

“Southeast community college

Return of Federal Financial Aid Funds Policy

Federal student aid funds are awarded to you, a student, under the assumption that you will attend school for the entire period for which the assistance is awarded. When you withdraw, you may no longer be eligible for the full amount of federal aid that you were originally scheduled to receive. The federal aid programs that are covered by this law are: Federal Pell Grants, Stafford loans, PLUS loans, and Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants.

When you withdraw or stop attending classes during your enrollment (payment) period, the amount of federal aid that you have earned up to that point is determined by a specific formula. If you received less aid than the amount you earned, you may be able to receive those additional funds. If you received more aid than you earned, the excess funds must be returned. You are responsible for the amount of aid the College is required to repay under the Federal Refund provisions, and will not be eligible for future aid until arrangements have been made to pay.

The amount of aid that you earned is determined on a pro rata basis. For example, if you completed 30% of your payment period (or period of enrollment), you earn 30% of the aid you were originally scheduled to receive. Once you have completed more than 60% of the payment period (or period of enrollment), you earn all the aid that you were scheduled to receive for that period.

If you did not receive all of the aid that you earned, you may be due a post-withdrawal disbursement. If the post-withdrawal disbursement includes loan funds, you may choose to decline the funds, so you do not incur additional debt. The College will automatically use all or a portion of the post-withdrawal disbursement to cover any unpaid charges on your student account.

Official Withdrawals

If you officially withdraw from all classes, the Financial Aid Office will use the date of the withdrawal in the Federal Refund Calculation. If you withdraw from classes at different times, the Financial Aid Office will use the withdrawal date of the last class from which you withdrew. The Federal Refund Calculation will determine how much of your financial aid must be returned to the Department of Education and/or to the lender for Stafford or PLUS loans.

Unofficial Withdrawals

If you receive all “F” grades, or a combination of all “F”, “W”, or “NP” grades, the College must assume that you have unofficially withdrawn from the College. Instructors are required to enter a last date of attendance when submitting these grades. The latest last date of attendance for the “F”, “W”, and/or “NP” grades will be used in the Federal Refund Calculation.

Once it is determined how much federal aid must be returned, the funds will be returned in the following order as required:

- Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Loan
- Federal Subsidized Stafford Loan
- Federal PLUS Loan
- Federal Pell Grant
- Federal Supplemental Opportunity Grant

If you have questions about withdrawing from the College and the impact on your financial aid you are encouraged to contact the Financial Aid Office at the numbers listed below.

Sincerely,
SCC Financial Aid Office
402-437-2610