

The Office of Student Financial Aid provides grants, loans, and work-study opportunities to those students who may otherwise be unable to attend college. The amount and type of aid a student may receive depends on the availability of funds and the student's established financial need.

Minimum Requirements for Eligibility

- Must have a high school diploma or GED (A student who has not been awarded a high school diploma or GED may take an approved test to determine ability to benefit).
- Must be a U.S. Citizen or eligible noncitizen.
- Must be meeting satisfactory academic progress, as defined in the Financial Aid Handbook.
- Must be attending ACC for the purpose of obtaining a degree or program certificate, or be enrolled in a transfer program leading to a bachelor's degree.
- Must be enrolled for at least six hours each semester.
- Check with the Campus Financial Aid Office for Pell Grant eligibility based on less than half-time status.
- Male applicants who are at least 18 years old and born after December 31, 1960, must be registered with the Selective Service as required by federal regulations.
- Transient students attending ACC for the summer semester only are not eligible for financial aid.
- Applicants cannot be in default of a state or federal loan/ or in repayment of a state or federal grant.

Application Procedures

- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid paper application or file electronically on the web: www.fafsa.ed.gov.
- Complete the ACC Financial Aid Institutional Application available at the campus Financial Aid Offices or on the Financial Aid website.
- Submit high school grade transcripts or GED certificate to the Admissions Office. Copies of all college transcripts must be submitted to the Financial Aid Office and the Admissions and Records Office.
- All hours attempted (including transfer hours) will be counted towards the maximum 85-hour time frame at Austin Community College; the Admissions and Records Office must evaluate all transcripts.
- Eligible noncitizens must provide proof of eligibility: I-94, I-551, I-151.
- Students selected for verification must provide signed copies of federal income tax returns (Parents, Student/ Spouse).

Deadlines for

Summer Session
Fall/Spring Semesters
Spring Semester Only

Priority Date to Complete File

March 15
April 1
October 15

Students may apply for financial aid after the priority deadlines. These deadlines are established to allow ample time for processing. Awards are made on a first-come first-served basis. Federal Pell and/or Federal Stafford Loan/ PLUS applications will be processed after the priority dates. Late applicants should be prepared to use their own resources to pay for their initial expenses (tuition, fees, and books).

Return of Title IV Funds

As a result of the Reauthorization Act of 1998, a new federal refund policy will require students to repay a portion of the financial aid they received but didn't earn due to their complete withdrawal from ACC. The new law focuses on the return of Title IV funds (PELL, FSEOG, FFEL Loans, Perkins Loans) received for the time period during which students were enrolled. ACC will determine the percentage of Title IV assistance students earned up through the 60 percent point in the semester. Students will be responsible for paying back the unearned portion. If students withdraw after the 60 percent point in the semester, there is no federal refund required. Check with the Financial Aid Office for more details.

Types of Aid Available

Grants

Federal Pell Grant is a federally funded program designed for undergraduate students obtaining their first bachelor's degree. The amount of the Pell Grant depends on the student's effective family contribution and the number of hours for which the student enrolls. The award will vary from \$400 to \$4,050. This grant does not have to be repaid.

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG) is a federally funded program established to assist students with exceptional need. Funds are limited, and there is no guarantee that every eligible student will be able to receive this grant.

Austin Community College Student Grant (ACCSG) is funded through tuition payments. Funds are limited, and there is no guarantee that every eligible student will be able to receive this grant.

LEAP Grant is a combination of state and federal funds. Funds are limited, and there is no guarantee that every eligible student will be able to receive this grant.