cumulative 2.0 grade point average at this time will be placed on financial aid suspension.

#### **Minimum semester Credit Hour Completion Rate Requirement**

The student must complete 67% of the cumulative credit hours attempted. Only grades of A, B, C, D, P or CE (Credit by Exam) will be considered as earned hours. W, WP, F, I, and R Grades count as attempted hours but not earned hours. Grades of WE and IE will be excluded from attempted hours. The percentage earned will be evaluated after each term to determine Quantitative Satisfactory Academic Progress. For example, a first year student enrolls in 12 hours for the fall term. This student must have 8.04 hours completed at the end of the fall term. Effective Fall 2011 transfer credit is also included in the quantitative standard.

#### **Completion of a degree within a maximum number of credit hours attempted**

Students receiving financial aid will have a maximum time frame in which they are expected to complete their program of study. The maximum time frame at Piedmont Community College is 150% of the published length of the program of study per the student handbook/catalog. For example, a student enrolled in the Business Administration Associate Degree program (65 hours required) will be able to attempt 97.5 hours. Once students have attempted the maximum number of credit hours for their program of study, they will be placed on financial aid suspension. Transfer credits applicable to the program of study are included in the determination of maximum time frame.

#### **Remedial Course Work**

Students who have been accepted into a degree program and required to take remedial course work as determined by placement testing are limited to 30 semester hours of remedial course work. Remedial hours attempted in excess of 30 total semester credit hours cannot be counted toward enrollment status for Federal and State grants. Remedial hours are not considered when determining maximum time frame, but are considered in both qualitative and quantitative standards for financial aid students.

#### **Incompletes**

A course for which an incomplete grade is received must be completed by the end of the next fall or spring term, or the grade becomes a permanent "F" on their academic transcript. The incomplete grade is treated as an "F" for satisfactory academic progress purposes. Incompletes count towards both qualitative and quantitative measures of satisfactory academic progress. Failure to remove incompletes could prevent a student from meeting satisfactory academic progress.

#### **Repeats**

Repeats are included in attempted hours for financial aid students. Effective Fall 2011, repeats are calculated in the students GPA.

#### **PCC Returning Students**

Returning students will have both their cumulative GPA and hours attempted carried forward in accordance with regulations stating that satisfactory academic progress standards must cover all periods of the student's enrollment, including those periods for which the student did not receive aid from Title IV funds or state funds.

#### **Changing Majors**

Students changing majors will assume the new time limit for the major but, hours attempted in previous major(s) that are applicable the new program of study will count towards the number of hours attempted in the new major. Students that have exceeded the maximum time frame prior to changing majors can appeal to the Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal Committee.

### **Transfer Students**

Students transferring from a school other than PCC will be considered making satisfactory academic progress at the time of their enrollment. Transfer credits applicable to the program of study are included in the determination of maximum time frame. Effective Fall 2011, transfer credit is also included in the quantitative standard.

### **Students Enrolled in Programs Consecutively**

To comply with maximum time frame for SAP, the student is given a new maximum time frame for the new program of study upon completion of a previous program. The student's new program will be evaluated for prior credit from previous courses attempted that are applicable to the new program of study. These hours will count toward the student's maximum time frame calculation. If none of the courses are applicable from the prior program of study, then the student starts the new program of study having zero hours attempted towards maximum time frame.

### **Students Enrolled in Multiple Programs Concurrently**

To comply with the maximum time frame of SAP, the student's programs will be evaluated for maximum time frame individually for each program of study. If the student is over the maximum time frame in either program, the student will be suspended from receiving additional funding for courses only in the ineligible program and may appeal. Students are required to complete their program(s) of study within 150% of the length of the educational program as published in the student handbook or catalog.

### **Financial Aid Warning**

Students not making satisfactory academic progress will be put on financial aid warning. Students on financial aid warning may be allowed one semester to achieve satisfactory academic progress. During the warning period, the student is eligible to receive financial aid. At the end of the warning period, academic progress will be evaluated to determine whether requirements have been met. If not, financial aid will be suspended until satisfactory academic progress is achieved or an appeal is approved.

### **Financial Aid Suspension**

Students who fail to reestablish satisfactory academic progress during a period on financial aid warning will be placed on financial aid suspension.

### **Appeal Process**

Students on financial aid suspension may appeal their SAP if they have mitigating circumstances. Examples of mitigating circumstances may include injury to student, illness of student or immediate family member, death of a relative or undue hardship due to special circumstances beyond a student's control. Students should submit their appeal form, along with their supporting documentation to the Financial Aid office. The Appeals Committee reviews the student's appeal and the Financial Aid Office notifies the student in writing of the committee's decision. If an appeal is denied, a student may follow the college's grievance and appeals procedure.

Students on appeal must complete an Academic Plan. Students on an Academic Plan must achieve a 100% pass rate of all courses and a GPA of 2.5 or better during their terms on the plan. If they do not meet the requirements of the appeal, they will be placed back on financial aid suspension. Students with extreme mitigating circumstances during their term(s) on appeal may submit a second and final appeal to the Dean, Enrollment Services.

**COMPLETE POLICY AVAILABLE ON PCC WEBSITE AND IN FINANCIAL AID OFFICE**

Revised: 06/13/2023

**2023-2024**

**REFUND SCHEDULE & BOOKSTORE CHARGE DATES**

**FINANCIAL AID REFUNDS WILL BE MAILED ON THE FOLLOWING DATES**

**Please allow up to 2 weeks after date of mailing to receive refund check.  
Please cash your refund check within 30 days of receipt.**

<b>FALL 2023 SEMESTER</b> <b>10/05/23*</b>	<b>SPRING 2024 SEMESTER</b> <b>02/22/24*</b>	<b>SUMMER 2024 SEMESTER</b> <b>06/10/24*</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ FEDERAL PELL GRANT</li> <li>▪ FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT (SEOG)</li> <li>▪ TARGETED ASSISTANCE GRANT</li> <li>▪ NC SCHOLARSHIP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ FEDERAL PELL GRANT</li> <li>▪ FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT (SEOG)</li> <li>▪ TARGETED ASSISTANCE GRANT</li> <li>▪ NC SCHOLARSHIP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ FEDERAL PELL GRANT</li> <li>▪ FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT (SEOG)</li> <li>▪ TARGETED ASSISTANCE GRANT</li> </ul>

**\*Dates subject to change**

**NC COMMUNITY COLLEGE GRANT and NC EDUCATION LOTTERY SCHOLARSHIP – ARE NOT AVAILABLE DURING SUMMER SEMESTER**

**Bookstore charge dates for financial aid recipients:**

<b>FALL 2023</b>	August 7, 2023 - September 14, 2023
<b>SPRING 2024</b>	January 2, 2024 - February 5, 2024
<b>SUMMER 2024</b>	May 15, 2024 - May 30, 2024

**2023-2024**

## **REFUND SCHEDULE & BOOKSTORE CHARGE DATES**

Students have an option to purchase their books from the Follett Bookstore at Piedmont Community College or Barnes and Noble; for Barnes and Noble purchases, please contact the Financial Aid Office for authorization.

Purchases charged to financial aid must be for educational purposes; purchases are subject to approval.

### **Follett Bookstore at Piedmont Community College**

**[www.pccstore.com](http://www.pccstore.com)**

**(336) 599-1181, ext. 4339**

**Barnes and Noble  
Durham NC Location  
5400 New Hope Way  
Durham, NC 27707  
(919) 419-8290**