

Year Round Pell Grant Student Guide

Pell Grant Background

The U.S. Department of Education introduced the Basic Educational Opportunity Grant (BEOG) in 1972. Today, the BEOG is referred to as the Pell Grant. This program was implemented to assist low-income students in pursuing their higher educational goals and dreams.

How to Apply

The process to apply for a Pell Grant has not changed. Students are still required to fill out a FAFSA. You can learn more about this process online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

NEW! Year Round Option

The Year Round Pell Grant was authorized through the Higher Education Act of 2008. Some institutions chose to implement it during the 2009-2010 year; however, the Final Regulations were not published until October 2009 with an effective date of July 1, 2010.

Year Round Pell Grant makes it possible for students to receive two Pell Grant Awards within one Award Year, if certain criteria are met.

The purpose of implementing the Year Round Option is to limit student's Pell Grant eligibility to 18 semesters* to students that first receive the Pell Grant on/after July 1, 2008. Students can track their remaining Pell Grant eligibility on [NSLDS](#) or through their Student Aid Report.

*Department equivalent is 9 scheduled awards or 900% of life-time Pell eligibility.

- Students enrolled less than full-time will be assessed at the fractional enrollment status.

Pell Grant Awards

During the 2010-11 Award Year, the maximum Pell Grant award is \$5,550.00. To determine your eligibility, students should review the Award Letter received from their institution. Students can also review their estimated award amount (based on EFC, enrollment status and the institution's cost of attendance) through the online [Federal Pell Grant Chart](#).



Student Eligibility

Students can be enrolled in any enrollment status to receive funding from the 1st scheduled Pell Grant Award. However, in order to receive funding from the 2nd scheduled Pell Grant Award, students (by the end of spring semester) must have earned a total number of credit hours, including preparatory and/or transfer credits, which when combined with the summer enrollment exceeds 24 AND be enrolled at least half-time.

Here's an example of how this works:

Let's say a student is enrolled in 9 credits for Fall and 12 credits for Spring. The student still has 3 credits left to meet the Award Year requirement (of 24 credits). So, the student comes in for Summer and takes 9 credit hours. The student has now met the 1st year Award Year requirement (for the first 3 credits that will be paid out of the 1st scheduled

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Year Round Pell Grant



Crossover Periods

This will be a term that you will hear during the Summer terms and refers to any payment period that overlaps June 30/July 1.

Because the regulations that surround Year Round Pell do not go into effect until July 1, 2010, institutions have a choice to develop an internal June 30/July 1, 2010 crossover policy or to go ahead and implement the new regulations. This is the institution's choice, so if you want to know how your institution will handle this year's crossover period, please contact your Financial Aid Office.

For the crossover period that will cover June 30/July 1, 2011, institutions are required to assign the crossover payment period to the Award Year in which the student will receive a greater payment at time payment is initially calculated.

Year Round Pell Transfers

For students who transfer from one institution to another, the new institution will have to take into consideration the Pell Grant award received at the prior institution.

This can be done via an:

- Assumption Method

Under the Assumption Method, the institution will assume the student completed the hours attempted in the first Award Year if the student received all of the 1st Scheduled Award at the prior institution. If less than the 1st Scheduled Award, institutions are required to utilize the following formation to calculate the hours considered to have been completed.

$$\frac{\text{Amount disbursed at prior institution}}{\text{X Hours in current institution's Academic Year}} = \text{Hours considered completed}$$
$$\text{Amount of Scheduled Award at prior institution}$$

Or, it can be done via an:

- Hours Earned Method

Under the Hours Earned Method, the institution gathers the actual information from the prior institution to calculate student eligibility.

This is another area that is the institution's choice. If you want to know how your institution will handle Year Round Pell Transfers, please contact your Financial Aid Office.

Year Round Pell Grant

Example

In the examples below, we have a traditional University, two-term Award Year (Fall and Spring) with an optional summer semester crossover period. Let's assume this student has a zero EFC with a high COA and the student first enrolled in Fall 2008.

In this example, the student attended full-time Fall and Spring during 08/09. Then for 09/10, the student attended full-time Fall, Spring and Summer. So, for the 09/10 AY, the student received both a 1st year and 2nd year Scheduled Award using the 09/10 EFC.

2008-2009 Award Year			
Fall	Spring	Summer	Total
\$2,366	\$2,365	\$0	\$4,731

2009-2010 Award Year			
Fall	Spring	Summer	Total
\$2,675	\$2,675	\$2,675	\$8,025

Example (w/Summer Header)

In this example, the student attended full-time Fall and Spring during 08/09. Then for 09/10, the student attended full-time Summer, Fall and Spring. So, for the 09/10 AY, the student received both a 1st year and 2nd year Scheduled Award using the 09/10 EFC.



Example (continued)

2008-2009 Award Year			
Summer	Fall	Spring	Total
Not enrolled	\$2,366	\$2,365	\$4,731

2009-2010 Award Year			
Summer	Fall	Spring	Total
\$2,675	\$2,675	\$2,675	\$8,025

Example (w/Summer as a Header and Trailer)

In this example, the student attended full-time Fall and Spring during 08/09. Then for 09/10, the student attended full-time Summer, Fall and Spring. So, for the 09/10 AY, the student received both a 1st year and 2nd year Scheduled Award using the 09/10 EFC. (This is the only scenario where a student would receive two FULL awards.)

2008-2009 Award Year			
Fall	Spring	Total	
\$2,366	\$2,365	\$4,731	

2009-2010 Award Year				
Summer	Fall	Spring	Summer	Total
\$2,675	\$2,675	\$2,675	\$2,675	\$10,700

Year Round Pell Grant

Example (Lifetime Eligibility)

In this example, the student attended full-time Fall and Spring during 08/09. Then for 09/10, the student attended full-time Summer, Fall and Spring. So, for the 09/10 AY, the student received both a 1st year and 2nd year Scheduled Award using the 09/10 EFC. (This is the only scenario where a student would receive two FULL awards.)

So if we look at this example, this student first enrolled and received Pell in 08/09. Over the next several years, this student was in/out of school and used a total of 787.5% of his/her 900% eligibility at the end of Summer 2017.

Year	Term	Term	Term	Term	% of Eligibility
08/09	Fall (full-time)	Spring (full-time)			100%
09/10	Fall (3/4-time)	Spring (3/4-time)	Summer (3/4-time)		112.5%
10/11	Fall (1/2-time)	Summer (1/2-time)	Fall (1/2-time)		75%
14/15	Summer (full-time)	Fall (1/2-time)	Spring (full-time)	Summer (full-time)	200%
15/16	Fall (full-time)	Spring (full-time)	Summer (full-time)		150%
16/17	Fall (full-time)	Spring (full-time)	Summer (full-time)		150%
TOTAL ELIGIBILITY					787.5%
REMAINING ELIGIBILITY					112.5%
LIFETIME ELIGIBILITY					900%

Year Round Pell Grant

Let's recap!

In order to be eligible for the 2nd Scheduled Award during an Award Year, students (by the end of spring semester) must have earned a total number of credit hours, including preparatory and/or transfer credits, which when combined with the summer enrollment exceeds 24 AND be enrolled at least half-time in credits that are attributable to the student's second Academic Year. Institutions may be able to waive the 2nd Scheduled Award hour requirement if there are circumstances beyond the student's control. Just like with professional judgment, this must be determined and documented on a case-by-case basis by the Financial Aid Office.

For more information, please visit www.studentaid.ed.gov or contact your institution's Financial Aid Office.



Information provided by:

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