

Drug-related Convictions & Student Ineligibility

According to federal regulations, a student could lose their eligibility for federal aid if they were convicted of a drug-related offense while they were receiving federal aid (grants, loans or work-study). When completing the FAFSA, students will be asked whether they had a drug conviction for an offense that occurred while they were receiving aid. If the answer is yes, then they will be provided a worksheet to help them determine whether their conviction impacts their eligibility. If it is determined that a student has lost eligibility, he or she can regain it by successfully completing an approved drug rehabilitation program. The student must submit proof of completion to the Financial Aid Office in order for their aid to be reinstated.

If a student is convicted of a drug-related offense after submitting the FAFSA, then they could lose their eligibility within the semester. They might also be liable for returning any financial aid received during the period of ineligibility.

Student's Rights and Responsibilities

If you are receiving federal financial aid, you need to be aware of the following rights and responsibilities.

You have the right to know the following:

- Type of financial aid programs available
- The deadline for submitting applications for each financial aid program available at PHCC
- How financial aid will be disbursed
- Eligibility determination
- Elements used to calculate a student's need
- The amount of financial eligibility that has been met as determined by PHCC
- PHCC's refund policy
- If repayment of any of your award package is required
- Satisfactory Academic Progress determination
- Inaccurately reporting or misrepresentation of information used to apply for financial aid is a violation of law and may be considered a criminal offense which may result in indictment under the US Criminal Codes.
- Reading and keeping copies of all forms signed
- Notifying the Financial Aid Office of any changes in name, eligibility factors, to include marriage status, residency, number of dependents, curriculum, other sources of financial aid received etc.
- Understanding the impact dropping or withdrawing from courses may have on your financial aid

As a financial aid recipient, you also:

- Understand that you authorize any accepted financial aid funds to be used to pay for other institutional charges in addition to tuition, fees and approved bookstore charges;
- Understand that you agree to pay the tuition, fees and bookstore charges in full upon notice from PHCC if you lose eligibility for the aid awarded or fail to abide by the terms and conditions to receive the award(s);
- Agree that you will not receive a Federal Pell Grant from more than one college at any given time;
- Understand that you have not borrowed in excess of the loan limits, under the Title IV programs at any institution;
- Understand that if you lose financial aid eligibility due to enrollment changes or other factors, you will be held responsible for any charges not paid by financial aid;
- Understand that you understand that you will be required to repay financial aid and any outstanding tuition/fee and bookstore charges for courses you did not attend;
- Understand that courses outside of your program of study will not be covered by your financial aid;
- Understand that your aid will not be recalculated for enrollment changes that occur after the last day to drop a course to qualify for a refund of the 16-week session, including adding a second 8 week course(s).