



## ***Your Financial Aid Award***

Here's some information about your financial aid offer you'll find helpful:

- The academic year is made up of a 10-week summer semester, a 16-week fall semester, and a 16-week spring semester.
- Initial award amounts represent your funds for a fall/spring academic year.
- Your initial award is based on enrollment as a full-time student for the academic year, but you do not have to be a full-time student to qualify for financial aid. Federal regulations define full-time as being enrolled in 12 credit hours or more in a semester. This includes summer semester even though summer sessions are shortened.
- Adjustments to your Pell grant will be made based on your level of enrollment according to Pell guidelines: full-time (12 credits or more), three-quarter time (9-11 credit hours), half-time (6-8 credit hours) or less-than-half time (1-5 credit hours).
- Your student loan will be calculated based on your level of enrollment: full-time enrollment is 12 credits or more, three-quarter time is 9-11 credit hours and half-time enrollment is 6-8 credit hours. You must be enrolled in a minimum of six credit hours in classes required for your declared major to receive loan funds.
- Transfer students who have received financial aid from another school during the current award year should ask their previous school to cancel all pending financial aid. Once that aid has been cancelled, provide documentation of that cancellation to Stark State Gateway Student Services. Your aid may be adjusted due to aid received at another school.

### **FEDERAL PROGRAMS**

Federal Pell Grant (PELL) – \$692 to \$6895 per year based on financial need. Eligibility is based on financial need, enrollment, and cost of education.

Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) – Award amounts vary up to \$600 per year, based on need and application date. Allocation of funds is at Stark State's discretion. According to federal regulations, students must be Pell-eligible to receive FSEOG funds.

Federal Work Study Program (FWSP) – Based on financial need, the FWSP allows students to be employed at the college to earn money for educational expenses. An award does not guarantee job placement or earnings; students are paid bi-weekly for hours worked. A Federal Work Study Request form must be submitted to Gateway Student Services for consideration.

Federal Direct Student Loan – Your award package may include an offer for a student loan. If you are interested in a student loan you must accept your loans online at [mySSC >>My Financial Aid>> Financial Aid Home>> Your Financial Aid Dashboard>> Go to Award Offer](#) and accept the amount you need.

- You must be enrolled in a minimum of six credit hours that are a part of your declared major to receive loan funds.
- First-time loan borrowers at Stark State also must complete the loan application process, including a loan entrance counseling session and a master promissory note. These can be completed at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov). Loan funds will not be released until these are completed.
- All Federal Direct student loans will be disbursed in two payments each term. Federal regulations require first-year, first-time loan borrowers to wait 30 days after the start of their semester before funds can be disbursed to them.

**Costs/Disbursement** – Estimated costs for nine months of full-time education at Stark State

- In-state tuition and fees \$4550
- Books and supplies\* \$1,100
- Transportation\* \$1854
- Personal expenses\* \$1450
- Living costs\* \$1812-5722

\*These estimates are meant to give a general overview of the costs of full-time education.

**Payment of fees with financial aid**

Financial aid is first applied to your tuition account after your attendance is verified in all classes. Any excess funds can be disbursed to you as a refund. If your financial aid funds do not cover your entire account balance, payment arrangements for the remaining balance need to be made with the Business Office before the payment deadline each semester.

Distribution of refunds

Disbursement schedule	Summer	Fall/Spring
First disbursement	3rd week of classes	4th week of classes
Second disbursement	4th week of classes	9th week of classes

Once the financial aid funds are disbursed to your student account, they will be used to pay off any outstanding charges. If there are excess loan funds after your student account is paid off, the Business Office will refund the excess amount. If the first disbursement of your loan funds (combined with other applicable financial aid or out of pocket payments) is not enough to cover the full balance of your student account, you will not be issued a refund at that time.

Arrival of your refund will depend on the refund preference you select.

How do I set up my refund method?

It's easy. All you need is your bank account number and routing number or debit card number, then:

1. log in to [mySSC](#)
2. click the myBill+payment link
3. click on the Refunds tab
4. follow the instructions on the screen to sign up for direct deposit to your bank account or a prepaid/debit card.

**Bursar/Business Office**

Gateway Student Services works closely with the Bursar's Office to coordinate student billing and balances due. Refunds and disbursements are handled by the Bursar's Office based on your enrollment. Stark State College Student Installment Plan (SIPP)

The Student Installment Payment Plan (SIPP) is printed on your schedule/receipt each semester. This program offers you the option of paying your tuition in installments. A one-time fee of \$25 is assessed, but no interest is charged. Visit <https://www.starkstate.edu/payment/> for details.

**Revisions and cancellations**

The College reserves the right to review, revise or cancel financial awards at any time due to

- changes in your financial, residential or academic status.
- your failure to comply with the policies, procedures or laws pertaining to these programs.
- the availability of federal, state and institutional funds for each program.
- changes in College policy; the College is not obligated to satisfy the total financial need of a student.

**Using financial aid to buy books**

You may use your financial aid to purchase books at the Stark State College Store. To do so, your funds must be available and authorized for use in the bookstore. Authorization is made or revoked by you when completing the Title IV authorization form. Check [mystarkstate](http://mystarkstate.com) for your account balance. You must show your student ID and your schedule to buy books. If using financial aid, you will also need to show a photo ID.

The Stark State College Store has two locations on main campus. The main store is in the Student Center, Room S105. The Textbook Center is open at the beginning of each semester and in Room G105. College Store hours are Monday–Thursday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Friday, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Hours vary between semesters and during summer session. You can also visit the College Store in Akron in Room A103.

**Class attendance**

To ensure our commitment to student success, attendance must be taken in all classes, regardless of modality (on campus or online), starting with the first day of the class. Faculty may elect to relate course attendance to the course grading policy. Students will be notified of this through the course syllabus. A student is considered a non-attendeo in any course modality when he or she does not physically attend a class session or does not log in and participate in the course content within the first 14 days of the term for fall and spring (excluding holidays and emergency closings) and within the first seven days of the term (excluding holidays and emergency closings) for accelerated terms, as per the federal financial aid guidelines. Non-attendeos will be dropped from their classes and, if applicable, financial aid will be returned to the federal government.

Attendance also will be documented at the end of each semester to verify the last day attended in each class, and will be submitted in conjunction with final grades to the Academic Records/Registrar's Office.

*For more financial aid information*

*Visit [starkstate.edu/finaid](http://starkstate.edu/finaid)*

*Email [studentservices@starkstate.edu](mailto:studentservices@starkstate.edu)*

*Call 330-494-6170 ext. 4301*

*Stop in Gateway Student Services M102*