

Terms & Conditions of Receiving Financial Aid

When you receive financial aid at Clarion University, there are important conditions for you to understand before you accept your awards. Carefully review these terms to have a better understanding of the financial aid policies as a financial aid recipient.

Financial aid is offered with the following conditions:

- Financial aid packages offered to students are individualized and reflect the student's eligibility based on the information provided by the student and their parents on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Each financial aid package also factors in the student's grade level, program of study, individual program, eligibility requirements, and funding levels. Federal financial aid is contingent on federal funding levels and are, therefore, subject to change based on Congressional action.
- Your financial assistance is awarded based on merit and/or calculated need as determined from the information provided on your FAFSA. Financial aid awards are subject to adjustments or cancellations due to changes in laws, regulations, appropriations, changes in your financial situation, verification, discovery of data errors, changes in your enrollment status or changes in your residency status amongst others.
- Students who have been previously incarcerated, are currently incarcerated, or who might be incarcerated during their current term of attendance must identify themselves to the Student Financial Aid Office to determine their financial aid eligibility.
- If you receive any financial assistance from an outside source (e.g., a private scholarship) that is not included in your financial aid awards, you must inform the Student Financial Services Office.
- You must be enrolled at least half-time (six credit hours minimum for undergraduate students for all semesters; four and one-half credit hours minimum for graduate students) to be eligible for Federal Direct Loan(s), in any single semester.
- Registering in courses is not enough to secure your financial aid. You must also attend the courses in which you enroll. Student Financial Services is required to verify that students who receive a non-passing grade in any class actually began attending the class. For example, if you receive an F in a course, no grade is reported, or you withdraw from a course, we will follow up to determine whether or not you attended the class. Failure to attend can be expensive: your aid could be reduced retroactively and you may be required to repay aid you have received. If you have any questions about your enrollment and eligibility for financial aid, please contact the Student Financial Services Office.
- If your enrollment plans change after you have been awarded your initial federal financial aid, you will need to notify the Student Financial Services Office. Your financial aid awards will be adjusted accordingly.
- You must only be enrolled in classes required to complete your declared degree (Clarion University does not award aid for their certificate programs) requirements, as specified in the Clarion University Catalog. You should confirm with your advisor that the coursework you are enrolled in is required to meet graduation requirements for your program.
- Classes taken for audit are not eligible for financial assistance and do not count toward enrollment for purposes of financial assistance.
- If requested, you must provide documents to verify the accuracy of information reported on the FAFSA before financial aid can be awarded or disbursed.

- You must not be in default on any federal educational loans nor owe any refunds on federal grants you have received at any post-secondary institution.
- You may use financial aid funds only for education-related expenses incurred at Clarion University for the respective academic year. Check your account balance at least once a month to be sure you do not have unpaid charges.
- Clarion applies your financial aid awards directly to charges on your Student Account (including tuition, fees, housing, and other charges). Funds in excess of these charges will be released to you in a financial aid refund. Some institutional charges cannot be paid with Title IV (federal aid), thus you may still owe the University even if you receive a refund. If subsequent charges are made to your university account, it is your responsibility to pay them.
- To remain eligible for financial aid, students must make "satisfactory academic progress" toward completion of a degree. Federal regulations require Student Financial Aid to monitor the progress of each student toward their degree completion. Students who fail to achieve minimum standards for grade point average and completion of classes may lose their eligibility for all types of federal and state aid.
- You must work in a Federal Work-Study (FWS) position to earn the FWS amount shown on your Financial Aid Notification letter. FWS funds are not disbursed to your Student Account and do not reduce the amount you owe the University. You receive a pay check based on your student pay cycle.
- If you are working toward a second bachelor's degree, you may be only eligible for Federal Direct Loan(s), if eligible.
- You are not eligible for aid restricted to undergraduate students, such as the Federal Pell Grant, or Federal SEOG, if you already earned a bachelor's degree or you are a graduate/professional student.
- Financial aid awards are based on information provided by the student and are subject to revisions and/or cancellation at any time if: federal or state regulations change; federal, state, or institutional fund allocations change; estimated family contribution changes; student receives a scholarship, benefits, waiver, etc.; or an error is made in the calculation of your eligibility or award, whether by the federal aid servicer, private loan servicer, or Clarion University.
- The institution, state, and federal government are absolved of any and all responsibility for funding in the event that a grant and/or a loan or any other financial assistance is based upon fraudulent, inaccurate, or misleading information.
- Students who accept a Direct loan and parents who are approved for a PLUS loan are required to complete a Promissory Note for each loan type to receive the loan disbursement.