

2021-2022 Important Financial Aid Information

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) filing application processing cycle lasts 21 months; October 1 through June 30. The 2021-22 school year filing dates are October 1, 2020 through June 30, 2022. Western must have valid electronic FAFSA records by the last date of enrollment for that school year. For example, if enrollment is from September 7, 2021 through April 22, 2022, then Western MUST have the FAFSA record by April 22, 2022 for financial aid disbursement.

Financial Aid Information Sheet

Completing the FAFSA determines eligibility for the following:

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

Financial Aid Disbursement Information

The **MyFinAid** account shows how much aid a student is eligible for based on a full-time status. Enrollment status is reviewed and adjusted if full-time status is not maintained. After the 2nd Friday of each trimester, no aid adjustments are made to a student's financial aid unless a class is dropped or withdrawn from prior to the class start date, 100% refund is received, or a total withdraw occurs. If aid is received and all classes are dropped/withdrawn before completing 60% of the trimester, a repayment may be required.

Federal grants, state grants, and student loans are applied to student accounts the **5th week of the trimester** if the financial aid process is complete. The remainder is refunded after the account balance is paid-in-full. Disbursements take place weekly- allow ten days from the date posted to the account for refunds to be directly deposited or a check to be mailed. Paper checks CANNOT be PICKED UP.

Western must be given permission to apply any funds received toward any eligible charges billed. To grant permission, answer yes to the first question of the **Financial Aid Online Information Request** located under "Menu" then "Financial Aid Online Information Request" in **MyFinAid**.

A budget (Cost of Attendance) for a Western student attending full time for fall and spring trimesters and living off campus is \$16,902. For a student living with parents, the budget is \$13,080. These budgets can fluctuate with enrollment status changes as they occur. Components of a typical student budget include: tuition/fees, books/supplies, transportation, room/board, loan fees, and personal expenses.

Charging Required Textbook/Supplies

If financial aid has been awarded and a refund is pending after the account balance is paid in full, AND, the student has granted Western permission to take a charge out of financial (see "Financial Aid Disbursement Information"), a student will be eligible to charge **required** textbooks and supplies at the Campus Shop up to the amount of the refund. Book charging is permitted according to the following schedule for the 2021-2022 aid year:

Fall 2021	Aug. 16, 2021 – Sept. 17, 2021 by 3 p.m.
Spring 2022	Dec. 13, 2021 – Jan. 21, 2022 by 3 p.m.
Summer 2022	Apr. 18, 2022 – May 20, 2022 by 3 p.m.

Eligibility

Financial aid eligibility is based on the information provided on the 2021-2022 FAFSA. If there are changes in circumstances that might affect the ability to pay for costs (i.e. income, marital status, etc.), contact the Manager of Financial Aid Resources & Planning Services at **608.785.9576**.

Student Responsibilities

- Contact Financial Aid Resources & Planning Services before dropping classes to determine the effect on financial aid awards.
- Purchase books and supplies.
- Keep address current with the Registration Office (checks will NOT be forwarded by the Post Office).
- Complete Entrance Counseling and Master Promissory Note (MPN) for a Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loan if receiving student loans (see page two for details)
- Inform Financial Aid Resources & Planning Services if plans are made to take credits at another college simultaneously. Financial aid cannot be received from more than one college for the same payment/enrollment period.
- Pay tuition by the due date. A one-time \$35 late fee is charged if an outstanding balance is not paid by the these dates:

Fall Trimester: October 22, 2021

Spring Trimester: February 25, 2022

Summer Trimester: June 24, 2022

Grants

Federal Pell Grants are awarded to a student with high financial need who have not earned a bachelor or graduate degree. Federal Pell Grants do not have to be repaid. The amount of this grant is determined by the Federal Pell Grant schedule, the 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) is based on an EFC of 0-1,000 and enrollment of at least six (6) credits. These funds are limited.

State Grants include Academic Excellence Scholarship, Technical Excellence Scholarship, Wisconsin grant, Talent Incentive Program (TIP), Minority Retention grant, Handicapped grant, and Wisconsin Indian grants. Registration for six (6) or more credits is required for eligibility.

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Student Loans

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 Direct Subsidized loan is paid by the federal government while the student is enrolled at least half-time (6 credits). Direct Unsubsidized loan interest must be paid. A student may choose to make interest-only payments on unsubsidized loans while still in school, or defer interest payments until loan repayment begins. **To reduce total student loan indebtedness, it is in the best interest to make Direct Unsubsidized loan interest payments while attending college.**

Neither the Direct Subsidized nor Direct Unsubsidized loan requires repayment until six months after graduation, or a drop below half-time enrollment—whichever occurs first. **Enrollment of at least half-time (6 credits) is required for student loan eligibility.**

FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN INTEREST RATES & FEES		
LOAN TYPE	INTEREST RATE	ORIGINATION FEE
Subsidized	2.75%	1.057%*
Unsubsidized	2.75%	1.057%*

*The interest rates are effective from 7/1/2020 – 6/30/2021 and the origination fees are effective from 10/1/2020 -9/30/2021. New rates and fees will be posted once they have been set.

ALL Student Loan Borrowers Must:

- Accept/Decline/Reduce student loan awards. Western encourages only borrowing only what is needed, as these loans must be repaid with interest.
- Be enrolled in at least six (6 credits).
- Complete the **Master Promissory Note (MPN)** for a Direct Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loan online at studentaid.gov.
- Complete **Entrance Counseling** online at studentaid.gov. First-time Western student loan borrowers must complete the Entrance Counseling online.

Western's computer labs or Learning Commons are available to complete these requirements if personal internet access/device is not available.

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 6 months after the dependent student drops below half-time enrollment (6 credits).

Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan Info

- Visit westerntc.edu/plus-loans to complete all the items on the 'Parent PLUS Loan To Do List'
- Interest rate is fixed at **5.30%**. Origination Fee is **4.228%***.

*The interest rates are effective from 7/1/2020 – 6/30/2021 and the origination fees are effective from 10/1/2020 -9/30/2021. New rates and fees will be posted once they have been set.

Private Student Loans

Additional funds beyond Grants and Direct Loans may be needed. Private student loans may help reach any education goals. **Western REQUIRES completion of the FAFSA before borrowing a private loan.** Visit westerntc.edu/private-loans to read more about private loan options. Completion of a budget worksheet with Consumer Credit Counseling Services is required before funds are released.

Private Loan Facts:

- Designed to bridge the financial gap between college costs, family resources, and financial aid
- Terms differ from lender to lender—carefully review your lender's loan terms before applying for a private student loan
- Interest rates based on credit, are variable, and adjusted quarterly
- Borrower must be creditworthy or have a creditworthy co-signer
- Fees are often 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)
- Tuition Reimbursement

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 enrolled in an ineligible program with no other funding resources, please contact **Financial Aid Resources & Planning Services** to discuss private student loan options. Some ineligible certificate programs include:

- **Nursing Assistant (CNA):** 3 credits
- **Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) – Basic:** 5 credits
- **Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) – Advanced:** 4 credits
- **Phlebotomy:** 3 credits
- **Central Service Technician:** 7 credits

Financial Aid eligibility for the **Pharmacy Technician** program is determined by Lakeshore Technical College (LTC). Contact LTC regarding your financial aid questions for this program.

Repeated Classes

Contact Financial Aid Resources & Planning Services to determine if aid is available for any course that is being repeated if a grade of a "C" or better was previously earned.

Federal Work-Study (FWS) Jobs

General:

The FWS Program is need-based and awarded based on filing of the FAFSA. Work-study funds are limited and awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis. FWS is a job program for a student with financial need to help pay for educational expenses. Those eligible for FWS can earn up to the amount listed on MyFinAid or until Western's total FWS allocation is exhausted. FWS payment is on a semi-monthly basis (around the 10th and 26th each month), based on the number of hours worked. FWS money is earned and paid directly to the student and is not put towards the Western account balance. Positions are available both on- and off-campus. If interested in work-study, contact the Work-Study Coordinator at workstudy@westerntc.edu.

Eligibility:

Work-study is available all three trimesters. Fall and spring trimester eligibility requires enrollment in at least six (6) credits (not including developmental credits). Up to 12 hours of work-study per week is allowed, but no more than 8 hours per day, with compensation of \$10.00 per hour. Summer trimester work-study requires FAFSA completion for the following school year (i.e., 2021-2022 FAFSA completed for fall 2021) and registration for at least six credits for the fall trimester. A workstudy enrolled at least half time (6 credits) for the summer semester is allowed to work up to 12 hours per week. A workstudy enrolled less than half-time (fewer than 6 credits) is permitted to work up to 25 hours per week and no more than eight hours per day.

Hiring Process:

Federal Work-Study award recipients receive an email with important information regarding the steps to apply for a Work-Study position. Once hired, an orientation session with the Work-Study Coordinator is required. The Work-Study Coordinator office is in the Welcome Center. Please direct questions regarding work-study to 608-785-9437 or workstudy@westerntc.edu.



Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

Maintaining SAP is required for financial aid recipients. Federal regulations require a student's entire Western record be reviewed for SAP, including trimesters in which financial aid was not received. SAP is evaluated after each trimester.

Federal SAP Requirements

Financial aid eligibility depends on maintaining a **CUMULATIVE** GPA of 2.0 or above **AND** must complete at least 67% of **CUMULATIVE** credits attempted.

WARNING Status

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

SUSPENSION Status

Failing to meet either of the requirements above for 2 consecutive trimesters or exceeding the number of credits attempted (see Maximum Time Frame) results in a **Financial Aid Suspension**.

Maximum Time Frame (150% Rule)

Class enrollment as of Date of Record for each trimester counts as credits attempted. The maximum time to complete an educational program is determined by multiplying the number of credits needed to complete a program by 150%. The number of credits attempted includes all classes taken at Western and any transferred credits, regardless of whether financial aid was received while enrolled for those classes. Repeated classes, transferred credits, credits from prior learning (CPL), failed classes, withdrawals, and incompletes count toward the number of credits attempted.

The Appeal Process

Financial Aid Suspension and Maximum Time Frame Suspension may be appealed. Appealing may require the creation of an academic plan. If the appeal is granted, a student's SAP status is changed to **Financial Aid PROBATION**.

*If, after the trimester a student is on Probation, SAP is not met or the student failed to successfully complete the academic plan at any time after the plan is created, future aid **WILL BE DENIED**.*

Reinstatement of Financial Aid Requirements

If the appeal for reinstatement is denied or if not appeal is made, a student must:

- Pay for at least six (6) credits without the benefits of financial aid, and
- Be successful in all classes attempted (C's or better), and
- Not drop any courses after they have started

Once these requirements have been met, contact the Manager of Financial Aid Resources & Planning Services to request reinstatement of financial aid.

ALL APPEAL DECISIONS ARE FINAL!



Refund and Repayment Information

Date of Record (2nd Friday of the trimester)

Enrollment status is reviewed prior to the first disbursement and financial aid awards are adjusted accordingly. After the Date of Record, aid may be adjusted if classes are canceled or if a class is dropped before it starts. Repayment may be required.

Payment of financial aid is based on the number of credits enrolled as of the Date of Record for that trimester. If any classes are added after the Date of Record, financial aid grant eligibility will NOT increase.

Fall 2021	9/17/21 • 4 p.m.
Spring 2022	1/21/22 • 4 p.m.
Summer 2022	5/20/22 • 4 p.m.

Always contact Financial Aid Resources & Planning Services before dropping classes to determine how financial aid may be effected.

Total Withdrawal

Federal law states that if a student receives federal aid and withdraws or drops ALL classes before completing 60% of the trimester, a portion of the federal aid may need to be returned. Federal law also states that once 60% of the trimester has been completed, 100% of federal aid has been earned. (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 account. If there is a pending refund, it is used to offset the repayment amount. A student should log onto the MyWestern account to review the adjustment to 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 financial aid depends on several factors:

- Date of Withdrawal—the actual date the withdrawal process began, or the 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. Direct Unsubsidized Loan
2. Direct Subsidized Loan
3. Parent PLUS Loan
4. Federal Pell Grant
5. Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant

Unofficial Withdrawal

If all "F" grades are received and the instructor indicated attendance stopped during the trimester, this is considered an "unofficial withdrawal" and a "Return of Title IV Funds Calculation" will be processed by Financial Aid at 50% completion of the trimester. A repayment may be required.

If an "F" is received and the instructor indicated no attendance, the financial aid package may be revised, and repayment may be required.

Withdrawal date is defined as the actual date the withdrawal process began or the last date of attendance. Receiving all "F" grades for a trimester may be considered an "unofficial withdrawal" and will require repayment of at least 50% of the institutional costs. Any drop or withdrawal will affect the Satisfactory Academic Progress status.

Developmental Coursework

Certain developmental coursework (if referred by a College Advisor or Career Coach) can be added to a credit load for financial aid purposes if at least six (6) regular credits are maintained. Dropping or being dropped from a credit course(s) MAY require a repayment of ALL or a portion of financial aid.

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