

2019-2020 Important Financial Aid Information

The FAFSA filing application processing cycle lasts 21 months; October 1 through June 30. (Example for 2019-20 school year, the filing dates would be October 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020). Western must have a valid student electronic FAFSA record by their last date of enrollment for that school year. (I.e. a student is enrolled from September 3, 2019 through April 29, 2020. We MUST have this students FAFSA record by April 24, 2020 in order for financial aid to be disbursed.)

Financial Aid Information Sheet

Completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) determines your eligibility for the following programs:

- Federal Pell Grant
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)
- State Grants
- Federal Work-Study (FWS)
- Student Loans

Financial Aid Disbursement Information

Your **MyFinAid** account shows how much aid you are eligible to receive based on full-time status. Your enrollment status will be reviewed and adjusted if you are not full-time prior to disbursing your aid. After the 2nd Friday of each trimester, no adjustments will be made to your aid unless you drop a class that you never attended or withdrew completely. If you receive aid and withdraw from all classes before completing 60% of the trimester, you may owe a repayment.

Federal grants, state grants, and student loans will be applied to your student account the **5th week of the trimester**, if you have completed the entire financial aid process. The remainder will be refunded to you after your account balance has been paid in full. Disbursements take place weekly, as students' files are completed. Please allow up to 10 days (from the date posted to your student account) for refunds to be direct deposited or mailed in a check. Paper checks CANNOT be PICKED UP.

To authorize Western to apply any funds you receive toward any eligible charges billed, you must **grant Western permission**. To do so, answer yes to the first question of the **Financial Aid Online Info Request** located under "Menu" then "Financial Aid Online Information Request" in your MyFinAid portal.

A budget (*Cost of Attendance*) for a Western student attending full time for fall and spring trimesters and living off campus is \$16,596. For students living with parents, the budget is \$12,924. These budgets can fluctuate with enrollment status changes as they occur. Individual components of a student budget include: tuition/fees, books/supplies, transportation, room/board, loan fees, and personal expenses.

Charging Required Textbook/Supplies

If you have been awarded financial aid and will be receiving a refund after your account balance is paid, **AND**, you have granted Western permission to take this charge out of your financial aid (see "**Grant Western permission**" above), you will be allowed to charge **required** textbooks/supplies at the Campus Shop up to the amount of the refund. Charging will be allowed according to the following schedule for the 2019-2020 school year:

Fall 2019	Aug. 19, 2019 – Sept. 13, 2019 by 3 p.m.
Spring 2020	Dec. 16, 2019 – Jan. 24, 2020 by 3 p.m.
Summer 2020	Apr. 20, 2020 – May 22, 2020 by 3 p.m.

Eligibility

Your financial aid eligibility is based on the information you provided on your 2019–2020 FAFSA. If there are changes in income which might affect your family's ability to pay for the costs at Western, contact the Financial Aid Manager at **608.785.9576**.

Student Responsibilities

- Always contact the Office of Student Financial Aid before dropping classes to determine the effect on your awards.
- Purchase books and supplies.
- Keep your address current with the Registration Office (checks will NOT be forwarded by the Post Office).
- Complete the Entrance Counseling and the Master Promissory Note (MPN) for a Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loan (MPN), if necessary (See page 2 for details)
- Inform the Office of Student Financial Aid if you are planning to take credits at another college simultaneously.
- You can not receive aid at two colleges for the same payment/enrollment period.
- Pay tuition by the due date – A \$35 late fee will be charged if balance is not paid by the following dates:
Fall Term: October 18, 2019
Spring Term: February 28, 2020
Summer Term: June 26, 2020

Grants

Federal Pell Grants are awarded to students with high financial need who have not earned a bachelor's or graduate degree. Pell Grants do not have to be repaid. The amount of this grant is determined by the Federal Pell Grant schedule, your **Expected Family Contribution (EFC)**, and enrollment status:

Credits	Enrollment Status	Percent of Award
12+ credits	Full-time	100% of award
9 – 11 credits	Three-quarter time	75% of award
6 – 8 credits	Half-time	50% of award
Under 6 credits	Less than half-time	25% of award

Federal Supplemental Educational Grants (FSEOG) are available to students who have a zero **EFC**, and are enrolled in at least six credits. These funds are limited.

State Grants include Academic Excellence Scholarship, Technical Excellence Scholarship, Wisconsin Covenant, Wisconsin grant, Talent Incentive Program (TIP), Minority Retention grant, Handicapped grant, and Wisconsin Indian grants. Students must be registered for six or more credits to be eligible for these grants.

2019-2020 Important Financial Aid Information

ATTENTION Student Loan Borrowers!

Federal Direct Loans

Subsidized vs. Unsubsidized

Eligibility for a **Direct Subsidized Loan** is based on a student's financial need (as determined by the FAFSA), while eligibility for the **Direct Unsubsidized Loan** is **not** based on a student's financial need. The interest on a subsidized loan is paid by the federal government while the student is enrolled at least half-time. Unsubsidized loan interest must be paid by the student; students may choose to make interest-only payments on their unsubsidized loans while they are in school, or defer interest payments until their loan repayment begins. **To reduce total student loan indebtedness, it is in a student's best interest to make unsubsidized loan interest payments while attending college.**

Students who are first-year, first-time Direct Loan borrowers must wait 30 days into the term to receive their student loans. Students who are at Western for one term only or have a loan originated for one term, must receive their Direct Loan and/or PLUS Loan in 2 disbursements.

Neither the subsidized or unsubsidized loan requires repayment until 6 months after a student graduates, or drops below half-time enrollment – whichever occurs first. **Students must be enrolled at least half-time (6 credits) to be eligible for student loans.**

FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN INTEREST RATES & FEES		
LOAN TYPE	INTEREST RATE	ORIGINATION FEE
Subsidized	5.045%	1.062%*
Unsubsidized	5.045%	1.062%*

*These rates and fees are effective from 7/1/18–6/30/19. New rates and fees will be posted for 7/1/19 through 6/30/20 once they have been set.

ALL Student Loan Borrowers Must:

- **Accept/Decline/Reduce** student loan awards. Western encourages students to only borrow what they **need** in student loans, as these loans must be repaid, with interest, in the future.
- Complete the **Master Promissory Note (MPN)** for a Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loan online at www.studentloans.gov. Student loan funds will not disburse to Western until student loan borrowers have completed the required online MPN.
- Complete **Entrance Counseling** online at www.studentloans.gov. Students who have not previously received student loans at Western must complete the Entrance Counseling online. If this requirement is not completed, student loan funds cannot be disbursed to the student.

If you do not have personal internet access, you may use computers in any of Western's computer labs or the library to complete these requirements.

Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loans

Parent PLUS Loans are federally guaranteed loans that parents may obtain to help pay for the cost of education for their dependent child, the student. Certain credit conditions apply, and a credit check is required. Parent PLUS Loan repayment begins 60 days after the loan is fully disbursed. Parent PLUS Loan borrowers may request a deferment of repayment until six months after the dependent student (on whose behalf the Parent borrowed the PLUS Loan) drops below half-time enrollment (6 credits).

Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan Info

- Visit www.westerntc.edu/plus-loans to complete all the items on the 'Parent PLUS Loan To Do List'
- Interest rate is fixed at **7.595%**. Origination Fee is **4.248%***.

*The rate and fee are effective from 7/1/18–6/30/19. The new rate and fee will be posted for 7/1/19 through 6/30/20 once they have been set.

Private Student Loans

Some students find they need additional funds beyond their grant and Direct Loan eligibility to meet their expenses while attending college. Private student loans may help students meet their educational goals. **Western REQUIRES students to complete the FAFSA before borrowing a private loan.** Visit www.westerntc.edu/private-loans to read more about private loan options; **please contact the Office of Student Financial Aid BEFORE applying for a private loan.** Students receiving private loans must complete a budget worksheet with consumer credit counseling.

Private Loan Facts:

- Designed to bridge the financial gap between college costs, family resources, and financial aid
- Terms differ from lender to lender—please carefully review your lender's loan terms before applying for a private student loan
- Interest rates based on creditworthiness, are variable, and adjusted quarterly
- Borrower must be creditworthy or have a creditworthy co-signer
- Generally there are fees associated with this type of loan

Other Sources of Aid

- AmeriCorps
- Scholarships
- Military funding
- Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)
- Workforce Connections
- Trade Adjustment Act (TAA)

The amounts listed on the award notification are ESTIMATES only. Funding that is awarded through these other sources after the first day of the trimester may DECREASE your future pending aid.

Certificate Programs and Financial Aid

Most certificate programs at Western are **not** eligible for Financial Aid. If you are enrolled in an ineligible program, and have no other funding resources, please contact the **Office of Student Financial Aid** to discuss private student loan options. Some ineligible certificate programs include:

- **Gerontology Basic:** 12 credits
- **CNA – Skilled Nursing Assistant:** 3 credits
- **EMT – Basic:** 5 credits
- **EMT – Advanced:** 4 credits
- **Phlebotomy:** 4 credits
- **Central Service Technician:** 11 credits

* *Pharmacy Technician is Financial Aid eligible at Lakeshore Technical College*

* *Gerontology is Financial Aid eligible at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College*

Repeated Classes

If you retake a course for which you earned a "C" or better, contact the Financial Aid Manager to determine if you are able to receive aid for this course again.

Federal Work-Study (FWS) Jobs

General:

The FWS Program is a need-based program that is awarded to eligible students based on the filing of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Work-study funds are limited, and are awarded to students on a first-come, first-serve basis. The FWS program provides jobs to students with financial need allowing them to earn money to help pay for educational expenses. Students who are eligible for FWS can earn up to the amount listed on their award letter or until Western's total FWS allocation is exhausted. FWS employees are paid on a semi-monthly basis (around the 10th and 26th of each month), based on the number of hours they worked. FWS money is earned and paid to the student, and is not deducted from the student's balance on their Western account. Positions are available both on and off-campus. If a student was not awarded work-study but is interested, contact the Work-Study Coordinator, at workstudy@westernnc.edu.

Summer 2019:

To be eligible to work during the summer term, students must have a financial need for FWS. Summer work-study employees enrolled in a minimum of 6 credits can work up to 12 hours per week. Work-study employees enrolled less than half-time can work up to 25 hours per week but no more than 8 hours per day, with compensation of \$9.00 per hour. Students must have their 2019-2020 FAFSA filed, and must be enrolled in Fall 2019 term with at least 6 credits (not including developmental credits). To learn more about Summer work-study, contact the Work-Study Coordinator at workstudy@westernnc.edu.

Fall 2019 & Spring 2020:

To be eligible to work during the Fall and Spring terms, students must have a financial need for FWS and they must be enrolled in a minimum of six (6) credits (not including developmental credits) during the Fall and Spring terms. Fall and Spring term work-study employees can work up to 12 hours per week but no more than 8 hours per day, with compensation of \$9.00 per hour.

Hiring Process:

When a student is awarded Federal Work-Study, an email will be sent to the student indicating they are eligible for work-study and what their next steps are if they are interested in the work-study program. If hired by a work-study supervisor, students will need to meet with the Work-Study Coordinator to complete the necessary paperwork. Her office is located in the Welcome Center. **Further questions about Federal Work-Study may be addressed to the Work-Study Coordinator, at 608-789-2081 or workstudy@westernnc.edu.**



Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

Students who receive financial aid at Western must maintain SAP. Federal regulations require that your entire Western record be reviewed for SAP, including terms for which you did not receive aid. We will apply the same SAP standards for terms when you are receiving financial aid. Your SAP is evaluated after each trimester.

Federal SAP Requirements

To be eligible for financial aid, students must maintain a **CUMULATIVE** GPA of 2.0 or above AND must complete at least 67% of **CUMULATIVE** credits attempted.

Maximum Time Frame (150% Rule)

All classes enrolled in as of the Date of Record for each trimester will be counted as credits attempted. The maximum time frame in which you must complete an educational program is determined by taking the number of credits needed to complete your program multiplied by 150%. For example, if your program requires 68 credits to graduate, you have 102 credits (68 credits x 150%) you are able to take before you reach maximum time frame. The number of credits attempted includes all classes that you've taken at Western and any transferred credits regardless of whether you received financial aid while enrolled in those classes. Repeated classes, transfers, failed classes, withdrawals, and incompletes are also counted toward the number of credits attempted.

Failure to comply with a completed Academic Plan may result in DENIAL of future financial aid at Western!

WARNING Status

The first trimester a student fails to meet the requirements listed above, he/she will be placed on **Financial Aid Warning**. The student will remain in **WARNING** status until the end of the next trimester of attendance when progress will again be reviewed.

SUSPENSION Status

Students will be notified that his/her financial aid is **SUSPENDED** if they fail to meet the requirements listed above for 2 consecutive trimesters, or if they exceed the number of credits attempted (see *Maximum Time Frame*) during their college career.

Reinstatement of Financial Aid Requirements

To regain financial aid eligibility students must take at least 6 credits and pay all tuition and fees on their own until they:

- Earn at least a 2.0 cumulative GPA ; **and**
- Complete at least 67% of cumulative credits attempted; **and**
- Complete an Academic Plan; **or**
- Receive approval of appeal for financial aid reinstatement

The Appeal Process

Students who receive a financial aid suspension email may appeal the suspension and may be required to create an academic plan. If a student is granted their appeal, they will be on financial aid **PROBATION**. If after the trimester the student is on probation, satisfactory academic progress isn't met or the student fails to follow an academic plan at any time after the plan is created, future aid **WILL BE DENIED**.

If the appeal for reinstatement is denied or no appeal is made, the student must pay all tuition and fee charges until minimum satisfactory progress requirements at Western are met.

ALL APPEAL DECISIONS ARE FINAL!



Refund and Repayment Information

Date of Record (2nd Friday of the term)

Students enrollment status will be reviewed prior to the first disbursement and awards will be adjusted accordingly. After the Date of Record a student's aid package may be adjusted if classes are cancelled or if they drop a class that has not started. Students may owe a repayment.

Payment of financial aid is based on the number of credits enrolled as of the Date of Record for that trimester. If you add any classes after the Date of Record, your financial aid grant eligibility will **NOT** increase. There are no exceptions.

Fall 2019	9/13/19 • 4:00 p.m.
Spring 2020	1/24/20 • 4:00 p.m.
Summer 2020	5/22/20 • 4:00 p.m.

Always contact the Office of Student Financial Aid before dropping classes to determine the effect on your award.
608-785-9579

Total Withdrawal

Federal law states that if students receive federal aid and withdraw or drop ALL classes before completing 60% of the trimester, students may have to return a portion of the federal aid received. Federal law also states that once students have completed 60% of the trimester, they have earned 100% of their aid. (Refer to the Return of Title IV Funds Calculation below).

Return of Title IV Funds Calculation

Upon total withdrawal, a student's Federal Financial Aid will be re-evaluated to determine the amount of financial aid a student has earned and how much unearned aid is required to be returned to the appropriate agencies. **This includes Federal Financial Aid that was originally used to pay tuition and fees.** The total amount required to be returned will be adjusted on the student's account. If the student has a pending refund, it will be used to offset the amount the student is responsible to repay, if any. Please review your MyWestern student account to review the adjustment and see if a balance is owed.



The calculation for determining the percentage of 'earned' and 'unearned' Financial Aid is based on the total number of days completed (up to the withdrawal date) divided by the total number of days in the trimester.

The impact on a student's financial aid will depend on several factors:

- Date of Withdrawal—the actual date the withdrawal process began, or the student's last date of attendance
- Total amount of tuition and fees
- Amount of Federal Financial Aid awarded (*disbursed & not disbursed*)

Any return of tuition will go to the following federal funds in priority order.

Federal funds affected:

1. Unsubsidized Direct Loan
2. Subsidized Direct Loan
3. PLUS Loan
4. Federal Pell Grant
5. FSEOG Grant

Unofficial Withdrawal

If you received all "F" grades and an instructor indicated you ceased attendance during the term, you will be considered an "unofficial withdrawal" and a "Return of Title IV Funds Calculation" will be processed by Financial Aid at 50% completion of the trimester. You may owe a repayment.

If you received a "F" in a class and an instructor indicated you never attended, your aid package may be revised and you may owe a repayment.

***Withdrawal date** is defined as the actual date you begin the withdrawal process or your last date of attendance. If you receive all "F" grades for a term, you may be considered an "unofficial withdrawal" and may be required to repay at least 50% of the institutional costs. Your drop and/or withdrawal will affect your Satisfactory Academic Progress.

Developmental Coursework

Certain developmental coursework (*if referred by counselor*) can be added to a student's credit load for financial aid purposes if the student maintains at least six (6) regular credits. Dropping or being dropped from a credit course(s) **MAY** require repayment of ALL or a portion of financial aid.

Western Technical College

FINANCIAL AID

westernnc.edu/financialaid
608-785-9579

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