

## HOW DOES WITHDRAWING FROM CLASSES AFFECT MY FINANCIAL AID?

- **Do I still qualify for a payment?**
- **Will my payments be reduced?**
- **Will my tuition still be covered?**

Withdrawing courses may imply immediate financial consequences. You may not realize that there may be other long-range effects on your continued aid eligibility — effects that may not show up until the next semester or even several semesters from now. You may wish to factor the information provided here into any decision to withdraw from a class or classes.

At the same time, we suggest that if you think you may need to withdraw from any class, you speak with your professors and an academic advisor because decisions related to your academic program should not be based solely on financial considerations.

### FEDERAL PELL GRANT

- Pell award amounts are based on whether you are enrolled full-time (12 or more billable equated credits), three quarter-time (9—11.5 billable equated credits), half-time (6—8.5 billable equated credits), or less than half-time (1—5.5 billable equated credits) at the time your award is disbursed. For example, if you enroll as full-time during registration but withdraw to half-time before the date of the Pell Grant distribution, your Pell award will be adjusted downward to reflect half-time enrollment status.
- All course withdrawals recorded on your permanent record may affect your eligibility to meet Federal Satisfactory Progress Standards and could result in a loss of federal financial aid eligibility in some future semesters. You can learn more about Federal Satisfactory Progress Standard from the “Federal Programs” section on the Office of Financial Aid Web site.
  - 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 disbursed to you, the College must determine if you have to repay any portion of these award monies under this same policy.
- Students seeking to withdraw totally from the College for medical reasons after the official withdrawal deadline may obtain a special leave form through the Counseling Department in Room D-102, Savoy Building. Requests for medical leave are reviewed by a counselor and approved by the Medical Appeals Review Committee. No refund!

### FEDERAL WORK-STUDY, FSEOG AND FEDERAL LOANS

- You must maintain at least half-time enrollment (a minimum of 6 credits or billable equated credits) to receive FWS, FSEOG, and Perkins loan. If you fall below half-time status due to withdrawing from classes, you may not receive disbursements of these funds. Any portion not disbursed will be forfeited.
- If you completely withdraw from school before the end of 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.
- If you are in receipt of a Federal Loans, your grace period (6 months) 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 loan will enter repayment.

**NOTE:** Application for Leave of Absence (LOA) —Students who decide, upon consultation with their counselor, to arrange for a leave of absence from Hostos, must file a properly completed application for the leave. The major purpose for filling an application for a leave of absence is to clear the student's record, making it possible for him or her to return to the college with relative ease, and to set down clearly the terms of the student's future matriculation and financial aid. LOA applications are available at the Office of the Registrar.

## **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 (21st day of the semester), and have been charged for each of those classes, you keep your TAP award for that term even if you withdraw from your classes. Your original award amount may be adjusted to reflect recalculated tuition or you may be penalized from receiving a TAP payment on a future semester.
- For more information on TAP Requirements, select "TAP" under the "State Programs" section on the Office of Financial Aid Web site.
- 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 could negatively affect your ability to meet the academic performance requirements and endanger your ability to continue receiving TAP in subsequent semesters. You can learn more about the TAP Academic Progress and Program Pursuit from the "State Programs" section on the Office of Financial Aid Web site.
- It is important to understand that even if you withdraw a course(s), you may still be charged a percentage if not all of the withdrawn course(s) according to the Bursar's department refund guidelines.

Visit the Office of Financial Aid Web site for more information about federal and state aid programs requirements and satisfactory progress standards as well as Return of Title IV Funds at: **[www.hostos.cuny.edu/ofa](http://www.hostos.cuny.edu/ofa)**.