

- ♦ If you received federal student loans, your grace period will begin from the day you cease to be enrolled at least half-time. If you have not returned to school on at least a half-time basis before your grace period has expired, your loans enter repayment.
- ♦ All withdrawals recorded on your permanent record affect your ability to meet Federal satisfactory academic progress requirements, and could endanger your eligibility for continued Federal financial aid payments in future semesters.

COLLEGE DISCOVERY

- ♦ You must be enrolled full-time to be eligible for CD funds, unless you are in your graduating semester.
- ♦ If you fall below full-time enrollment during a term, but remain enrolled in at least 9 credits, you may continue to receive CD awards if approved by your CD counselor.
- ♦ If you fall below 9 credits, you lose your eligibility for any CD monies that have not yet been disbursed for that term.

HELPFUL HINTS

- ♦ Review the College's tuition refund policy to learn how you may be financially responsible for the courses you withdraw from.
- ♦ Review the College's academic grading policies to better understand how the "WU" grade may negatively impact your academic record.
- ♦ Learn more about how academic performance may affect your eligibility for financial aid at:

<http://www.bmcc.cuny.edu/finaid/>

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Office of Financial Aid



INFORMATION GUIDE

HOW DOES WITHDRAWING FROM CLASSES AFFECT MY FINANCIAL AID?



**OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID
BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**199 CHAMBERS ST.
NEW YORK , NY 10007
212-220-1430
ROOM N-365
www.bmcc.cuny.edu/finaid/**

HOW DOES WITHDRAWING FROM CLASSES AFFECT MY FINANCIAL AID?

Financial aid is awarded with the expectation that you will attend school for the entire period for which it was intended. Withdrawing from classes can have both short-term and long-range effects on your eligibility to receive the financial aid payments you applied for.

For example, you may discover after withdrawing from a class that your tuition charges remain the same but your financial aid is reduced or eliminated. Or you may be asked to pay back money you received in a financial aid payment because you subsequently withdrew from your classes. Then again, you might find that you are not eligible to receive a payment in the current semester because you had too many withdrawals in past semesters. These situations can leave you having to pay tuition bills and other school expenses out of your own pocket.

You may wish to factor the information provided here into any decision to withdraw from a class or classes. We do suggest that you speak with your professors and an academic advisor if you think you have to withdraw from a class. Decisions related to your academic program should not be based solely on financial considerations, and an advisor can perhaps lead you to a better solution -- one that doesn't require you to withdraw.

NEW YORK STATE TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP)

- ◆ If you meet the TAP definition of full-time between the first day of classes and the end of the add/drop period and have been charged for each of those classes, you keep your TAP award for that term

even if you subsequently withdraw from those classes. Your original award amount may be adjusted to reflect any recalculated tuition.

- ◆ To continue receiving TAP or other New York State awards, you must meet the State's academic performance requirements every semester you receive a payment. Excessive numbers of withdrawals in any TAP-supported semester may affect your ability to meet the academic performance requirements and endanger your ability to continue receiving TAP. Learn more about the TAP academic performance requirements from the BMCC web site.

FEDERAL PELL GRANT

- ◆ Pell award amounts are based on whether you are enrolled full-time (12 or more equated credits), 3/4 time (9-11 equated credits), half-time (6-8 equated credits), or less than half-time (1-5 equated credits) as of the end of the add/drop period. If you start the semester as full-time but fall to half-time by the end of add/drop, your Pell enrollment status will be half-time. After that date, your Pell Grant enrollment status is locked for the term and will not be changed if you subsequently withdraw from a class.
- ◆ All course withdrawals recorded on your permanent record may affect your eligibility to meet Federal satisfactory academic performance requirements and could result in a loss of Pell Grant eligibility in some future semester.
- ◆ If you completely withdraw from classes before the semester is over, the College will determine how much of your Pell Grant you are entitled to under the Department of Education's return of federal financial aid policy.

- ◆ If you withdraw from all your classes after your Pell Grant has been paid, the College will determine if you have to repay any portion of your award under this same policy. In general, you must attend classes for more than 60% of the term to be entitled to 100% of your Pell.
- ◆ To qualify for Federal Pell Grant, you must complete registration and begin attending your classes. If you receive a payment for classes you know you have never attended, you must return it immediately to the College.
- ◆ Learn more about Federal academic performance requirements and the return of federal funds policy from the BMCC web site.

FEDERAL WORK-STUDY, FSEOG, FEDERAL PERKINS & DIRECT LOANS

- ◆ You must maintain at least half-time enrollment to receive these awards. If you fall below half-time status at any time, you may not receive further payments of these funds.
- ◆ To receive these funds, you must begin attending your classes. If you receive a grant or loan payment (except FWS) for classes you know you haven't attended, you must return the payments to the College.
- ◆ If you completely withdraw from school before the 60% point in the term, the College must calculate whether any Federal aid (except FWS) must be returned according to the return of federal aid policy.
- ◆ If you are working in the FWS program, you must stop working from the day you cease to be enrolled at least half-time. You do not have to repay any monies you have already earned.