

2025-2026



FINANCIAL AID HANDBOOK

Office of
Postsecondary Career
and Technical Education



FINANCIAL AID HANDBOOK

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ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Reginald J. Fox





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Many individuals provided valuable input in the development of this handbook. Appreciation is extended to the Financial Aid Committee who spent countless hours dedicated to developing a handbook that can serve as a reference guide for school administrators, financial aid officers and the support personnel providing financial aid services to our students.

Ms. Patsy A. Bowers, Financial Aid Officer
D.A. Dorsey Technical College

Ms. Elena Morejon, Financial Aid Officer
The English Center

Ms. Esther Flor, Financial Aid Officer
Ms. Leslie Fuentes, Financial Aid Officer
George T. Baker Aviation Technical College

Ms. Sharon A. Gray, Financial Aid Officer
Mr. Sergio A. Marti, Financial Aid Officer
Lindsey Hopkins Technical College

Ms. Rhoshonda Shotwell, Financial Aid Officer
Mr. Robart Whiting, Financial Aid Officer
Miami Lakes Educational Center and Technical College

Ms. Alnerys Ferro, Financial Aid Officer
Robert Morgan Educational Center and Technical College

Ms. Jacqueline Chavarria, Financial Aid Officer
South Dade Technical College

Mr. Francisco E. Garnica, Administrative Director
Records and Forms Management



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INTRODUCTION

The Financial Aid Handbook was developed to assist school-based administrators, Financial Aid Officers (FAOs), business managers, and the clerical staff who facilitate and provide financial aid services to students enrolled in selected postsecondary education programs at Title IV eligible schools in the district. The intent is to provide guidelines and procedures for the delivery of services to students in accordance to federal, state and district policies and procedures; however, it is not all-inclusive since regulations and processes are continuously being revised and updated. It also serves as a guide to establish uniformity and consistency for M-DCPS school sites through the provision of financial aid services to students enrolled in eligible Career Technical Education (CTE) programs. Components of this handbook can also be accessed at <http://adulted.dadeschools.net>.



CHAPTER I: STUDENT FINANCIAL AID PROGRAM

MISSION

The financial aid programs provided by Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) postsecondary educational centers empower students to obtain a career/technical education that is accessible, innovative and inclusive. We are dedicated to cultivating a community of learners and ensuring that postsecondary educational opportunities are available to all students, regardless of financial need. Our commitment is to provide supportive services and resources to ensure every student can participate in continued learning.

PHILOSOPHY AND INTENT

Miami Dade County Public Schools postsecondary educational centers subscribe to the following:

- The primary purpose of the financial aid program is to provide assistance to eligible students who, without such aid, would be unable to attend school.
- Financial assistance includes Federal Financial Aid (Federal Pell Grant and Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG), District Financial Aid Program (DFAP), Tuition Exemption, and scholarships which may be offered to students in a single form or in various combinations, called packaging.
- Financial assistance is meant to supplement the efforts of the student and/or the student's family. Both the student and the student's family are expected to make a maximum effort to assist with postsecondary educational expenses. This is referred to as the Student Aid Index (SAI).
- In determining the amount of other available resources, the financial aid program shall take into account the financial support expected from income, assets, and other resources available to students and/or their parents/guardians. All factors affecting the family's financial strength shall be considered, including other dependents, debts, and/or monetary obligations.
- The total amount of financial assistance offered to eligible students shall be limited to educational costs which are greater than all other available resources.



CHAPTER II: POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND RESOURCES

The following are policies, procedures, processes and links to websites that provide technical assistance and resources for Financial Aid Officers (FAOs), administrators, and school site personnel assigned to provide financial aid services to students. They comprise guidance, definitions and information related to the administration and processing of financial aid.

ACADEMIC YEAR

For financial aid purposes, the academic year is 900 clock hours and 36 weeks in length. These hours commence on the student's first day of attendance in an eligible Career & Technical Education (CTE) program. The academic year is used to calculate Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) and schedule the disbursement of financial aid funds.

CITIZENSHIP STATUS

To be eligible to receive Federal Student Aid (**FSA**), a student must be:

- A U.S. Citizen or national,
- A U.S. permanent resident or other eligible noncitizen, or
- A citizen of the Freely Associated States: The Federated State of Micronesia, the Republic of Palau, and the Marshall Islands. These students can only receive aid from select FSA programs.

To determine whether applicants are citizens, all applications are matched with social security records. If there is a complete match with the student's social security number, name, date of birth, and U.S. citizenship; the FPS will determine the student to be a citizen. The FASFA Submission Summary (FSS) and Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR) will have a match flag (but no comment) indicating that the student's status has been confirmed.

If the applicant is a non-citizen and provides an alien registration number (**ARN** or A-number) on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (**FAFSA**), the ED will submit the records to the Department of Homeland Security, in order to check and verify noncitizen current immigration status.

A student's citizenship status will only need to be checked once during the award year. If the status determination is eligible to receive the Pell Grant at the time, it remains so for the rest of the award year. For additional information on citizenship status and regulations, please review Volume 1, Chapter 2 of the FSA Handbook which may be accessed at FSA Partner Connect: [Federal Student Aid Handbook | Knowledge Center](#).

CLERY ACT DISCLOSURE SECURITY POLICY

Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Section 485(f) of the HEA, Title 34 C.F.R 668) is a federal statute requiring Title IV schools to comply with the following requirements:

- Collect, classify, maintain and count crime reports and crime statistics
- Issue timely warnings and emergency notifications to students and employees



CHAPTER II: POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND RESOURCES

- Publish an annual security report with both statistics and policy statements to include compliance with the Violence Against Women Act
- Submit annual crime statistics to the United States Department of Education (ED).
- In situations with campus police or security, departments must maintain a daily crime log
- School crime statistics will be provided by Miami-Dade Schools Police Department (MDPD).
- All Higher Education Act (HEA) Title IV eligible schools must have their crime statistics posted on the schools' websites and ensure reports are available to students, employees, and the community

COMMON ORIGINATION & DISBURSEMENT SYSTEM (COD)

The Common Origination & Disbursement (COD) system is the ED system for processing all award and disbursement data for participants who are awarded Pell Grants. It is a tool for processing and viewing Pell Grants, and includes tools for troubleshooting problems and creating resolutions to problems. The COD allows users to track the funding levels, dates, and amounts of all cash receipts and returns of cash. It provides users the ability to view Pell Grants and provides a report request function to assist schools in reconciling data between their institutions and the COD system, both throughout the processing year and in year-end closeout requirements. The COD website can be accessed at <https://cod.ed.gov>.

CONSTITUTION AND CITIZENSHIP DAY

Pursuant to The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005, "each educational institution that receives federal funds for a fiscal year shall hold an educational program to commemorate the United States Constitution on September 17th of such year for the students served by the educational institution." Constitution Day shall be held on September 17th of each year, commemorating the September 17, 1787, signing of the Constitution. However, when September 17th falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, Constitution Day shall be held during the preceding or following week.

CONSUMER INFORMATION

The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §668.41-49 requires postsecondary institutions to make certain information available to prospective and enrolled students/parents, prospective and current employees, the general public, and the U.S. Department of Education (ED). Consumer disclosures shall be posted on the school's website and will include, at minimum, the following information. The list below is not all-inclusive:

- Institutional and financial assistance information for students
- Clery Act/campus security statistics.
- Code of Student Conduct
- Constitutional and Citizenship Day
- Drug and alcohol prevention policy
- Gainful employment
- Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)



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Additional information on the consumer disclosure mandate may be obtained from Chapter 6 of the Federal Student Aid Handbook and which may be accessed at FSA Partner Connect: [Federal Student Aid Handbook | Knowledge Center](#).

COPYRIGHT

All technical colleges adhere to Miami-Dade County School Board Policy 2531 - Copyrighted Works, in compliance with copyright laws and fair use guidelines. Students are reminded that a copyright is the legal protection of intellectual property that is provided for by the laws of the United States to the owners of copyright. Types of works that are covered by copyright law include, but are not limited to, literary, dramatic, musical, artistic, pictorial, graphic, film and multimedia works. Many people understand that printed works such as books and magazine articles are covered by copyright laws. However, they may not be aware that copyright protection extends to software, digital works, and unpublished works and it covers all forms of a work, including its digital transmission and subsequent use. Any unauthorized distribution of copyrighted material, including unauthorized peer-to-peer file sharing, is subject to civil and criminal liabilities. For more information regarding copyright expectations and penalties please visit the U. S. Copyright Office website at <https://www.copyright.gov/>.

COST OF ATTENDANCE – (COA)

The Cost of Attendance (COA) is an estimate of the costs of attending a Title IV eligible school. It includes an estimated total amount that it will cost to attend the technical college each year, including tuition and fees, allowances for books, supplies, equipment, transportation and if applicable, dependent care. It may also include other expenses such as an allowance for the rental or purchase of a personal computer, living expenses, costs related to a disability, or costs for eligible study-abroad program. For updated information on COA, please visit: <https://www.careerinayear.com/financialaid/cost-of-attendance/>

2025-2026 Miami-Dade County Public Schools Cost of Attendance Matrix

MDCPS		
Proposed 12-month full-time enrollment		
In State	Student Living Independently	Student Living with Parent
Tuition & Fees	\$3,215.00	\$3,215.00
Housing/Food	\$30,496.00	\$18,925.00
Books/Supplies	\$600.00	\$600.00
Other	\$5,500.00	\$5,500.00
Total	\$39,811.00	\$28,240.00



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MDCPS		
Proposed 900 clock hour/36 week student budget Based on full-time enrollment		
In State	Student Living Independently	Student Living with Parent
Tuition & Fees	\$2,475.00	\$2,475.00
Housing/Food	\$22,917.00	\$14,239.00
Books/Supplies	\$450.00	\$450.00
Other	\$4,125.00	\$4,125.00
Total	\$29,967.00	\$21,289.00

DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES ACT

The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989 and the Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988 require that all schools and institutions of higher education adopt and implement a program to prevent the illicit use of drugs and/or the abuse of alcohol by students and/or employees on school property. Under the auspices of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, Postsecondary institutions must adhere to federal, state, and local laws; as well as regulations governing illegal drugs and the abuse of drugs and/or alcohol.

The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989 require an annual distribution of the following information in writing to each employee and student (regardless of the length of the student's program of study):

- Standards of conduct that clearly prohibit the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees on its property or as part of any of its activities;
- A description of applicable legal sanctions under Federal, State and local laws;
- A description of the health risks associated with illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol;
- A description of available drug or alcohol counseling, treatment, or rehabilitation or reentry program; and
- A statement of the disciplinary sanctions that the institution will impose on students and/or employees.

EDCONNECT

Edconnect 8.6.1 is a Windows-based File Transfer Protocol (**FTP**) program that enables users to send and receive Federal Student Aid (**FSA**) information electronically. Users collect data on their PCs or computer systems and transmit the collected data in batches over the Student Aid Internet Gateway (**SAIG**) using Edconnect. The appropriate Title IV Application System receives the data, processes the data, performs any required data base cross-referencing, and returns the processed data to the user's SAIG mailbox, where it is downloaded to the user's PC or system with Edconnect. Additional information and technical information guides may accessed at FSA Partner Connect: Edconnect | Library | Knowledge Center.



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EDEXPRESS FOR WINDOWS

EdExpress 2025-26 is a financial aid management software package for Title IV financial aid administrators and officers provided by the ED. EdExpress enables users to manage Title IV financial aid application data, package awards, and exchange origination and disbursement data with the Common Origination and Disbursement (**COD**) System for the Pell Grant Program. Additional information and technical reference guides may be accessed at FSA Partner Connect: [EdExpress 2025-26 , Release 2.0 Software Full Download | Knowledge Center.](#)

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

In order for students to be eligible to receive financial assistance from federal, state or district financial aid programs, they must:

- Apply for admission and submit documentation as required by the selected school program
- Receive notification of admittance
- Not be the recipient of Title IV financial aid from another institution
- Be enrolled as a student in an eligible program
- Complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (**FAFSA**).
 - The FASFA must be completed for each year of enrollment. The application may be accessed at [FAFSA® Application | Federal Student Aid](#);
- Have a verifiable financial need based upon the FASFA Submission Summary (**FSS**) or the Institutional Student Information Report (**ISIR**) in relation to the institutional cost of attendance
- Provide proof of citizenship eligibility with status of one of the following:
 - A U.S. Citizen or national
 - A U.S. permanent resident or other eligible noncitizen; or
 - A citizen of the Freely Associated States: the Federated State of Micronesia and the Republic of Palau and the Marshall Islands. These students can only receive aid from selected FSA programs.

Please visit [FAFSA® Application | Federal Student Aid](#) for additional information on eligibility criteria.

Additional considerations of student eligibility:

In addition to the requirements above, students must:

- maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (**SAP**) in accordance with school policy and procedures. SAP is based on grades and pace of program completion. Students must complete their program within 150% of the length of the total scheduled hours for the program
- not be in default on a Federal Perkins Loan or any loans under the Federal Family of Educational Loan Programs (**FFELP**) made available through M-DCPS or other institutions, OR have made satisfactory arrangements to repay a defaulted loan, and must not have borrowed in excess of the loan limits under any Title IV program



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- not owe refunds on a Federal Pell Grant, or any other Title IV grant
- have a signed Statement of Educational Purpose indicating that they will use the money only for expenses related to attending school. This is mandatory for Federal Pell Grant recipients (See Appendix 1)
- hold a high school diploma or GED® diploma. A diploma can be from a foreign school if it is officially verified as equivalent to a U.S. high school diploma. The high school diploma must be recognized by the Department of Education of the state from which it was issued
 - A state certificate is acceptable if received by a student after the student has passed a state authorized examination that the state recognizes as the equivalent of a high school diploma as required by Chapter 34 CFR §600.2
- not be enrolled in any high school completion program
- not hold a bachelor's degree or higher
- comply with attendance policies, safety regulations, and the Postsecondary Code of Conduct

ENROLLMENT STATUS

For the purpose of the financial aid program:

1. Full-time enrollment status is 24 or more clock hours per week
2. Three-quarter time enrollment status is 16-23 clock hours per week
3. Half-time enrollment status is at minimum 12 to 15 clock hours per week
4. Less than half-time enrollment status is less than 11 clock hours per week

FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid or **FAFSA** is used by the U.S Department of Education to collect information and determine an applicant's Student Aid Index (**SAI**) by conducting a "needs analysis" based on the applicant's personal information. The SAI is used to determine an applicant's eligibility for federal grants and loans. Other agencies, such as states and schools, may use the information to award other types of aid. Students can download a copy of their FASFA information to make informed decisions about finances and assets at [FAFSA® Application | Federal Student Aid](#).

FASFA PROCESSING SYSTEM (FPS)

Applicant eligibility for federal student aid is determined when the applicant's Free Application for Federal Student Aid (**FAFSA®**) is successfully submitted and processed. All schools must be able to exchange data with the FAFSA Processing System (**FPS**). Schools must be able to receive Institutional Student Information Records (**ISIR**) from FPS, submit corrections to ISIR data to FPS, and add the federal school code to a student's record if needed.



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FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)

Policies and procedures concerning the privacy of student records are governed by the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-380). FERPA sets limits on the disclosure of personally identifiable information from school records and defines the rights of students to review and request changes to educational records.

FEDERAL PELL LIFETIME ELIGIBILITY USED (LEU)

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public Law 112-74) established regulations relative to Federal Pell Lifetime Eligibility. This law significantly impacted the Federal Pell Grant Program. Effective July 1, 2012, students are limited to 600% of Federal Pell Grant eligibility during their lifetime. This change affects all students, regardless of when or where they received their first Federal Pell Grant. Students who have received 600% Federal Pell Grant as of 2011-2012 will no longer be eligible to receive a Federal Pell Grant beginning with the Fall 2012 semester and thereafter. Students may view their FSA history by logging on to <https://sa.ed.gov/cas/CASWeb/pages/Authentication.faces>.

FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS AVAILABLE AT SELECTED SCHOOLS

District Financial Aid Program (DFAP)

- This District Financial Aid Program (**DFAP**) is a need-based grant available only at select schools. To be eligible, students must complete a FAFSA and be enrolled in an approved career/technical program.
- Students must meet Florida Residency Requirements.
- Students must complete an application each term: FM-6498 DFAP/Fee Waiver Application.
- Awards are determined by the school and are based upon need and availability of funds. Please refer to School Board Policy 2450-Adult, Postsecondary, Career and Community Education (See Appendix 17).
- Awards may vary and may not exceed tuition. Funds are not applicable toward materials, ID fees, textbooks or supplies. book
- Students must follow the attendance and academic guidelines established by the school.
- Students receiving DFAP funds who do not maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (**SAP**) will be denied approval for future awards. Students who fail a class while receiving funds from DFAP or Fee Waiver will not receive this assistance to repeat the course.
- DFAP is not awarded to students taking CTE classes strictly for personal or hobby use. (See Appendix 3).

Federal Pell Grant Program

Pell grants are federally funded grants awarded by the U.S. Department of Education (ED) to students who demonstrate financial need. The Pell Grant is available to students who enroll in an eligible Title IV program and who meet all other requirements set forth by the ED. Applications for FSA may be accessed online at: [FAFSA® Application | Federal Student Aid](https://fafsa.ed.gov/).



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Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)

The Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant is a federally funded grant program awarded to eligible students receiving federal financial aid who demonstrate financial need. Awards are calculated by school's Financial Aid Office and are determined by need and availability of federal funds. Students must complete an error free FAFSA each year to be considered for this aid. Not all schools participate in this program.

Fee Waiver Program

The Fee Waiver Program is a District grant that is awarded to eligible students based on need.

- Students must complete the FM-6498 DFAP/Fee Waiver Application for each term.
- Students must meet Florida Residency Requirements.
- Students who are receiving other sources of financial aid that cover the full cost of Tuition and Fees will not be eligible for a fee waiver for that trimester.
- Awards are determined by the school and are based upon need and availability of funds. Please refer to School Board Policy 2450-Adult, Postsecondary, Career and Community Education (See Appendix 17). id
- Awards vary and may not exceed tuition. Funds are not applicable toward materials, ID fees, textbooks or supplies.
- Students must follow the attendance and academic guidelines established by the school.
- Satisfactory Academic Progress (**SAP**) must be maintained for students to be eligible to receive a fee waiver.
- Students who fail a class while receiving funds from DFAP or Fee Waiver are not eligible to receive this assistance to repeat the course.
- Fee Waivers are not issued to students taking CTE classes strictly for personal or hobby use. (See Appendix 3).

CareerSource South Florida (CSSF)

CareerSource South Florida is a federally funded agency that provides training vouchers to unemployed and economically disadvantaged students. Vouchers cover tuition, books, and materials and ID fees. Students are referred to a participating CareerSource South Florida Center where they may complete the necessary application. Students must also complete a FAFSA. This program is coordinated through the Department of Labor and Employment Security. Information can be found at <http://www.careersourcesfl.com/>.

G5

G5 is used to draw down Title IV funds as well as to make returns of excess cash electronically. The site provides continuous reporting capability for an institution's funding by program and year. This site also assists with Return to Title IV (**R2T4**) and the reconciliation of funds for award years. The G5 website may be accessed at <https://www.g5.gov/>.

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS- ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

To receive FSA funds, a student must be qualified to study at the postsecondary level. A high school diploma or an equivalent is required. A high school diploma can be from a foreign school if it is officially verified as equivalent to a U.S. high school diploma. An equivalent of a high school diploma, such as a GED® diploma, is acceptable if the diploma is recognized by the Department of Education



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of the state from which it was issued. A state certificate is acceptable if received by a student after the student has passed a state authorized examination that the state recognizes as the equivalent of a high school diploma, in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulation 600.2. Please refer to Dear Colleague Letter GEN-14-06 and Volume 1- Student Eligibility of the Federal Student Aid Handbook that can be accessed at FSA Partner Connect: (See Appendix 19).

Technical colleges have a district office that is responsible for evaluating the validity of a student's high school completion if the institution has reason to believe that the proof of high school completion submitted is not valid or was not obtained from an entity that provides secondary school education. Prospective students must provide original documents.

INSTITUTIONAL STUDENT INFORMATION RECORD (ISIR)

The Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR) contains all information reported on the FAFSA that includes key processing results and National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) financial history. The term ISIR refers to all processed student information records that are sent electronically to institutions by the FAFSA Processing System (FPS). ISIRs are sent to schools through the Electronic Data Exchange (EDE), the ED's electronic service that enables schools to send electronic data and receive resulting processed electronic data from FPS and other Federal Student Aid (FSA) systems. The ISIR and the FAFSA Submission Summary (FSS) contain the same information in different formats. The ISIR Guide can be accessed at the FSA Knowledge Center Website or at FSA Partner Connect.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE POLICY (LOA)

A Leave of Absence (LOA) is a temporary interruption in a student's program of study and should only be requested in emergencies and extenuating circumstances. The student will not incur any additional charges while on approved LOA. LOA will extend the student's contract. Upon return, a new enrollment contract and dates are used to calculate awards.

Acceptable reasons for a leave of absence include, but not limited to: military service, documented medical condition, jury duty, loss of job, family emergency, employment emergency or other reasons which demonstrate the student's circumstance. It is the student's responsibility to request a LOA prior to the leave. A signed and dated leave of absence request be submitted in writing. A written request for a leave of absence shall include the reason for the request, the amount of time being requested and documentation as available. All LOAs must be reviewed and have prior approval by the Financial Aid Officer.

Leaves of absence shall be reasonable in duration, preferably not to exceed 45 calendar days. Technical Colleges highly discourage any requests for an additional leave of absence; however, schools may grant more than one LOA if an unforeseen circumstance arises. The LOA, together with any additional leaves of absence, must not exceed a total of 180 days in any 12-month period. If a student does not return from an approved LOA, the student is treated as a withdrawn student effective to the first day of the leave. A return calculation of Federal Student Aid will be performed.



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Students requesting a leave of absence must:

- Inform their financial aid advisor of their request and discuss financial aid implications, as appropriate
- Submit a written and signed request for leave of absence to include the following information:
 - Beginning and ending dates of the requested leave of absence and
 - Reason for the LOA request, with documentation as available.

Late requests may be considered for approval if they include an explanation of the unforeseen circumstances which prevented an earlier submission of the written request. All students are encouraged to submit requests as soon as possible to allow for sufficient time to review and process the request.

NATIONAL STUDENT LOAN DATA SYSTEM (NSLDS)

NSLDS is the national database of information about student federal student loans and grants. It provides a centralized integrated view of federal loans and grants during their complete life cycle, from aid approval through disbursement, repayment, deferments, delinquency and closure. Information and data for NSLDS are received from various sources. The NSLDS Professional Access web site can be accessed at: [NSLDS: National Student Loan Data System \(ed.gov\)](http://NSLDS: National Student Loan Data System (ed.gov))

NEED ANALYSIS

The process of analyzing a student's financial need, known as "Need Analysis", focuses on determining how much the family reasonably can be expected to contribute towards the student's education. The determination of an applicant's need is achieved by collecting information about the family's income, assets, and living expenses. For the FSA programs, the law specifies a need analysis formula that produces the SAI. The SAI and institution's COA are used to establish the student's need as well as to award grants and campus-based aid. The school may request other documents to determine the need for non-federal aid.

NET PRICE CALCULATOR REQUIREMENT

In accordance with the Higher Education Opportunity Act, each postsecondary institution that participates in Title IV FSA programs must post a net price calculator on its website that uses institutional cost of attendance data to provide estimated net price information to current and prospective students and their families. This calculator allows students to calculate an estimated net price of attendance at an institution, which is defined as the cost of attendance minus grant and scholarship aid. The estimate would be based on what similar students paid in the previous year. The net price calculator is required for all Title IV eligible institutions.

RETURN TO TITLE IV (R2T4)

When a return of Title IV funds is required, both the institution and the student have a responsibility for returning funds. Return to Title IV (**R2T4**) requires that funds, which are not the responsibility of the school to return, be returned by the student. The school may exercise the option to collect any funds from the student that must be returned. The percentage of Title IV Aid earned is determined by dividing the number of clock hours scheduled to have been completed as of the withdrawal date in the payment period, by the total clock hours in the payment period.



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A student who receives Title IV funds and wishes to withdraw at or before 60% of the pay period is required to return a portion of unearned federal financial aid. The student may owe tuition, fees or a repayment of federal funds to the school. The institution will return Title IV funds based on the R2T4 calculations no later than 45 days after a student's withdrawal date. The amount of the return is determined by the Financial Aid Officer (**FAO**). The institution will return the lesser amount of the aid, as compared to the institutional charges, multiplied by the percentage of unearned aid. This amount will be the difference between Title IV Aid due from the school, and the amount of Title IV Aid to be returned. Any federal financial aid that a student is required to repay will be returned to the Department of Education by institution on the student's behalf. If the student did not receive all learned financial aid funds and has completed at least 60% of the payment period, a post-withdrawal disbursement may be due.

All post-withdrawal disbursements are applied to the student's account first. If the R2T4 calculation results in a credit balance on the student's account, the credit balance must be disbursed to the student as soon as possible but no later than 14 days after the calculation of the R2T4.

Title IV funds are returned in the following order:

- Unsubsidized Direct Loans (other than Direct PLUS Loans)
- Subsidized Direct Loans
- Direct PLUS Loans
- Federal Pell Grants
- FSEOG
- TEACH Grants
- Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant

The FAO shall notify the student, in writing, of the revised disbursement after the Return to Title IV Funds calculation is completed. If the student owes unpaid tuition and / or fees, the student is responsible for the full payment due to the institution. Students who do not comply with payment of tuition and fees to the school, will have a financial administrative hold. The student will not be able to enroll in any Miami-Dade County Public Schools until this obligation is satisfied.

STATE OF FLORIDA PROGRAMS – FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (OSFA)

All State programs require a student to meet the Florida residency requirements as defined by the Florida legislature.

Florida Bright Futures Scholarships

The Florida Bright Future Scholarships are academically-based scholarships that include the Academic Top Scholars, Florida Academic Scholars, Florida Medallion Scholars and the Gold Seal Vocational Scholars. Scholarships are awarded to graduating high school seniors. The award amounts are determined by the State of Florida, based on students meeting set requirements. Students must be enrolled for at least 12 hours per week or 180 minimum clock hours per trimester.



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Florida Student Assistance Grant - Career Education

Florida Public Postsecondary Career Education Student Assistance Grant Program (FSAG) Florida Student Assistance Grant (FSAG) Program is a need-based grant program available to Florida residents enrolled in certificate programs of 450 or more clock hours at participating Florida colleges (public community colleges) or career technical centers operated by district school boards. To be eligible, students must be enrolled a minimum of 180 clock hours per term. Each participating institution determines application procedures, deadlines, and student eligibility. Please visit www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org for additional information on State of Florida sponsored programs, grants, and services.

Open Door Grant Program (ODGP)

The Open Door Grant Program (**ODGP**) is a financial aid program for students enrolled at a school district postsecondary technical career center. The program was created to incentivize current and future workers to enroll in career and technical education programs that lead to a credential, certificate, or degree.

Students will need to meet eligibility requirements through the application process established by the participating institution. Applications may be obtained at the financial aid offices of eligible institutions.

The Open Door Grant Program funds may be used to cover the cost of tuition, fees, examination, books and materials. The Florida Department of Education will provide grants to agencies on a firstcome, first-serve basis, with no single agency receiving more than one-quarter of funds.

STUDENT AID INDEX (SAI)

Student Aid Index (**SAI**) is used to determine student eligibility for federal student aid. The amount is calculated based on the financial information provided by the student in the FAFSA application. SAI is reported to the student on the FASFA Submission Summary (**FSS**). Financial Aid Officers subtract the SAI from the student's Cost of Attendance (**COA**) to determine individual need for federal student financial assistance and/or selected district financial aid.

TEXTBOOK INFORMATION

In accordance with consumer information requirements, the U.S. Department of Education requires institutions to disclose the program(s) textbook information electronically or in print to students. The textbook information requirement was added by the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008, and took effect on July 1, 2010. The institution must list the title, ISBN, and verified retail textbook pricing information for both required and recommended materials charged by the school. For further guidance refer to the *Federal Student Aid Handbook, Volume 2, Chapter 6*.

VETERANS' EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS PROGRAM (VA)

Selected schools are approved for veterans training. If a student is a veteran of the United States Armed Forces, he/she may be eligible for veteran educational benefits. Eligibility is determined by the Department of Veterans' Affairs. Applications for educational benefits are available from the school's VA certifying official or online at <http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/>. Veterans are permitted to receive educational benefits only for the length of time approved for their program by the State of Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs.



CHAPTER II: POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND RESOURCES

COMPLAINT / GRIEVANCE PROCESS

During orientation, all students are provided with an electronic copy of the Institutional Catalog and Student Handbook. These documents provide detail procedures for filing informal and formal complaints. An informal grievance is an alleged violation, misunderstanding or misinterpretation of school policy by any member of the student body.

The purpose of this grievance procedure shall be to settle equitably, at the lowest administrative level possible, differences and issues relating to school policy. This procedure does not apply to alleged discrimination on the basis of race, gender, religion or disability, or any other areas protected under federal civil rights legislation. The proceedings shall be kept confidential as may be appropriate at all levels of the procedure. Each grievance level shall be observed and used in proper and progressive order. Exceptions may be made in emergencies.

Level One (Informal Procedures)

The aggrieved person must first discuss their grievance with their immediate supervisor with the objective of resolving the matter informally. It is acknowledged that the teacher is the student's immediate supervisor. The aggrieved person and the supervisor shall confer on the grievance with a view toward arriving at a mutually satisfactory resolution of the complaint. If, as a result of the discussion between the complainant and the supervisor, the matter is not resolved to the satisfaction of the complainant, then the aggrieved shall set forth the grievance in writing within five (5) days to the administrator of Student Services. The information will include:

- The nature of the grievance
- The result of previous discussion
- Dissatisfaction with decisions previously rendered

The administrator of Student Services shall communicate the decision to the aggrieved in writing within three (3) school days of receipt of the written grievance.

Level Two (Formal Procedures)

Formal grievance procedures for students apply to those situations in which students believe themselves to be victims of discrimination based on gender, race, color, religion, ethnic or national origin, political beliefs, marital status, age, sexual orientation, social and family background, linguistic preference, or disability.

These formal complaint procedures also apply to situations in which students believe themselves to be victims of harassment, including sexual harassment.

If the aggrieved student is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance at level one, they may present their grievance to the Director within five (5) school days. The Director and the aggrieved will meet and the aggrieved may have mutually agreed upon representation present. This must be done within five (5) school days after the decision from level two. If the aggrieved person is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance at level two, they may file the grievance in writing to:

Office of Postsecondary Career and Technical Education
Miami-Dade County Public Schools
1450 NE Second Avenue
Miami, Florida 33132



CHAPTER II: POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND RESOURCES

This institution is accredited by the Accrediting Commission of the Council on Occupational Education. Concerns which cannot be resolved with the School and/or District may be referred to

Accrediting Commission of the Council on Occupational Education

7840 Roswell Road
Building 300 – Suite 325
Atlanta, GA 30350
Phone: (770) 396-3898
<https://council.org/>
email: puckettg@council.org



CHAPTER II: POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND RESOURCES

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

The following schools are authorized to offer Federal and District Financial Aid for eligible programs as listed on their Program Participating Agreements (PPAs).

D. A. Dorsey Technical College

Federal School Code – 041646

www.dadorseyttech.edu

305.693.2490

George T. Baker Aviation Technical College

Federal School Code – 030798

www.bakeraviationtechcollege.com

305.871.3143

Lindsey Hopkins Technical College

Federal School Code – 005586

www.lindseyhopkins.edu

305.324.6070

Miami Lakes Educational Center and Technical College

Federal School Code – 016400

www.miamilakes.edu

305.557.1100

Robert Morgan Educational Center and Technical College

Federal School Code- 016919

www.robertmorgantech.net

305.253.9920

South Dade Technical College

Federal School Code – 042092

www.southdadetech.edu

305.247.7839

The English Center

Federal School Code – 035704

www.tecmiami.com

305.445.7731



CHAPTER II: POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND RESOURCES

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Awards will be paid in two to three disbursements during a payment period, representing a percentage of the possible hours and weeks in that academic year. Subsequent payments are contingent upon the maintenance of Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) by the student. If a student does not complete the hours and weeks that have been paid for during the first payment period, the subsequent payment will commence upon completion of previous hours and weeks.

1. Financial aid disbursements are scheduled as students meet requirements in accordance with Chapter 3 of the current Federal Student Aid Handbook and FSA Partner Connect.
2. Payment periods for full-time and part-time programs are scheduled as follows:
 - a. Program payment periods:
 - (1) For programs of 900 hours or more in length, the payment period is 450 hours representing half of the academic year.
 - (2) For programs that are 899 to 600 hours in length, the payment period is half of the program length.
3. The award year is dependent upon the date of the application for financial aid made by a student and the first day of attendance. Multiple disbursements may be made within a single payment period; however, making multiple disbursements within a payment period does not create a new or additional payment period.
4. A student is ineligible when it becomes mathematically impossible for them to complete a program within 150% of the length of the hours scheduled for the program.
5. Disbursements will not be approved unless the student meets the criteria to maintain SAP. For additional information on payments and SAP, please refer to FSA Partner Connect: Payment Periods.

POLICIES AND CONDITIONS CONCERNING FINANCIAL AID AWARDS

1. Awards are contingent upon actual receipt of funds from the federal, state and/or district funding sources.
2. The Financial Aid Office reserves the right to revise or cancel an award at any time because of changes in financial or academic status of students.
3. Students must report to the Financial Aid Office any other financial assistance (scholarships, loans, grants, fee waivers, veterans' benefits, and social security income) not previously reported.
4. Students may register with a deferment based on an expected financial aid award. Deferments must not exceed the financial aid eligibility for the payment period. Students are responsible for the difference between the deferment and the registration costs. Students must approve and sign deferment agreements for tuition, books and supplies (See Appendices 14, 15 and 16). After registration, any money owed will be deducted from the actual award received for the student. Once these deductions have been made, the balance of awards will be disbursed to students.



CHAPTER II: POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND RESOURCES

5. Students must notify the Financial Aid Office immediately of any changes in name, address, marital status, felony drug conviction, or enrollment status with appropriate verification documentation.
6. Financial aid awards are not renewed automatically. A new FAFSA application must be submitted each year. New forms are available each year and can be accessed at [FAFSA® Application | Federal Student Aid](https://fafsa.ed.gov/)
7. Students selected for Verification based on FASFA Submission Summary (FSS) or ISIR indicators must comply with the requested information as specified in this Handbook.
8. Students are notified of disbursement checks via U.S. Mail, email, or by phone. Notification attempts must be documented. Grant checks must be picked up within 21 days of the issue date. If a student does not pick up the check within this timeframe, the institution may credit the student's account in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations 34 CFR §690.78(c), Federal Pell Grant Program. This regulation permits an institution to credit any allowable outstanding charges for the award year incurred by the eligible student. Students are informed of unclaimed checks within 21 days of issuance, and this is documented using the Notice of Unclaimed/Stale Checks (FM-5537). Unclaimed financial aid checks are returned to the funding source, and reissuance of funds is determined on a case-by-case basis.
9. Intentional false statements or misrepresentations on any of the federal financial aid application materials will subject students to a fine or imprisonment, or both, under provisions of federal law.
10. SAP as defined in this handbook must be maintained in order to receive financial aid.
11. Awards are based on continuous enrollment without interruption. If students withdraw from school, awards may become null and void. Students must see the FAO to reactivate the award should they re-enter. The award may then be recalculated.

PRIVATE EDUCATION LOAN APPLICANT SELF-CERTIFICATION FORM

Title IV institutions are required to provide the Loan Self-Certification form, and the information needed to complete the form to an enrolled or admitted applicant (or to the parent of an enrolled or admitted student) upon the applicant's request for a Private Education Loan Self-Certification form. An institution may post an exact copy (pdf) of the Self-Certification form on its website for applicants to download or it may provide a paper copy directly to an applicant through its Financial Aid Office. In accordance with 34CFR §668.14(b) (29) (ii), an institution must, upon the request of the applicant, discuss the availability of federal, state, and institutional financial aid services.



CHAPTER II: POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND RESOURCES

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT (PPA)

A Program Participation Agreement (PPA) is an agreement between the ED and a postsecondary institution that affirms that the institution has been approved to participate in the FSA program. A PPA conditions the initial and continued participation of an eligible institution in any FSA program based on compliance with all applicable regulations and conditions specified in the PPA. An institution's PPA applies to each branch and other location of the institution that meets applicable requirements. Changes to a PPA must be completed by the school and signed by the Director before being submitted for processing to the ED. The programs listed on the PPA will be eligible for Title IV federal financial aid funds in addition to those approved to participate in the Experimental Program initiative.

NATIONAL STUDENT LOAN DATA SYSTEM (NSLDS) - ENROLLMENT STATUS REPORTING

Provisions of the Consolidation Appropriations Act of 2014 (Pub. Law No. 113-76) require that the Federal Department of Education (ED) submit a report to Congress on the enrollment and the graduation information of Federal Pell Grant and Loan recipients. All Title IV schools are required to report the enrollment status of students who are Pell Grant recipients or have received a Title IV subsidized loan.

REFUND POLICY

Adult General Education (Adult High School, ESOL, ABE and GED®) Block Tuition, ID fees, lab fees, AGE test and application fees are non-refundable after class starts unless the course is canceled. Students are eligible for a full refund of Adult, Postsecondary Career and Technical Education tuition, test fees, and insurance fees if withdrawn within 5 days of the beginning of the class start date or the student registration date, whichever is later. The five (5) days shall not apply to CTE courses less than three (3) weeks or ninety (90) hours in duration. In such cases, the request for a withdrawal must be made prior to the course meeting more than two (2) days. A student is entitled to a full refund of fees if a course is canceled by the school Director or designee, provided that the student was not reported for membership during the Workforce Education Fund survey period in which the class was counted. If so, only fees that are in excess of the State requirement shall be refunded.

Refunds, when due, may be made without requiring a request from a student. An application for Refund by Check/Credit (FM-2057, Rev. 02-24) must be forwarded by the school to the student. A completed and approved form will be required for all eligible refunds.

A request for refund must be made within forty-five days of the student's withdrawal date. Students who are withdrawn for disciplinary reasons pursuant to the Adult Student/Postsecondary Code of Conduct are not entitled to a refund of any tuition and fees. Students who paid fees and who were entitled to a waiver, voucher or agency payment, shall be entitled to a refund of paid fees- if evidence of said waiver, voucher or agency payment is presented to the school within fifteen (15) school days from the beginning of the term.



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In cases of unusual or extraordinary circumstances (such as illness, death in the family, etc.) that preclude a student's enrollment, the school Director/designee may honor a request for full or partial refund of fees - provided that the request is made in writing prior to the end of the course and supporting documentation (where appropriate) is provided.

Students who receive FSA (Title IV funds) and who withdraw from their program will receive a refund based on the Federal post-withdrawal calculation formula R2T4. For additional information, contact the Financial Aid office. If student fees are subsidized by an agency and the student withdraws, that agency is eligible for a refund only if student attendance is less than 50 percent of the scheduled hours, and if the request is made in writing.

REPAYMENT POLICY- FEDERAL PELL GRANT STUDENTS

If students withdraw from school before the disbursement date, they may not be eligible to receive the full award for the payment period. In accordance Title 34 §668.22 CFR, the school will only collect monies which the students have charged (deferred) against their Federal Pell Grant for tuition, registration, and program costs. The student shall be responsible for any remaining balance not covered by the Federal Pell Grant award.

STUDENT AID INTERNET GATEWAY (SAIG)

All schools must register with the Student Aid Internet Gateway (**SAIG**) in order to exchange data with various department systems within the U.S. Department of Education. It allows data exchange between schools and the FASFA Processing System (**FPS**), the Common Origination and Disbursement (**COD**) system, and the National Student Loan Data System (**NLSDS**). SAIG access provides institutions with the ability to transmit the annual Fiscal Operations Report and Application to participate in the Federal Campus-Based Programs (**FISAP**) and to provide the Federal Supplemental Opportunity Grant (**FSEOG**) to participating schools. Information on SAIG can be accessed at <https://fsawebenroll.ed.gov/PMEroll/index.jsp>

FASFA STUDENT SUMMARY (FSS)

A FASFA Submission Summary (**FSS**) is a report provided to an applicant by the U.S. Department of Education (**ED**). The FSS includes the applicant's FAFSA information and the amount of his or her Supplemental Aid Index (**SAI**). FSS are paper or electronic documents that are sent to the student or printed directly from FAFSA on the Web. FSS and ISIR contain the same processed student information, presented in a different format. The FASFA Processing System (**FPS**) adds comment codes and text to the student's transaction to provide information to the student and the FAO about the student's FAFSA status. These codes also indicate whether a student is selected for the verification process.

STUDENTS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

Students with intellectual disabilities may be eligible to receive funds from the Pell Grant, FSEOG and Federal Work Study (FWS) programs if they are enrolled in a Comprehensive Transition and Postsecondary Program (CTP) as defined in Section 760 of the Higher Education Act. A CTP program is a degree, certificate, non-degree, or noncertificate program, offered by a college or career school and approved by the U.S. Department of Education. CTP is designed to support students with intellectual disabilities who want to continue their education at a postsecondary institution to prepare for gainful employment.

The school must apply to the ED to have the program judged as eligible. The institution must submit an updated Electronic Application for approval to participate in the Title IV FSA program (eApp).



CHAPTER II: POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND RESOURCES

The application must include a detailed description of the CTP program and must indicate how the program meets all of the regulatory requirements. The institution must also notify its accrediting agency of its CTP program. The CTP program should be included in the self-study that an institution prepares for its next comprehensive reaffirmation. Please refer to the Dear Colleague Letter GEN-11-1, January 2011 and Chapter 1, School Determined Requirements and Volume 1, Student Eligibility and Volume 2, School Eligibility in the FSA Handbook that can be accessed at FSA Partner Connect.

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (SAP)

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) is a required measurement of a student's academic progress towards their academic goal. The Code of Federal Regulations §668.34 requires that schools establish satisfactory progress standards and policy for students applying for and receiving federal aid. Progress is measured using two metric standards: qualitative (grades earned) and quantitative (time/pace of completion). For programs lasting one year or less, SAP must be assessed at the end of each payment period. For programs lasting more than one year, SAP must be assessed annually corresponding with the end of a payment period. SAP must be measured cumulatively.

The Student Academic Report from the Focus SIS billing tab includes information on the student's current Grade Point Average and attendance, as reflected in the district's Students Information System (SIS). SAP regulations require that the Financial Aid Officer (FAO) review all periods of a student's enrollment history to determine if a student is making SAP towards an educational objective. The Student Academic Report from the Focus SIS billing tab must be utilized by the FAOs in order to document and monitor students' progress at the successful completion of 67% of the maximum scheduled hours for which the student is enrolled.

The SAP criteria that are expected from all students are as follows:

- Successfully complete 67% of the maximum scheduled hours for which the student is enrolled.
 - NOTE: The Federal Aviation Administration requires 85% of the maximum scheduled hours for Airframe and Powerplant programs.
- The number of payment periods for which students will be awarded financial aid will be limited by the number of hours required to complete the program:
 - The period of eligibility commences on the date that students enter the program
- **Clock Hour Pace Example:**
 - At 450 scheduled hours, a student completed 300 hours: $300/450 = 67\%*$,
 - Expressed in calendar time, 10 weeks/15 weeks = 67 %
- If this criterion is not met, the student is no longer eligible for financial aid and their award will be canceled.



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Excused Absences in Clock-Hour Programs

In a clock-hour program, the FAO may count a limited number of excused absences when determining whether the student has completed the hours in a payment period. An excused absence may be counted if the hours missed are not required to be recovered for the student to receive the degree or certificate for the program.

Attendance: Excused absences may not exceed 10% of the total for any given payment period.

Counting Excused Absences in Clock-Hour Programs Toward Payment Period Completion

For clock hours to be counted for Title IV purposes, excused absences must be defined in the school's attendance policy. For the determination of completed hours in the payment period, the number of allowable excused absences considered may not exceed the lesser of the following:

- The policy on excused absences of your school's accrediting agency

Note: For schools with more than one accrediting agency, the policy of the agency designated to the ED as the accreditation agency will be used in determining your school's eligibility to participate in the Title IV programs (see the guidance in Volume 2 on "Dual accreditation" for more information) [34 CFR §668.4\(e\)](#); or

- The policy on excused absences of any state agency that licenses your school or otherwise legally authorizes your school to operate in the state; or
- 10% of the clock hours in the payment period.

Example: a student in a 450-clock-hour program has missed 20 clock hours and has only attended 430 clock hours. Following the school attendance policy, the 20 missed clock hours are considered excused, and this student may be paid the next disbursement.

If a student fails to make SAP as reflected on the Satisfactory Academic Progress Report form, a meeting will be held with the student and the FAO. The student will be placed on "Financial Aid Warning" for one payment period. The FAO will closely monitor the student's progress. If the student re-establishes SAP requirements during the warning period, the student may be eligible to continue receiving financial aid.

STUDENT APPEAL PROCESS

If a student fails to achieve SAP while on "financial aid warning", they will become ineligible for a financial aid award. On a case-by-case basis, students may be recommended to appeal in order to be placed on "financial aid probation." In order to request an appeal, students must submit a **Financial Aid Student Appeals form (FM-6863)** obtained from the FAO.



CHAPTER II: POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND RESOURCES

All requests for appeal will be heard by the school's Financial Aid Appeals Committee which will be comprised of an administrator, FAO, guidance counselor, and the respective career/technical department chairperson. The committee shall convene as needed and will carefully review all information and documentation related to the student's appeal. The student must submit information regarding why they failed to make SAP, and what has changed that will allow him/her to demonstrate satisfactory academic progress at the next evaluation.

The committee will render a written decision to the student within 48 hours of the appeal hearing, using the Student Appeals form ([FM-6863](#)). The decisions of the Financial Aid Appeals Committee are final.

If the student's appeal is approved, a meeting will be held with the student and the FAO and the student will then be placed on "Financial Aid Probation" status for one payment period. Students will be entitled to one (1) appeal hearing during the entire length of their program (See Appendix 5). FAOs, guidance counselors and career/technical teachers will work together in order to closely monitor a student's progress while on "financial aid probation" and should the student regain SAP during the next evaluation, he/she will be considered as being in academic compliance and their eligibility will be reinstated.

The student's SAP must be cumulative and not just for the current payment period. If a student does not make SAP while on "financial aid probation", a meeting will be held with the student and the Financial Aid Officer, and the student will be informed that they are ineligible for the payment period following their "unsatisfactory" academic progress report. Students will be financially responsible for their academic expenses until they have successfully reestablished SAP.

Through the consistent and daily use of Student Information System (SIS), FAOs will effectively monitor all students' hours and academic grades in order to make the necessary SAP determinations. Students who transfer from one institution to another will have their hours and grades attempted and earned at the previous school counted towards their SAP within the timeframe of enrollment. If a student withdraws, his/her existing hours and grades attempted and earned upon re-entering will be counted towards their SAP within 150% of the length of the program. Awards will be recalculated when needed, to ensure proper compliance with the SAP policy.

For additional information on SAP, please refer to

<https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/fsahandbook/2024-2025/vol2/ch3-fsa-administrative-and-related-requirements> for Financial Aid Professionals.

TWO FACTOR AUTHENTICATION (TFA)

Two-Factor Authentication (**TFA**) is the security process through which authorized school financial aid personnel are required to enter two forms of "authentication" to access FSA systems. TFA requires each authorized user to log in with a traditional User ID and password as well as provide One-Time Password (OTP) generated by a registered token device that is in the physical possession of the user. All authorized users will be required to log in to the eCampus-Based Website using a TFA token in addition to the FSA user ID and password.



CHAPTER II: POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND RESOURCES

VERIFICATION OF FAFSA INFORMATION

All students who have completed a FAFSA are subject to verification of the information submitted when completing their application. Students are selected by verification by the FAFSA Processing System (**FPS**). **This verification must be completed before the student can receive federal aid.** Verification flags are noted on a student's FAFSA Submission Summary (**FSS**) or the ISIR received by the school. Schools have the authority to contact students for documentation and information needed to address verification requirements and student must comply with the requested information. Students must submit the required documents requested for verification within the established timelines to maintain eligibility for federal financial aid. The verification process is in accordance with Title 34, Articles 668.51-61, of the Code of Federal Regulations (**CFR**).

VERIFICATION OF FLORIDA RESIDENCY

Pursuant to s. 1009.21 F.S., and s. 1009.22 F.S., applicants seeking to enroll in CTE courses with associated tuition fees must show proof of Florida residency. Those who can show proof of Florida residency will be eligible for the in-state tuition fees. Those who do not provide proof of residency will be charged out-of-state fees for career and technical education programs only. Florida residency, for tuition purposes, is defined as documented proof that a student has lived or resided in the State of Florida for twelve (12) consecutive months. This does not refer to other definitions of residency established by other entities, including the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (**USCIS**).



CHAPTER III: FINANCIAL AID OFFICE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

The financial aid offices housed in M-DCPS postsecondary educational centers were established to coordinate all services and sources of financial assistance offered to eligible students.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

1. In accordance with established procedures, all students applying for financial aid must submit appropriate application forms to the Financial Aid Office and complete other required processes, as applicable. Federal financial aid will be processed when the Financial Aid Office receives a valid ISIR/FSS and all other required documents.
2. All awards for financial aid shall be administered through the Financial Aid Office, depending upon the availability of funds.
3. Eligible students will be given consideration for all programs administered by the Financial Aid Office. Aid packages may consist of one or more grants in any combination that, in alignment with federal, state and local guidelines, most appropriately meets students' needs.
4. M-DCPS postsecondary educational centers will not discriminate in the awarding of financial aid. The centers must adhere to laws under the Title VI Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Title IX Protection Act, the Privacy Act of 1974, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Discrimination Act. For more information, please refer to the [M-DCPS Anti-Discrimination Policy](#).
5. Designated program progress reports for adult students must be completed by instructors for all students receiving federal financial aid and must be submitted to the FAO. All attended hours for PELL (financial aid) students must be posted weekly in the electronic gradebook. This process is required for monitoring SAP for students receiving financial aid. These reports may also be provided to community-based organizations as authorized.
6. The financial aid committee members, as assigned by each postsecondary educational center, will serve as an appeals board for students. Committee members should include a school administrator, FAO, a guidance counselor and faculty member.
7. The Federal Grant Disbursement Authorization form ([FM-6854](#)) is to be prepared by the Financial Aid Office and transmitted to the Business Office to prepare for the disbursement of Pell Grant funds (See Appendix 11).



CHAPTER III: FINANCIAL AID OFFICE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

RECORDS AND FILE MAINTENANCE

1. Accurate records and files must be maintained to support the eligibility criteria of each student who has received financial assistance to ensure compliance with federal, state, and district policies and procedures.
2. It is highly recommended that the Financial Aid Office develop and maintain a "checklist" of documents and forms needed to verify and support the financial aid awarded to students. These files will also be required for audit and program reviews (See appendices 20 and 21).
3. Individual student master files are maintained by the Financial Aid Office for each student receiving assistance. These records must contain all approved forms and valid documents that reflect the type and amount of assistance provided and received by student.
4. The Financial Aid Office serves as an information clearinghouse for detailed and summary data reports regarding student aid programs.
5. All records of financial assistance are to be retained for five years following submission of the fiscal operations reports and must be maintained in fireproof file cabinets that are locked in a secure area.
6. All school personnel with access to student financial records and files must be cleared and approved by the school Director.

ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL TRANSACTION FILES AND HANDBOOKS

All postsecondary educational centers maintain accounting files, financial aid manuals, and ledgers which are easily accessible. These documents and materials shall include, but are not limited to:

1. Manuals/documents and handbooks
 - a. Accounting records, ledgers and logs, of funds for student financial aid programs supported by federal, state, and district funding.
 - b. Compilation of Student Aid Regulations, Title 34 Code of Federal Regulations (**CFR**).
 - c. FSA publications that can be accessed at [Home | Federal Student Aid](#)
 - d. Dear Colleague Letters that can be accessed at FSA Knowledge Center: [Dear Colleague Letters | Library | Knowledge Center](#)
 - e. The Federal Student Aid Handbook for Financial Aid Professionals.
 - f. Access to ISIR/FSS and Verification Guidelines.
 - g. The M-DCPS Financial Aid Handbook and School Board Policy 2450.
 - h. The M-DCPS [Postsecondary Code of Student Conduct](#)
 - i. M-DCPS campus crime statistics published by the M-DCPS School Police available via the internet or hard copies in compliance with Clery Act mandates.
2. Files, forms, reports and audits
 - a. Program Participation Agreements (**PPA**) (past and present) to include the following:
 - Letters of eligibility,
 - All materials and applications used to establish eligibility,



CHAPTER III: FINANCIAL AID OFFICE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

- Signed letter from ED certifying eligibility,
- Primary Destination Point Administrators signed documents and
- Eligibility and Certification Approval Report.

- b. Notification of tentative and final funding levels as well as any appeals notification (kept on a per-award-year basis)
- c. Pell Grant Disbursement Acknowledgment List (completed electronically)
- d. Student budgets (kept on a yearly basis)
- e. Any audit reports and responses
- f. A master list of all students receiving aid on an award-year basis and the award amounts according to funding source
- g. Individual student files (active and inactive)
- h. Fiscal Operations Report/Application for Funds (FISAP) and all related information which is to be filed by fiscal year if applicable.
- i. NSLDS enrollment status reports
- j. Evidence of reconciliation of Title IV award years

FISCAL REPORTING AND IPEDS – ROLE OF FINANCIAL AID OFFICER

1. Within seven (7) days of disbursement, the FAO prepares the Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) for submission to ED. This report identifies individual Federal Pell Grant student payments for a specific payment period with projected future payments for the remainder of the award year.
2. Annually prepares FISAP for submission no later than October 1st to ED. that serves as the application for schools that participate in the FSEOG program.
3. Assists with preparing appropriate sections of the Integrated Postsecondary Educational Data System (IPEDS) survey related to financial aid.
4. Works with the Business Office to ensure the Reconciliation of Pell Grant funds provided to the school. This is a mandatory function to ensure Title IV funds are accounted for and reconciled against funds received and disbursed.
5. As required by Title 34, §668.15 and §668.16, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), all Title IV schools must adhere to the separation of functions and operations of the Financial Aid Office and the Business Office. The functions of authorizing payments and disbursing of funds are separated to ensure that no single office or individual exercises both functions for students receiving financial aid funds.
6. The duties of staff in the Financial Aid Office and the Business Office must be clearly divided in each school in order to maintain a system of check balances.



CHAPTER III: FINANCIAL AID OFFICE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

STUDENT FILES, FORMS AND DOCUMENTS

Student file folders must include required forms, documents, and evidence of financial need to support the request and approval of financial assistance. A menu of items has been provided that can be used to develop a file folder checklist, depending upon the financial aid services provided by the school (See Appendix 19). The following are the basic requirements for student folders.

1. Checklist, developed and maintained by the FAO, identifying all of the documents and forms needed to process a student's financial aid application for the eligible programs and services offered by the schools (See Appendix 20.)
2. The Postsecondary Educational Center Financial Aid Application ([FM-5467](#)) obtained at the time of initial application (See Appendix 7). This application form is not mandatory for students applying for Federal Pell Grant Title IV programs unless the school requires the applicant to complete the form. However, it is highly recommended for the purpose of maintaining current information, and for ensuring that information is consistent among various documents. This form is required for students applying for DFAP/Fee Waivers and other school based financial aid services.
3. An accurate Institutional Student Information Report ([ISIR](#)) or FASFA Submission Summary ([FSS](#)).
4. COD-Pell History Lifetime Eligibility Used History.
5. Statement of Educational Purpose (including a default/refund statement) (See Appendix 1).
6. Verification Review Sheets if selected, and appropriate copies in accordance with the *Application and Verification Guide* (See Appendix 21).
7. Award(s) notification(s) issued from various organizations as well as from those issued by the postsecondary education center.
8. High school diploma – or GED® or official transcript from a state-recognized institution.
9. Return to Title IV ([R2T4](#)) work sheets, if applicable.
10. Evidence of SAP for every disbursement period.



CHAPTER III: FINANCIAL AID OFFICE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

PROFESSIONAL JUDGEMENT

The Financial Aid Office may, on a case-by-case basis, adjust one or more of the data elements used to calculate the Student Aid Index (**SAI**). The FAO may need to adjust the data elements during the award year to reflect a student's change of circumstances. For example, if a wage-earning parent dies after the student's first payment period, the FAO could adjust the adjusted gross income in the SAI to reflect the loss of income. In order for the FAO to consider such circumstances, students must provide, in writing, a detailed account of the incident, and produce documentation to substantiate the claim. **All decisions of the FAO are final.**

Examples of appropriate forms of documentation include the following:

- Medical expenses - medical bills, doctors' statements, and cancelled checks
- Death of household member - obituary clipping from the newspaper and/or a death certificate.
- Change in income - check stub, tax return, and W-2 forms
- Separation/divorce - copies of court documents and legal papers
- Marriage - copy of a marriage license
- Birth - hospital bills and a birth certificate
- Wage determination and unemployment forms
- Unaccompanied youth

VERIFICATION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Postsecondary educational centers adhere to the following verification principles:

1. The institution must ensure that financial aid funds are awarded to eligible students in a legal and consistent manner.
2. In order to qualify for federal financial aid funds, applicants must meet the standards established for verification. Family-reported information must be within a reasonable tolerance range in accordance with the current application and Chapter 4 of Federal Financial Aid Handbook that can be accessed at FSA Partner Connect.
3. Institutional policies, outlining required forms and procedures that are to be used to fulfill verification standards, are made available to applicants for financial aid.
4. Verification procedures must be uniformly applied to all federal financial aid programs. The institution will verify all applicants selected by ED or the institution. Transfer students will be required to re-verify their information.



CHAPTER III: FINANCIAL AID OFFICE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

A. Verification/Documentation

1. For applicants selected through ED, the institution will verify the required items specified in the current FAFSA application and complete the appropriate worksheet based on the verification status of the student.
2. The institution will document and work to resolve application discrepancies for all applicants.
3. The FAO will enter a verification status code (V,W,S or blank) code in the COD system for all students who receive Pell grants, regardless of whether they are selected for verification or not.

B. Applicant's Responsibility

1. Applicants who are selected for verification by the U.S. Department of Education or by the postsecondary institution are required to provide information as requested or documentation as per current [Federal Student Aid Handbook Application and Verification Guide](#), in order to be eligible to receive Title IV student aid funds. The Financial Aid Office reserves the right to request additional documentation, as needed, to complete the verification process. Any additional documents/information will be identified by the FAO on the Missing Information Request Form, ([FM-6848](#)) (See Appendix 6).
2. If an applicant's dependency status has changed during the award year or if the original applications were filed incorrectly, the applicant must file a corrected form reflecting the corrected status, unless the correction is from a change in marital status.
 - a. Filling out dependency status: [Dependency Status | Federal Student Aid](#)
 3. Selected applicants must certify and/or update the household size and number of family members in postsecondary education to reflect accurate data as of the date of verification

C. Time Period Limitations

1. Failure to provide documentation or information within 20 business days will result in the following:
 - a. The institution shall not disburse any federal grants for applicants who fail to provide requested documentation within the required time frame.
 - b. The institution may accept requested documentation after the specified time period and award aid to such applicants once the verification has been completed.

D. Tolerances

1. For the Federal Pell Grant Program, the institution will not recalculate an applicant's SAI. Applicants may resubmit their FSS/ISIR if information changes as a result of verification. The institution may input the changes electronically with the appropriate documentation signed by the student.



CHAPTER III: FINANCIAL AID OFFICE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

2. For all Pell financial aid applicants, the institution will have students resubmit the FSS/ISIR if there are any errors. Calculation will be performed by the ED. The institution may input the changes electronically only with the appropriate documentation signed by the student.

E. Notification

1. The institution will inform applicants of verification procedures and requirements through written and/or verbal communication.

2. The institution will notify applicants of the results of the verification through written and/or verbal communication.

3. For the Federal Pell Grant Program, the institution will notify students if a dollar error in their application information would increase their Federal Pell Grant awards. The institution may pay on the student's original FSS/ISIR and should encourage students to resubmit it. The institution may input the changes electronically with the appropriate documentation signed by the student.

F. Discrepancy Resolution

After the institution has made a reasonable effort to resolve any discrepancies that results in the applicant receiving funds on inaccurate or miscalculated information, the institution will notify the ED accordingly.

5. Verification Items

The following documentation must be provided to fulfill the verification process. Documents include but are not limited to:

- Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)
- Education credits
- Untaxed IRA distributions
- Tax-exempt interest
- IRA deductions and payments
- Income earned from work
- Other untaxed income
- U.S. Income tax paid
- Household size
- Number in College
- High school completion status
- Identity/Statement of Educational Purpose

The verification process will be considered complete when a student has successfully submitted all requested verification documentation within the required twenty (20) business day timeline. A meeting will be held with the student and FAO at submission in order to review and confirm that all of the proper and required verification documents have been provided. Follow-up meetings will be held with the student and the FAO in order to notify students if their SAI or financial aid amounts change, to discuss the procedures for correcting FAFSA data, to request any additional documentation which may be needed to complete verification, and to review the results of the verification process.



CHAPTER III: FINANCIAL AID OFFICE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

Not submitting the necessary and required verification documentation to the FAO within the established timeline may result in the forfeiture of their Pell Grant for the award year and the student must return any Pell funds already received for the year. The Financial Aid Office reserves the right to require students to submit other information and supplemental documentation when deemed necessary in order to complete the verification process.

6. Fraud – mandatory reporting

Title 34 §668.16 (g) CFR, Standards of Administrative Capability, requires an institution to refer any credible information indicating that an applicant for Title IV FSA may have engaged in fraud or other criminal misconduct to the Department's Office of Inspector General (**OIG**). Fraud is defined as the intent to deceive as opposed to a mistake. Any suspicion of intent to commit fraud on the part of a student must be reported to the OIG by telephoning 1-800-MISUSED. Additional information on the verification process may be found on Chapter 4 of the FSA Handbook that can be accessed at [FSA Partner Connect](#).

7. High School Diploma

To be eligible to receive FSA funds, an applicant must have a valid high school diploma or an equivalent. An Official transcript must be submitted. Foreign/international diplomas must be officially verified as an equivalent to a U.S. high school diploma. State issued, Department of Education GED® diplomas are also accepted.

Private high school and home school diplomas are evaluated by the school counselor and FAO for approval.

Original and legible documents must be submitted with the financial aid application. Presenting falsified or fraudulent documents will result in denial of admission and possible criminal prosecution.

PACKAGING POLICIES

Packaging refers to evaluating the financial need of a student and awarding aid in an equitable and consistent manner.

1. Financial need is calculated according to the center's budget minus family/student contributions. After estimated needs are established, the FAO should look at all available aid resources relative to student's needs. The FAO will also take into account any aid received from other sources and subtract this from the need.

2. The Financial Aid Office will attempt to meet student needs, depending upon available resources.

Aid packages are built in the following sequence until financial needs are met:

- Florida Student Assistant Grant (**FSAG**)
- Federal Pell Grant
- Federal Supplemental Opportunity Grant (**FSEOG**)
- District Financial Aid Program (**DFAP**)



CHAPTER III: FINANCIAL AID OFFICE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

Examples of allowable packaging that include discretionary disbursement based upon financial need are

- DFAP
- Pell Grant
- Pell Grant and FSEOG
- Pell Grant, FSEOG, and DFAP
- Pell Grant, Homeless Waivers, and FSEOG
- Pell Grant, FSEOG
- Open Door Grant Program – (**ODGP**)
- Florida Student Aid Grant-CE (**FSAG**) Program

Packaging may also include industry sponsored scholarships and vouchers from various agencies.

STUDENT PROGRAM CHANGES

Students may change programs within a related field and still be eligible to receive financial aid as long as they maintain all other eligibility requirements. For each program change, students will establish a new timeframe for completion of the new program, taking into consideration the hours completed in the previous program if the hours are applicable to the new program. A change to a different program area will result in funds being returned to Title IV (R2T4). Students are limited to one program change without completing the original program.

FINANCIAL AID COMMITTEE AND RESPONSIBILITY

Committee members are assigned by the Director of each institution. The committee's responsibility is to make decisions on appeals for those students who fail to maintain satisfactory academic progress.



CHAPTER III: FINANCIAL AID OFFICE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

FEDERAL PELL GRANT DISBURSEMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

All financial aid applicants may apply for this grant. This federally funded grant is available to all eligible students who demonstrate financial need and who enroll in an eligible certificate program of at least 600 hours. The award amount is determined through the federal formula. The FAFSA can be accessed at FASFA.

1. The following procedures must be followed when completing an application:

- Complete the FAFSA form.
- Complete M-DCPS "Postsecondary Institution/Area Technical Center Financial Aid Application, (FM-5467) if requested by school (See Appendix 7).
- Submit an error free ISIR or FSS to the Financial Aid Office.
- Complete and submit verification documentation as indicated on the FSS or ISIR provided to the school, if applicable.
- Provide additional verification information upon request.

2. In order for students to be eligible and receive financial assistance from federal, state or district financial aid programs, they must:

- Apply for admission, submit documentation required by the school, and receive notification of admittance to the desired program.
- Not be receiving Title IV Financial Aid concurrently from another institution.
- Be enrolled as a regular student in an eligible program.
- Complete an error-free FAFSA.
- Have verifiable financial need based upon the FSS/ISIR in relation to the institution's cost of attendance.
- Be one of the following to receive FSA:
 - U. S. citizen
 - U. S. national (includes natives of American Samoa or Swains Island)
 - U. S. permanent resident who has an I-151, I-551, or I-551C (Permanent Resident card)
 - Please visit www.studentaid.ed.gov for additional information on eligibility criteria.
- Need to maintain SAP in accordance with school policy.
- Not be in default on a federal Perkins loan or any loans under the Federal Family of Educational Loan Programs (FFELP) made available through M-DCPS or other institutions, or have made satisfactory arrangements to repay a defaulted loan, and must not have borrowed in excess of the 150% subsidized loan limits under any Title IV program.
- Not owe refunds on a Federal Pell Grant, or any other Title IV grant.
- Have a signed Statement of Educational Purpose stating that they will use the money only for expenses related to attending school.
- Hold a high school diploma or GED® diploma. A diploma can be from a foreign school if is officially verified as equivalent to U.S. high school diploma. The high school diploma must be from a State recognized secondary institution (See Appendix 19).
- Not be enrolled in any high school completion program or hold a bachelor's degree or higher.
- Comply with attendance policies, safety regulations, and the Code of Conduct for Postsecondary Students.



CHAPTER III: FINANCIAL AID OFFICE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

3. Award amounts are based on the following criteria:

- Students' SAI index as indicated in the ISIR,
- Actual costs of attendance,
- Number of clock hours enrolled, and
- The total number of clock hours to be completed in the program.

4. Processing Procedures

- a. Students receive the FASFA Submission Summary (FSS) from the ED.
- b. Students must assist in obtaining the following information for submission to the Financial Aid Office:
 - All verification documents reflected on the FSS/ISIR if necessary;
 - Completed Postsecondary Institution/Area Technical Center Financial Aid Application form ([FM-5467](#)) (See **Appendix 7**),
 - Provide additional verification documentation, if needed.
- c. The Financial Aid Office will
 - Review students' files and check the Student Information System (SIS) to determine if they are renewal students or have other financial aid information on file.
 - Prepare a file for new students;
 - Obtain student signatures on the input document for the initial FAFSA application or for a correction if either is submitted electronically by the school;
 - Assist students in correcting misinformation on the Information Review form, Part II of the ISIR, and resubmit if necessary;
 - Prepare the Financial Aid Award Letters ([FM-5471](#)) (See Appendix 8);
 - Cross-reference documents in student files to ensure that required forms are enclosed and the information provided appears reasonable and consistent. If information is incomplete, unreasonable, and/or inconsistent, additional information must be requested from students;
 - Verify selected files in accordance with current ED regulations;
 - Calculate the award based upon the current year's ED regulations by using the Federal Pell Grant Payment Worksheet (FM-7034) (See Appendix 9); and
 - Review students' records to determine eligibility for other types of school based financial aid programs.

5. Disbursement Procedures – Role of Business Office

Disbursements are payments of funds to students. These payments will be made directly to students in the form of a check prepared by the Institution's Business Office. Prior to disbursement, the Automatic Clearing House/ Electronic Funds Transfer (ACH/EFT) Payment Request Record ([FM-6826](#)) is completed by the FAO with the required information, including the amount of funds needed (See Appendix 10). The request is submitted electronically using ED G6 website. ED confirms the request



CHAPTER III: FINANCIAL AID OFFICE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

with a control number. Within three working days after the request is made, funds should be available at the institution's bank in the federal funds account.

- a) Disbursements will be made at a minimum of two times within an award year.
- b) The students will be paid retroactively for any hour completed during a previous payment period (within the same award year) for which students were eligible for payment.
- c) Prior to any disbursement, the following must be completed for all students:
 - a. Check and verify that students have maintained SAP.
 - b. Review the progress for each student for the required attendance and academic progress;
 - c. Determine award amount for that payment period; and
 - d. The Financial Aid Office will process the award, complete the "Federal Grant Disbursement Authorization" ([FM-6854](#)), and transmit it to the Business Office (**See Appendix 11**). Students will then be notified;
 - e. Before the grants are disbursed, the disbursement form is checked against school records to identify other aid received;
 - f. Valid Florida photo ID and/or current school photo ID must be shown and verified when picking up and signing for checks; and
 - g. When the overage check becomes void, the institution will return the remaining funds to the appropriate Title IV account.



CHAPTER IV: FEDERAL STUDENT AID

FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY GRANT (FSEOG)

The Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) is a federally funded grant awarded to students who demonstrate exceptional financial need. Awards are determined by FAO of participating postsecondary institutions. FSEOG annual awards range from \$50.00 to \$1,000.00. All Federal Pell Grant applicants are considered for this grant based upon eligibility and availability of funds. For additional information access <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/fseog>

1. Application procedures and eligibility requirements follow those of the Federal Pell Grant.
2. Selection Criteria:
 - a) Students must have an accurate FSS or ISIR;
 - b) Awards will be made to students with the lowest SAI;
 - c) From the eligible list of recipients, first priority will be granted to full-time students who are enrolled at the time of awarding; and
 - d) Maximum FSEOG awards will be determined annually according to the funds available at each center.
3. Processing Procedures - To determine FSEOG awards, the Financial Aid Office will:
 - a) Review the FSS/ISIR
 - b) Determine eligibility
 - c) Prepare award letters to be sent to students
 - d) Prepare the "Federal Grant Disbursement Authorization" and forward it to the Business Office
 - e) Review academic progress for continued eligibility at the end of the payment period
4. Disbursement Procedures: Disbursement Procedures for FSEOG will be the same as the Federal Pell Grant.

BUSINESS AND ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE PROCEDURES

The primary role of the Business Office in regard to federal or other financial aid is the disbursement of funds as authorized by the Financial Aid Office.*

* For the purpose of this document, Business Office refers to the following personnel: Business Manager, Treasurer or Cashier. Individual functions of these persons will be determined at the discretion of the Director or his/her designee.



CHAPTER IV: FEDERAL STUDENT AID

PROGRAM ASSESSMENT "SYSTEM OF CHECKS AND BALANCES"

The institution must ensure that the Financial Aid Office is adequately staffed with qualified personnel to carry out the functions outlined in this handbook. The institution must also ensure that their administrative procedures for its financial aid program include an adequate system of internal checks and balances.

This system separates the functions of authorizing payments and disbursing or delivering funds so that no one person or office exercises both functions for any student receiving FSA funds. Small schools are not exempt from this requirement, even though they may have limited staff. Individuals working in either authorization or disbursement may perform other functions as well but not both authorization and disbursement.

DEPARTMENTAL AUDITS AND PROGRAM REVIEWS

Audits and program reviews are conducted to measure the efficiency and effectiveness of the operation of the financial aid program and to determine compliance with federal and state regulations in addition to the District's Manual of Internal Funds Accounting. Please refer to Chapter 2, Program Integrity of the FSA Handbook that can be accessed at FSA Partner Connect: [Federal Student Aid Handbook | Knowledge Center](#).

1. Non-Federal Audits

a. Federal regulations require the school to audit, or have audited under its direction, all Federal Pell Grant, FSEOG, FWSP, and DFAP transactions to determine the fiscal integrity of financial transactions and reports and to assure that such transactions are in compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

b. Annual audits will be performed in accordance with the appropriate ED Audit Guide. For newly established financial aid programs, the M-DCPS, Office of the Controller should be provided information required for the Single Audit Report from the postsecondary educational center. Audit reports are submitted to the Regional Office of the Inspector General.

2. Federal Program Reviews – The ED periodically conducts reviews of federal student financial assistance programs. During a program review, activities related to student financial aid programs are examined for compliance with federal, state, and institutional policies, procedures, and regulations as well as for compliance with acceptable fiscal management practices.

GRANT DISBURSEMENT

The Financial Aid Office forwards the Federal Grant Disbursement Authorization ([FM-6854](#)) to the Business Office. This document provides the names of students, student ID #'s, and the dollar amounts that each student is entitled to receive for that disbursement period.



CHAPTER IV: FEDERAL STUDENT AID

The Business Office must review the disbursement authorization to determine total funds needed. The available cash on hand is subtracted from the total funds needed for the current disbursement to determine the additional funds that will be requested.

Postsecondary educational institutions that participate in the FSEOG program must determine the matching portion for this grant in accordance with federal guidelines.

The Automatic Clearing House/Electronic Funds Transfer (ACH/EFT) Payment Request Record (FM- 6826) (See Appendix 10) is completed by the FAO, who requests the amount of funds needed. The request is submitted electronically using ED's G5 website. ED confirms the request with a control number. Within three working days after the request is made, funds should be available in the federal funds account at the institution's bank.

Refer to FSA Partner Connect: Federal Student Aid Handbook | Knowledge Center for additional information and overview on cash management regulations and the G5 system can be found at <https://fsapartners.ed.gov/help-center/access-to-fsa-systems>.

Prior to disbursement, the availability of funds must be verified with the bank. The Business Office then verifies enrollment of the students through FOCUS and prints the schedule screen.

The Business Office then records the following information on the Federal Grant Disbursement Authorization form (FM-6854) (See Appendix 11):

1. Student ID
2. Student Name
3. Pell / FSEOG disbursements
4. Tuition and fees assessed through FOCUS
5. Books/Supplies/Other items
6. Credit Balance: remaining funds to be issued to students.
7. Check numbers: after writing checks, the Financial Aid Office notifies students when checks are available for pick-up
8. Signature of student
9. Date: upon presentation of a valid Florida photo ID from the students, record the date of the checks issued

Following the check disbursement, a copy of the completed Federal Grant Disbursement Authorization form is returned to the Financial Aid Office. The Business Office advises the Financial Aid Office of any checks that were not picked up by students. **Attempts to contact students who do not pick up grant checks must be documented.**



CHAPTER IV: FEDERAL STUDENT AID

FISCAL REPORT RESPONSIBILITY

1. Complete a monthly Bank Reconciliation ([FM-5208](#)) (See Appendix 12) of the Federal Funds Account. Submit the reconciliation, along with monthly financial reports for Internal Fund to the district office in accordance with district requirements.
2. Submit a fiscal end-of-year summary of transactions for the Federal Funds Account along with the end-of-year Monthly Financial Report, Financial Aid Accounts ([FM-6926](#)) (See Appendix 13) and Bank Reconciliation ([FM-5208](#)) to the District Office.
3. Verify the FISAP application financial data needed by the financial aid office.

FINANCIAL AID DISBURSEMENT RECORD

The Business Office maintains the following records for each student receiving Federal Financial Aid:

1. Original check requisitions and copies of the Federal Grant Disbursement Authorizations are filed numerically by check requisition.
2. Copies of the check requisitions and copies of the Federal Grant Disbursement Authorizations with Book Authorizations ([FM-4013](#)) (See Appendix 14), Tuition Deferments (FM-5419) (See Appendix 15) and Books and Supplies Deferment FM-6809 (See Appendix 16), class schedules, tuition payment. (i.e.: cash agency charge) miscellaneous charges, Withholding Authorization Form (FM-5423) (See Appendix 17) and any other supporting documentation for authorized charges filed alphabetically by student.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE RESPONSIBILITY

Directors or designees are responsible for signing financial aid checks and reviewing, approving, and submitting financial aid documents to ED and district offices in a timely manner.

Prior to signing financial aid checks, Directors or designees must:

1. Confirm the availability of the financial aid funds in the federal bank account as indicated on The School's G5 Payment Request Authorization.
2. Compare the Federal Grant Disbursement Authorization figures with the dollar check amount for recipients of financial aid.

The following reports should also be reviewed by Directors or designees:

1. Monthly reports
 - a. Monthly Bank Reconciliation (FM-5208), noting if the federal bank account balance reconciles or agrees with the Monthly Financial Report, Financial Aid Accounts ([FM-6926](#)).
 - b. Monthly Financial Report, Financial Aid Accounts ([FM-6926](#)) which provides a summary of monthly expenditures and receipts in the federal bank account that must agree with the ending figures on the Bank Reconciliation ([FM-5208](#)).



CHAPTER IV: FEDERAL STUDENT AID

2. Annual reports

- a. Review the Summary of Transactions to ensure there is a match with total disbursements and receipts on the federal ledger cards.
- b. Review FISAP expenditures to assure there is a match with total disbursements on the ledger cards and that interest earned in excess of \$250 is returned to ED at the end of the school year.
- c. Submit three originals of the fiscal end-of-year summary of transactions for the Federal Funds Account, end-of-year Monthly Financial Report, Financial Aid Accounts ([FM-6926](#)) and Bank Reconciliation ([FM-5208](#)) to the District Office.

DESTINATION POINT ADMINISTRATOR

The Business Manager or designee must have review access as a Destination Point Administrators to verify the funds that are being drawn down for the school. The school's Primary Point Destination administrator must provide access to G5.

RECONCILIATION OF FINANCIAL RECORDS

The Business Office must work closely with the Financial Aid Office to conduct mandatory reconciliation of federal aid funds by award years which is a fiduciary responsibility for Title IV eligible schools. Reconciliation is a process in which financial records are compared and discrepancies are resolved.

Funding cancellation occurs 5 years after the end of the award year. Ex: (Pell 2025-2026 funding will cancel effective September 30, 2031 {5 year cycle}). Schools must fully reconcile to \$0 balance. No further disbursement or adjustment data reported to COD and no funds are available from G5 for the award year. Most schools should be able to reconcile and complete processing well before closeout deadlines. The reconciliation process should be conducted monthly. Refer to Chapter 5 of the Federal Student Aid Handbook for additional information. Handbooks may be accessed at [FSA Partner Connect](#).



ACRONYMS USED IN THE FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID HANDBOOK

Abbreviation	Full name
ACH/EFT	Automatic Clearing House/Electronic Funds Transfer
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
COA	Cost of Attendance
COD	Common Origination and Disbursement System
CSSF	Career Source South Florida
FPS	FASFA Processing System
DFAP	District Financial Aid Program
DOE	Department of Education
ED	United States Department of Education
FAO	Financial Aid Officer
FAFSA	Free Application for Federal Student Aid
FERPA	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
FISAP	Fiscal Operations Report/Application for Funds
FOCUS	FOCUS School Software: Student Information System (SIS)
FSA	Federal Student Aid
FSAG	Florida Public Postsecondary Career Education Student Assistance Grant Program
FSEOG	Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant
FSS	FASFA Submission Summary
FWSP	Federal Work Study Program
GAPS	Grant Administration and Payments System
GE	Gainful Employment
GED [®]	General Educational Development
HEA	Higher Education Act of 1965
ISIR	Institutional Student Information Report
IPEDS	Integrated Postsecondary Educational Data
LEU	Lifetime Eligibility Used
M-DCPS	Miami-Dade County Public Schools
NASFAA	National Association of Student Financial Aid Administration
NSLDS	National Student Loan Data System
ODGP	Open Door Grant Program
OIG	Office of Inspector General
OSFA	Office of Student Financial Assistance
PPA	Program Participation Agreement
PGDA	Pell Grant Disbursement Authorization
PGOA	Pell Grant Origination Authorization
R2T4	Return to Title IV
SAI	Student Aid Index
SAIG	Student Aid Internet Gateway
SAP	Satisfactory Academic Progress
TFA	Two Factor Authentications
VA	Veteran Educational Benefits Program
VTS	Vocational Tracking System
WIA	Workforce Investment Act



TECHNICAL RESOURCES AND WEBSITES

Please feel free to visit the following websites for additional information on federal, state and district financial aid program policies and procedures and related services:

College Navigator: <http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator>

Common Origination and Disbursement System (COD): <https://cod.ed.gov>

FASFA Processing System (FPS): <https://fsawebenroll.ed.gov>

Federal School Codes: <https://fsapartners.ed.gov/sites/default/files/2024-07/2425FedSchoolCodeListQ4.pdf>

Federal Student Aid (FSA) Download-Software and Manuals: <https://fsadownload.ed.gov/index.htm>

Federal Student Aid Handbook: <https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/fsa-handbook>

Financial Aid Tool Kit: <https://financialaidtoolkit.ed.gov/tk/>

Florida Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators FASFAA: [Home Page \(fasfaa.org\)](http://fasfaa.org)

Florida College Access Network: <http://floridacollegeaccess.org/>

Florida Department of Education Office of Student Financial Assistance: www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/

FSA Knowledge Center: <https://fsapartners.ed.gov/home/>

G5: <https://g5.ed.gov/sign-in>

Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS): <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds>

Knowledge Center (formerly IFAP): <https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center>

M-DCPS Adult and Community Education: <http://adulted.dadeschools.net>

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) <http://www.dadeschools.net>

National Center for Education Statistics: <https://nces.ed.gov/>

National Student Loan Data System: <https://nsldsfp.ed.gov/login>

Publications: <https://fsapartners.ed.gov/home/>

Student Aid Internet Gateway: <https://fsawebenroll.ed.gov>

U.S. Department of Education: <http://www.ed.gov/>

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: <http://www.benefits.va.gov/>

U.S. Department of Education website for federal student aid: <https://studentaid.gov/>

Veteran Affairs Education and Training: <http://www.gibill.va.gov/>



APPENDICES WITH LINKS

APPENDIX 1

FM-5415 – Identity and Statement of Educational Purpose

APPENDIX 2

FM-6827 – Registration Information You Are required To Know

APPENDIX 3

FM-6498 – District Financial Aid Program (DFAP)/Fee Waiver Application

APPENDIX 4

FM-5431 – Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Report

APPENDIX 5

FM-6863 – Financial Aid Student Appeals Form

APPENDIX 6

FM-6848 – Missing Information and Additional Documentation Request Form

APPENDIX 7

FM-5467 – M-DCPS Financial Aid Application

APPENDIX 8

FM-5471 – Financial Aid Offer

APPENDIX 9

FM-7034 – Federal Pell Grant Payment Worksheet

APPENDIX 10

FM-6826 – ACH/EFT Payment Requested Record

APPENDIX 11

FM-6854 – Federal Grant Disbursement Authorization

APPENDIX 12

FM-5208 – Bank Reconciliation

APPENDIX 13

FM-6926 – Monthly Financial Report – Financial Aid Accounts

APPENDIX 14

FM-4013 – Authorization for Charge of Books and Supplies

APPENDIX 15

FM-5419 – Tuition Deferment

APPENDIX 16

FM-6809 – Books and Supplies Deferment

APPENDIX 17

FM-5423 – Withholding Authorization Form

APPENDIX 18

School Board Policy- 2450

APPENDIX 19

Financial Aid Student Folder Checklist

APPENDIX 20

Student Financial Aid and File Checklist- Sample

APPENDIX 21

Student Verification Checklist- Sample



APPENDIX 1



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of Postsecondary Career and Technical Education

Eligibility for Federal Financial Aid

Identity and Statement of Educational Purpose

(To be signed at the Institution)

The student must appear in person at _____ to

(Name of Postsecondary Educational Institution) verify

his or her identity by presenting a valid government-issued photo identification (ID), such as, but not limited to a driver's license, other state-issued ID, or passport. The institution will maintain a copy of the student's photo ID that is annotated with the date it was received and the name of the official at the institution authorized to collect the student's ID.

In addition, the student must sign, in the presence of the institutional official, the following:

Statement of Educational Purpose

I certify that I, _____ am the individual signing this
(Print Student's Name)

Statement of Educational Purpose and that the federal student financial assistance I may receive will only be used for educational purposes and to pay the cost of attending

_____ for the _____ school year.

(Name of Postsecondary Educational Institution)

(Student's Signature)

(Date)

(Student ID Number)

FM-5415 Rev. (08-22)



APPENDIX 2



Clear Form

**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Office of Postsecondary Career and Technical Education

Registration Information You are Required to Know

- ✓ In order to determine aid eligibility all required documentation must be submitted to the Financial Aid Office in a timely manner.
- ✓ All necessary/required documents must be received before any/all tuition deferments are issued.
- ✓ Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) must be maintained at the point of review, which is at the completion of the 1st payment period in the financial aid academic year, in order to be eligible to receive financial aid for the subsequent payment period.
- ✓ As a student you have received the financial aid packet at the time of applying for financial aid and know that you are accountable to be familiar with the information. The SAP policy is detailed for both the qualitative and quantitative measurements and you must be aware that this is a key component in which financial aid eligibility is determined.
- ✓ Should you fail SAP during the payment period being reviewed, due to mitigating circumstances, you are entitled to one (1) successful appeal during your vocational training.
- ✓ Your Pell Grant Award is based on YOUR clock hours completed. All hours previously paid must be completed before your next payment period begins.
- ✓ It is the responsibility of all **CAREER SOURCE SOUTH FLORIDA** and Vocational Rehabilitation clients to notify their respective agency of any/all grant money received.
- ✓ All tuition and fees owed to this post-secondary institution shall be satisfied prior to any financial aid award checks being issued to the student.
- ✓ Students will be notified when all financial aid award checks are available and must present valid Florida ID when picking up & signing for checks.
- ✓ Awards are issued at least once per payment period.
- ✓ You must notify the Financial Aid Office, if you are withdrawing from a program or making any changes to your schedule.
- ✓ Post withdrawal Disbursements and Return of Title IV funds will be calculated at the time that withdrawal has been determined. The return of federal funds or tuition not satisfied by the post withdrawal award will become the responsibility of the student. Arrangements must be made to satisfy any balance.

I have read and I understand all the above information outlining my responsibilities for receiving financial aid.

Students Signature _____

Date _____



APPENDIX 3





APPENDIX 4

1/21/26, 8:22 AM

Student Academic Report

Select Student/Staff ▾ Student Academic Report

Setup Students Users Scheduling Grades Assessment Attendance Billing Florida Reports Reports

Search Screen Simple List **Customized List** Customize Student List

Student:

Export Filter: OFF Toggle Columns

Student Name	Student ID	GPA	Program	Maximum Timeframe	Program Hours Attended	Program Hours Scheduled	Program % Attended	Course Hours Scheduled	Course %	Course	Grade Level	Grade	Estimated G	
		3.43	Medical Assisting NEW	1950	1310:25	1545:00	84.82%	91:30	125:00	73.2%	ADMIN OFF - ADMIN OFF PROCEDURES	31	97% A	Completed
								124:15	285:00	43.6%	CLINASSI - CLINICAL ASSISTING	31	92% A	Completed
								108:00	285:00	37.89%	CLINASSI - CLINICAL ASSISTING	31	92% A	Completed
								77:15	105:00	73.57%	Ekg Aide - EKG Aide, MA	31	Not Graded	Completed
								90:00	105:00	100%	INTRO TO MEDICAL CARE WORK	31	85% B	Completed
								265:00	265:00	100%	INTRODUCTORY - INTRO TO MED ASSIST	31	Not Graded	Completed
								69:00	85:00	81.18%	LAB PRO - LABORATORY PROCEDURE	31	Not Graded	Completed
								151:10	220:00	68.71%	LAB PRO - LABORATORY PROCEDURE	31	99% A	Completed
								55:00	75:00	73.33%	MEDOPRO - MEDICAL OFFICE PROC	31	Not Graded	Completed
								20:00	75:00	26.67%	MEDOPRO - MEDICAL OFFICE PROC	31	Not Graded	Completed
								89:30	100:00	89.5%	PHARM/MED - PHARM/MEDICAL ASSIST	31	89% B	Completed
								75:00	75:00	100%	Phlebo - Phlebotomist, MA	31	Not Graded	Completed
								50:00	120:00	41.67%	PRACEXPIE - PRACTICUM EXPERIENCE	31	100% A	2026-02-18
								55:00	120:00	45.83%	PRACEXPIE - PRACTICUM EXPERIENCE	31	100% A	Completed



Help Logout



APPENDIX 5



Miami-Dade County Public Schools
School Operations-Adult and Community Education

FINANCIAL AID STUDENT APPEALS FORM

Academic Year _____-_____

Date: _____

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Student ID: _____ Program of Study: _____

Reason for Appeal:
(Please provide any documentation that will support your statement)

Approved: Denied:

FM-6863 Rev. (09-22)



APPENDIX 5 - PAGE 2



Miami-Dade County Public Schools
School Operations-Adult and Community Education

Financial Aid Committee
STUDENT APPEALS FORM

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Program of Study: _____ Hours Attended: _____

Hours Enrolled: _____ Percentage: _____

Name, Title	Approved	Denied	Date
-------------	----------	--------	------

1. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
----------	--------------------------	--------------------------	-------

2. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
----------	--------------------------	--------------------------	-------

3. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
----------	--------------------------	--------------------------	-------

4. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
----------	--------------------------	--------------------------	-------

5. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
----------	--------------------------	--------------------------	-------

Approved: Denied:



APPENDIX 6



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FINANCIAL AID OFFICE
MISSING INFORMATION/ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION
REQUEST FORM

[Clear Form](#)

Date _____

Name _____ Student ID _____

Dear Applicant:

We are processing your financial assistance for the _____ award year. However, we cannot complete processing until the items checked below are completed and submitted to our office. All letters from a third person must be notarized.

	Financial Aid Application (FM-5467)
	Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
	Copy of mother's Federal (IRS) tax return Transcript for _____
	Copy of father's Federal (IRS) tax return Transcript for _____
	Copy of student's Federal (IRS) tax return Transcript for _____
	Copy of spouse's Federal (IRS) tax return Transcript for _____
	Statement of non-filing form _____ for _____
	Student Aid Report (SAR) (all 3 parts)
	Copy of Alien Registration Card (I-151) or (1-551) or (1-94)
	Completed and signed Federal Verification Worksheet
	Other: _____ _____ _____ _____

Financial Aid Office Representative's Signature: _____

I understand that failure to submit the requested documentation within 20 business days will result in the cancellation of any financial aid deferment, and that I will have to pay the subsequent balance. This may also result in the loss of financial aid eligibility for the award year.

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please Return to:

<input type="checkbox"/> George T. Baker Aviation Technical College 3275 NW 42 Avenue Miami, Florida 33142	<input type="checkbox"/> D. A. Dorsey Technical College 7100 NW 17th Avenue Miami, Florida 33147	<input type="checkbox"/> The English Center 3501 SW 28 Street Miami, Florida 33133
---	--	--

<input type="checkbox"/> Lindsey Hopkins Technical College 750 NW 20 Street Miami, Florida 33127	<input type="checkbox"/> Miami Lakes Educational Ctr. and Technical College 5780 NW 158 Street Miami Lakes, Florida 33014	<input type="checkbox"/> Robert Morgan Educational Ctr. and Technical College 18180 SW 122 Avenue Miami, Florida 33177
<input type="checkbox"/> South Dade Technical College 28300 SW 152nd Avenue Homestead, Florida 33033	FM-6848 Rev. (09-23)	



APPENDIX 7 PAGE 1


MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 School Operations - Adult and Community Education
FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION
[Clear Form](#)**INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANTS:**

1. Answer every question.
2. Type or print legibly in ink.
3. Sign on the reverse side.
4. Return the completed form to the financial aid office.

Specify the center you plan to attend.

D. A. Dorsey Technical College
 The English Center
 G. T. Baker Aviation Technical College
 Lindsey Hopkins Technical College
 Miami Lakes Educational Center and Technical College
 Robert Morgan Educational Center and Technical College
 South Dade Technical College

PERSONAL DATA:

Name _____

Last Four (4) Digits of SS # _____ Student ID: _____

Last _____ First _____ M.I. _____
Permanent Address _____
Street _____Date of birth _____ / _____ / _____
M D Y Sex: M or F

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Place of birth _____

Telephone No. (_____) _____

City _____ State _____ Country _____
Alternative phone number: (_____) _____

Email Address: _____

U.S. citizen? Yes No
If No, are you a permanent resident?
Yes No Where will you reside during the academic year?
with parents _____ other _____Are you a veteran?
Yes No

Race: White, Non-Hispanic
 Black, Non-Hispanic
 Hispanic
 Asian American/Pacific Islander
 American Indian/Alaskan Native
 Multiracial

Do you have a high school diploma or G.E.D?
Yes No

Marital Status: _____ No. of dependents _____

Do you have a bachelor's or equivalent degree or
higher? (including foreign)
Yes No

Ages of dependents _____

Name of high school attended _____

Spouse's name _____

Which certificate of study program will you enter?
_____Is spouse a student? Yes No

Expected starting date (month/year) _____

If Yes, where? _____

FINANCIAL DATA:

When do you anticipate enrolling for program:

Have you ever received a student loan?
Yes No

(Fall Trimester)
 (Winter Trimester)
 (Spring/Summer Trimester)

Yes No Have you received aid from any of the area technical
centers in Miami-Dade County in prior years?If Yes, who was (were) your bank lender(s)?
_____Yes No

If Yes, indicate center name: _____

FM-5467 Rev. (08-24)



APPENDIX 7 PAGE 2

All colleges, universities, or area technical centers previously attended must be listed here. Do not include high school dual enrollment, military schools, or international schools. If no schools were attended, indicate with N/A.

Name of School	City	State	Attended From	Attended To	Degree Received

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT ON REFUNDS, DEFAULT, AND EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE

I certify that I do not owe a refund on any grant or loan, am not in default on any loan, have made satisfactory arrangements to repay any defaulted loan, and have not borrowed in excess of the loan limits, under Title IV programs, at any institution. I will use all Title IV money received only for expenses related to my study at: _____

I declare that information reported in this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and I am aware that this information may be subject to independent verification by this center. I am also aware that I cannot use my Pell Grant at two schools at the same time. Dual Enrollment using PELL is not permitted.

Signature

Student ID No.

Date



APPENDIX 8 PAGE 1

  Clear Form

**Miami-Dade County Public Schools
School Operations**

Financial Aid Offer

Name: _____ Student ID: _____

Dear Student:

We are pleased to offer you the financial aid listed for the _____ academic year.

AWARD NAME	DISBURSEMENTS						TOTAL
	First Period		Second Period		Third Period		
	Hours: _____	Weeks: _____	Hours: _____	Weeks: _____	Hours: _____	Weeks: _____	
1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th		
Federal Pell Grant							
FSEOG							
FSAGCE							
Other:							
Other:							
Other:							

Each of these offers is contingent upon you maintaining Satisfactory Academic Progress in your program and continuous enrollment. We reserve the right to revise your offer due to changes in your financial status, enrollment status, changes in regulations, or availability of funds.

Financial Aid Officer's Signature: _____ Date: _____

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have received information regarding the satisfactory progress requirements for financial aid.

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Page 1 of 3

FM-5471 Rev. (07-24)



APPENDIX 8 - PAGE 2

FINANCIAL AID STANDARDS OF ACADEMIC PROGRESS

M-DCPS Technical Colleges, in conjunction with Federal regulations, have established the following Standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress which must be met to receive financial aid.

A. To make Satisfactory Academic Progress a student must:

1. Receive a satisfactory Progress Report of a minimum grade C at the evaluation period (qualitative measurements).
2. Complete 67% of the maximum scheduled hours for which the student was enrolled. Adjustments to this requirement may be applicable for students with verified disabilities (quantitative measurements).
3. Satisfactory progress will be evaluated at the end of the first payment period and prior to subsequent payment periods if applicable.

B. If a student fails to make satisfactory progress at the evaluation point, he/she will not be eligible for the payment period following "Unsatisfactory" Academic Progress report. The student is then financially obligated for expenses incurred until eligibility is reestablished. If the student attains satisfactory progress during the next evaluation, financial aid will be reestablished.

C. Time Frame

Program = 900 Hours

Maximum Time Frame = 900 Hours x 1.50 = 1,350 Hours

SAP = 67% of Maximum Scheduled Hours

A student who exceeds the maximum hours of eligibility will be considered as not making satisfactory progress and will no longer be eligible for financial aid for that program.

D. Appeals of Satisfactory Progress

If a student is notified of cancellation of his/her financial aid offer, he/she has the opportunity to appeal such action. The appeal should be in writing and should include the following documents:

1. Letter from student describing mitigating circumstances.
2. Physician's note and/or records if the appeals are based on medical reasons.
3. Any additional supporting documents.

The decision of the committee is final. The student will receive written notification of decisions. Reinstatement of financial aid after appeals are denied can be achieved if the student, attends a trimester without financial assistance and maintains satisfactory progress for that payment period. The student may be granted only one appeal for the length of their program.

If a student fails to make Satisfactory Academic Progress as reflected on the Satisfactory Academic Progress Report form, a meeting will be held with the student and the Financial Aid Officer. The student will be placed on "Financial Aid Warning" for one payment period. The Financial Aid Officer will closely monitor the student's progress. The student is eligible to continue receiving financial aid.

Excused Absences: Absences may not exceed 10% of the total hours for any given payment period.

COST OF ATTENDANCE

The cost of attendance (COA) is an estimate of the costs of attending a Title IV eligible school. It is the total amount it will cost you to go to the technical college each year. The COA includes tuition and fees, allowances for books, supplies, equipment, transportation, and, if applicable, dependent care. It can also include other expenses like an allowance for the rental or purchase of a personal computer, living expenses, costs related to a disability, or costs for eligible study-abroad programs.

The following is the _____ Miami-Dade County Public Schools Cost of Attendance Matrix:

MDCPS 900 clock hours/36-week student budget based on full-time enrollment.		
In State	Student Living Independently	Student Living with Parent
Tuition & Fees	\$2,475.00	\$2,475.00
Housing/Food	\$22,917.00	\$14,239.00
Books/Supplies	\$450.00	\$450.00
other	\$4,125.00	\$4,125.00
Total	\$29,967.00	\$21,289.00



APPENDIX 8 - PAGE 3

PAYMENTS

Awards will be disbursed in two to three disbursements during a payment period representing a % of the possible hours and weeks in that academic year. Subsequent payments are contingent upon the maintenance of Satisfactory Academic Progress by the student. Furthermore, if a student does not complete the hours and weeks paid for during the first payment period, his/her subsequent payments will commence upon completion of previous hours and weeks. Checks will be held for 21 days after the last day of the student's enrollment for the award year. Any checks not picked up by that date may be voided.



APPENDIX 9 - PAGE 1



Clear Form

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL OPERATIONS
FEDERAL PELL GRANT PAYMENT WORKSHEET

Name: _____

Total Length of Program In Hours: _____

Student ID #: _____

Length of Academic Year In Hours: _____

Program Name: _____

First Day Of Class: _____

Other Dependents: (Y/N): _____

		AWARD YEAR	AWARD YEAR	AWARD YEAR
1. Cost of Attendance (COA)	1.			
a. Before continuing this form, check box to confirm that COA was verified on EdExpress <input type="checkbox"/>	1a.			
2. STUDENT AID INDEX (SAI)	2.			
a. Total hours paid in prior Award Year (AY)	2a.			
b. Previous hours attended/not eligible	2b.			
c. Eligible hours to be paid	2c.			
3. Scheduled Award full-time Annual Award taken from Pell Payment Schedule	3.			
a. For programs of at least one year in total length, the schedule award equals the annual award.	3a.			
b. For programs less than one year, the Annual Award must be prorated as follows: Annual Award <u>Weeks of full time instructional program</u> <u>Weeks of instructional time in academic year</u> \$ <u> </u> X <u> </u> = <u> </u>	3b.			

SUMMARY	AWARD	AWARD	AWARD YEAR	TOTAL
TOTAL AMOUNT PAID				
TOTAL HOURS TO BE COMPLETED				
NOTES:				



APPENDIX 9 - PAGE 2



APPENDIX 10

[Clear Form](#)**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS****Office of Adult and Community Education**

Automatic Clearing House/Electronic Funds Transfer (ACH/EFT) to be completed by Financial Aid Officer and sent to Business Manager/Designee to verify funds to be disbursed for Federal Financial Aid.

ACH/EFT PAYMENT REQUEST RECORD
(G6 Hotline 1-888-336-8930)

LINE 1	DISBURSEMENT TOTAL	\$ _____ (WHOLE DOLLARS ONLY)
LINE 2	CASH ON HAND	\$ _____ (WHOLE DOLLARS ONLY)
LINE 3	AMOUNT REQUESTED	\$ _____ (WHOLE DOLLARS ONLY)

I certify that the above amount is the actual Federal Pell portion of cash on hand in the Federal Pell account of _____ as of _____
School Name _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Title _____
Business Manager/Designee

LINE 4 PREPARED BY: SIGNATURE: _____
Financial Aid Officer _____ Date _____

LINE 5 CONTROL NUMBER: _____
Obtained from the school's G6 Payment Request Notification.
Print hardcopy and attach to this form for verification and audit.

I have verified that \$ _____ has been deposited in the federal bank account
on _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____
Business Manager / Designee

FM-6826 Rev. (07-24)



APPENDIX 11



FEDERAL GRANT DISBURSEMENT AUTHORIZATION

Award Year: _____ Term: _____ Date: _____

Directions: The business office must complete remaining columns as outlined in the Miami-Dade County Public Schools' Financial Aid Handbook.

FM-6854 Rev. (09-23)



APPENDIX 12 - PAGE 1

BANK RECONCILIATION AS OF _____ / _____ Month, Day Year						OFFICE OF ACCOUNTING INTERNAL FUND ACCOUNTING Page 1 of 2
SCHOOL NAME _____			WORK LOC. NO. _____			
BANK NAME _____			ACCOUNT NO. _____			
BANK STATEMENT DATE _____			STATEMENT BALANCE Positive <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____			Negative <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____
ADJUSTMENTS: CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX TO IDENTIFY IF POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE BALANCE						
DEDUCT 1) DEPOSITS NOT POSTED TO MSAF COMPUTER SYSTEM AS OF CLOSING DATE:						
DEPOSIT NO.	DEPOSIT DATE	DEPOSIT AMOUNT	DEPOSIT NO.	DEPOSIT DATE	DEPOSIT AMOUNT	
						SUBTOTAL \$ < _____ > (1)
ADD 2) CHECKS NOT POSTED TO MSAF COMPUTER SYSTEM AS OF CLOSING DATE:						
CHECK NO.	CHECK DATE	CHECK AMOUNT	CHECK NO.	CHECK DATE	CHECK AMOUNT	
						SUBTOTAL \$ _____ (2)
ADD 3) DEPOSITS IN TRANSIT: (Attach copy of validated deposit slip(s).)						
DEPOSIT NO.	DEPOSIT DATE	DEPOSIT AMOUNT	DEPOSIT NO.	DEPOSIT DATE	DEPOSIT AMOUNT	
						SUBTOTAL \$ _____ (3)
4) OTHER ADJUSTMENTS: (i.e., NSF checks, bank charges, overages & shortages, maker's name of NSF check(s).)						
ADJUSTMENT	AMOUNT	ADJUSTMENT	AMOUNT			
						S _____ (4)
DEDUCT 5) OUTSTANDING CHECKS (from page 2)						
6) CHECK BOOK BALANCE (Sum of 1 thru 5)						
7) SAVINGS/INVESTMENTS						
DEPOSITORY BANK NAME(S)/DCPS MONEY MARKET POOL			ACCOUNT NO.	AMOUNT		
				\$ _____		
				\$ _____		
				\$ _____		
TOTAL SAVINGS/INVESTMENTS \$ _____ (7)						
8) TOTAL CASH (Sum of 6 & 7) \$ _____ (8)						
The undersigned hereby certify that this Bank Reconciliation is complete and accurate.						
Secretary/ Treasurer's Name _____	Signature _____			Date _____ Signed _____		
Principal's Name _____	Signature _____			Date _____ Signed _____		



APPENDIX 12 - PAGE 2

	BANK RECONCILIATION AS OF _____ / _____ <small>Month, Day Year</small>		OFFICE OF ACCOUNTING INTERNAL FUND ACCOUNTING <small>Page 2 of 2</small>
	SCHOOL NAME _____ WORK LOC. NO. _____ BANK NAME _____ ACCOUNT NO. _____		

OUTSTANDING CHECKS LIST

TOTAL OUTSTANDING CHECKS \$ _____
(Carry over balance to subtotal 5, Page 1)



APPENDIX 13

				Miami-Dade County Public Schools		MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT		Clear Forms	
				MIAMI DADE		TECHNICAL			
				TECHNICAL		COLLEGES			
				ADULT EDUCATION WORKS		MIAMI DADE			
				MIAMI DADE COUNTY		TECHNICAL COLLEGES			
				POSTSECONDARY CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION		ADULT EDUCATION WORKS			
This report is to be filed at the end of each month or period, as determined by regulations of the Miami-Dade County School Board. It is cumulative and the last report will constitute the annual report. Include all monies received in the school.									
SCHOOL _____		REPORT FOR MONTH _____		DATE PREPARED _____		PREPARED BY _____			
FUND		RECEIPTS		DISBURSEMENTS					
		CASH	TRANSFER	YEAR TO DATE Including Transfers	CASH	TRANSFER	YEAR TO DATE Including Transfers		
1. PELL									
2. S.E.O.G.									
3. Other									
4. Other									
5. Other									
6. Other									
7. Other									
8. VOIDS									
9. VOIDS									
10. Pell R2T4									
11. Return of Other Funds									
12. Admin. Allowance									
13. Interest									
14. Misc.									
TOTALS	\$ 0.00		\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00		\$ 0.00			
Balance at Beginning	MONTH \$ 0.00			YEAR (1) \$ 0.00	Month xxxxxxxxxxxx			Year xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	
Balance at Close	xxxxxxxxxxxx		xxxxxxxxxxxx		\$ 0.00			\$ 0.00	
Balancing Totals	(2)			(3)	(4)			(5)	
	\$ 0.00		\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00				\$ 0.00	

Note: (For Items 1 - 5) (1) This figure remains constant. (2) This should be same as (4) and (3) should be same as (5). Compute year-to-date totals in all Funds by adding current month transactions (including transfers) to the year-to-date totals from the preceding month's report.
 Accounts Payable \$ _____ (total of all outstanding bills as of date of report).
 Interest posted for the month in the amount of \$ _____.
 Total interest posted year to date \$ _____.
 I certify that this financial report covering the period of _____ through _____ is correct.

Signed _____
 Principal _____
 FM-6926 Rev. (05-21)



APPENDIX 14

**Miami-Dade County Public Schools
School Operations - Adult and Community Education****Clear Form****AUTHORIZATION FOR CHARGE
BOOKS AND SUPPLIES**

CENTER _____ DATE _____

NAME _____ STUDENT ID # _____

<u>Billing Agency</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Voc. Rehab./VOCRE	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FSAGC (_____) Year _____	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> SAVES/CUHA (1 OR 2)	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> PELL Grant (_____) Year _____	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> SFW (_____) Unit # _____	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher _____	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	\$ _____

Instructor (Signature) _____

Authorization (Signature) _____

Bookstore Clerk (Signature) _____

BOOKSTORE CHARGES						
QNTY	Unit #	Books	Supplies	DESCRIPTION OF ITEMS	UNIT COST	TOTAL
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Student/Teacher Signature (Receipt of Goods) _____

TOTAL BOOKSTORE CHARGES \$ 0.00 _____

REMARKS _____

DISTRIBUTION:
Business Office/Treasurer
Agency/Financial Aid Office
Bookstore
Student/Teacher

FM-4013 Rev. (10-22)



APPENDIX 15

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TUITION DEFERMENT[Clear Form](#)

STUDENT'S NAME

SCHOOL

PROGRAM

STUDENT ID. NO.

I. FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

This statement is to certify that the above-named student is eligible for a tuition deferment based on a projected _____ award of \$_____ for the _____ Trimester.

Date

Financial Aid Office

II. REGISTRATION/BUSINESS OFFICE

I authorize that \$_____ for my tuition be deducted from my _____ award.

Date

Student's Signature

I understand that if, for any reason, I don't qualify for enough aid to cover these charges, I will be responsible for payment of balance if any
Student's Signature _____

Registration/Business OfficeCopy to: BUSINESS OFFICE FINANCIAL AID BOOKSTORE STUDENT REGISTRATION

FM-5419 Rev. (09-23)



APPENDIX 16



Clear Form

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOOKS AND SUPPLIES DEFERMENT

STUDENT'S NAME

SCHOOL

PROGRAM

STUDENT ID. NO.

I. FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

This statement is to certify that the above-named student is eligible for books and supplies deferment based on a projected _____ award of \$ _____ for the _____ Trimester.

Financial Aid Officer Signature

Date

II. BOOKSTORE

Authorized Book Allowance \$ _____ Financial Aid _____

I authorize that \$ _____ for my books and supplies be deducted from my _____ award.

Date

Student's Signature

Bookstore Clerk Signature

I understand that if, for any reason, I don't qualify for enough aid to cover these charges, I will be responsible for payment of balance, if any.
Student's Signature _____

*Please attach completed *Authorization for Charge Books and Supplies*, FM-4013

Copy to: BUSINESS OFFICE FINANCIAL AID BOOKSTORE STUDENT REGISTRATION

FM-6809 Rev. (09-23)



APPENDIX 17

[Clear Form](#)Miami-Dade County Public Schools
School Operations-Adult and Community Education

Withholding Authorization Form

This is to certify that I, _____, authorize Financial Aid Office/Business Office to withhold from my Pell Grant credit balance the following cost for the _____ term of _____ school year.

Please check tuition or services for which funds will be withheld and cost of each.

AGE Tuition \$ _____

AGE Out-of State Tuition \$ _____

Other \$ _____ Explain: _____

Total \$ _____

Student Name (print)

Student Signature

Date

Copy to:

- Business Office
- Financial Aid
- Student

FM-5423 Rev. (10-22)



APPENDIX 18

Book Policy Manual

Section 2000 Program

Title: ADULT, POST-SECONDARY CAREER TECHNICAL AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Code po2450

Status Active

Adopted: May 11, 2011

Last Revised: September 11, 2023

2450 - ADULT, POST-SECONDARY CAREER TECHNICAL AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION

A basic and high school continuation program shall be provided as an opportunity for anyone over compulsory school age who is not attending high school in this District. Program procedures are contained in the Adult and Career Technical Education Procedures Handbook.

GED Eligibility

A person who is not at least eighteen (18) years of age may be permitted to take the General Educational Development (GED) tests upon submission of a statement of justification recommended by the Superintendent. The statement of justification shall be based on at least one of the following circumstances:

- A. The candidate justifies a need to be employed that would prevent school attendance.
- B. The candidate is a parent who does not have access to child care.
- C. The candidate justifies health condition(s) that would prevent school attendance.
- D. The candidate desires to enter a vocational program, a college or university or military service.



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Postsecondary Programs and Fees

A fee schedule shall be established for students enrolled in adult basic, adult secondary, career technical certificate education, or other adult programs, who are reported for funding through the Workforce Development Education Fund. The Florida legislature annually establishes fees for the adult and career technical education program in accordance with the General Appropriations Act. In addition, provisions are made in this policy for financial aid and fee/tuition waivers, disposition of funds collected, community-based organizations, self-supporting classes, private sector instruction, special textbook or supply items, and capital improvements, technology enhancements or equipping buildings.

Adult and vocational education services are provided to adults in the following areas:

A. Adult General Education (Adult Secondary and Adult Basic Education)

1. Students who demonstrate functional literacy skills at/or below the eighth grade level and are studying to achieve literacy.

Tuition is charged to this category of students.

2. Students earning credit required for a high school diploma and/or preparing for the Test of General Educational Development (GED).

Tuition is charged to this category of students.

3. Students who have a high school diploma and demonstrate functional literacy skills at/or above the ninth grade level require specific improvement of academic or learning skills before pursuing post-secondary education goals to obtain or maintain employment, or to benefit from postsecondary adult vocational education programs.

Students in this category pay fees as established by the General Appropriations Act. Additionally, the School Board may charge any additional fees authorized by Florida law or State Board rule.

4. No fees are charged to students who are fee exempt based on State law.

Students not counted for funding purposes will be assessed fees equal to, but not exceeding, the cost of providing such programs.

B. Career Technical Education



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1. Students enrolled as postsecondary adult vocational certificate pay fees as established by the General Appropriations Act. Additionally, the Board may charge any additional fees authorized by Florida statute or State Board rule.
2. Students taking adult postsecondary vocational courses for personal or hobby use will pay fees equal to, but not exceeding, the cost of providing such programs.
3. No fees are charged to students who are fee exempt based on State law. Career Technical Education services provided to students classified as non-resident for tuition purposes as defined in State statute pay fees accordingly.

Financial Aid and Fee/Tuition Waivers**A. Financial Aid**

A fee may be assessed to postsecondary adult vocational and adult secondary students to pay in full or in part, the fees of eligible postsecondary adult vocational certificate and adult secondary students with demonstrated financial need.

Each center will maintain documentation as required by State Board Rule.

Students in COE accredited centers when eligible may utilize financial aid from Federal or State assistance programs. Financial aid information is available through the area technical center counseling offices.

B. Fee/Tuition Waivers

Fee/Tuition waivers may be granted by the Director or designee when necessary to assure an education opportunity for students who have financial needs which cannot be met by existing sources of student financial aid and as authorized by law or rules of the State Board of Education. No fee waivers are allowed for students taking adult vocational classes for strictly personal or hobby use and students identified above. Each career center operated by a school district under F.S. 1001.44, and charter technical career center under F.S. 1002.34, shall waive the transcript fee for a person who is an active duty member or an honorably discharged veteran of the United States Armed Forces and his or her spouse and dependents.

School Operations will allocate such fee waivers as may be available based upon need and requests of the various adult and area technical centers. Allocations will be made for each fiscal year and when depleted no additional waivers will be granted unless additional funds become available. Annual allocations may not exceed the maximum established annually in the General Appropriations Act.



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Each center receiving a fee waiver allocation shall maintain complete documentation as required for each waiver issued.

C. Scholarships

The Board may establish scholarship funds using donations to help students who need financial assistance to pay fees, who are enrolled in adult secondary, adult life-long learning, and postsecondary adult vocational education programs.

D. Deferred Fees/Installment Payments

1. Deferred Fees

Fees for students qualifying for and receiving grants, loans, or scholarships or for whom fees are being paid on their behalf by an employer, association, or governmental agency may be deferred. Students for whom or from whom deferred fees have not been collected by the end of the trimester in which they registered will not be allowed to register for subsequent courses until all financial obligations have been met.

2. Installment Payments

Students in need of installment payments may pay fees for regular courses through an installment payment schedule if they register before the beginning of the course, before the trimester or within twenty-one (21) calendar days of the beginning of the term.

At least 1/3 of the fee must be paid at the time of registration. All fees must be paid no later than the end of the sixth week in the trimester. Fees must be paid in one lump sum when students register on or after twenty-two (22) calendar days after the course or trimester has begun.

Disposition of Fees Collected

A. All tuition collected will be forwarded to Treasury Management.

B. All other monies collected at adult education centers shall be properly receipted and deposited directly into the center's internal funds.

Community Based Non-Profit Organizations (CBOs), Public Agencies, and Private Businesses

The District may enter into affiliating agreements with community-based non-profit organizations (CBOs), public agencies, and private businesses that may wish to provide unique classroom or laboratory instruction that will significantly enhance the employment opportunities of students enrolled in these programs.



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Veterans Benefits and Transition

The Board shall permit for the GI Bill and Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Program beneficiaries to attend eligible education or training courses for up to ninety (90) days pending payment from the Veterans Administration (VA) for the course. To be eligible, the beneficiary must provide a certificate of eligibility for entitlement to educational assistance (valid/current VAF 28-1905) and written request to use the entitlement. Documentation must be submitted no later than the first day the course or training commences. The ninety (90) day period starts on the date when the District certifies tuition and fees following receipt of the required documents.

The District shall not impose a penalty, deny access to classes or facilities, or require the beneficiary to borrow additional funds to cover tuition and fees due to late payments for the VA. The State Approving Agency (SAA) or the VA may act to approve or disapprove certain courses or education, which may be subject to a waiver by the VA.

Private Sector Instruction

Private businesses/agencies may request adult vocational or basic education classes that qualify for Workforce Development Education Funds but do not have sufficient enrollment to support the class/program. The District may cooperate with these businesses/agencies through an agreement approved by the Superintendent where the business/agency will pay the difference between projected workforce Development Education Funds earned and the actual program cost. All other fees applicable in this policy shall be contracted prior to the operation of such a class/program.

Self-Supporting Classes

Students enrolling in non-reimbursed classes will pay a fee to cover the cost of instruction. The amount will be variable depending on the expense for offering the course. In all instances, the salaries, fringe benefits, and supplies furnished will be included in the costs.

The Superintendent shall develop and implement administrative procedures to make schools available to citizens of the District for these purposes and to implement this policy.

Effective 07.01.2011

Revised 08.06.2014

Revised 04.29.2020

Revised 12.09.2020

Technical Correction 09.11.2023



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Legal

FS. 1001.44

FS. 1003.435

FS. 1004.93

FS. 1004.94

FS. 1009.26(17)

The Veterans Benefits and Transition Act - 2018 (38 USC Sections 3679, 3698(c, 1, C), P.L. 115-407, Sections 103-104)

**APPENDIX 19 - PAGE 1****FINANCIAL AID STUDENT FOLDER CHECKLIST MENU**

The following are recommended forms and documents that may be included in a students' file folder depending upon the financial assistance being provided by the school. Financial Aid Officers can use this menu to develop a checklist of required documents to support the eligibility criteria and need of financial assistance for their students (See Appendix 21). These are not all inclusive and schools should only include items specific to their programs and services. Please be advised that student records are confidential and all M-DCPS personnel must adhere to federal, state and district policies and procedures governing this matter.

PELL GRANT FILE FOLDER CHART

- Copies of Student's Driver License, U.S. Passport, U.S. Birth Certificate or Certificate of Naturalization, or
- U.S. Resident Card-(verification process if applicable)
- COD-Pell History Lifetime Eligibility Used History
- Federal Pell Grant Payment Worksheet-FM-7034
- Financial Aid Award Letters-FM 5471
- Florida Public Postsecondary Career Education Student Assistance Grant (FSAG) Disbursement Eligibility
- Report Printout-if eligible
- High School Diploma or GED® Diploma or Official Transcript from an accredited institution
- Identity and Statement of Educational Purpose FM-5415
- Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR)
- M-DCPS -Books and Supplies Deferment Form-FM-6809
- M-DCPS-Financial Aid Application FM-5467
- M-DCPS-Tuition Deferment Form -FM 5419
- Missing Information Request Form-FM-6848-(Verification Process if applicable)
- NSLDS enrollment screenshots and withdrawal documentation FM-7742 and FM-7752
- Professional Judgment Documentation-(if applicable)
- Program Withdrawal/Termination dates-Gradebook/DIYH
- Registration Information You Are Required To Know-FM-6827
- Return To Title IV- R2T4 Worksheets- (If Applicable)
- Student Information/Demographic Display from FOCUS
- Student Academic Report -FOCUS SIS Billing
- Printout- Fees by Course
- Printout Waiver/Agency Billings
- Verification Worksheets- depending on the Verification Tracking Groups Requirements (if applicable)
- Withholding Authorization Form- FM-5423

**APPENDIX 19 - PAGE 2****DISTRICT FINANCIAL AID PROGRAM (DFAP FILE FOLDER CHART)**

- Career Technical Educational Program Progress Chart- (if applicable)
- Financial Aid Application – FM-5467
- ISIR/Institutional Student Information Record- Evidence of FASFA Completion
- Program Training Plan- (if applicable)
- Signed and approved DFAP/FEE Waiver Application- Form FM-6498
- Student Schedule Printout
- TABE TEST Testing Data Printout from FOCUS
- Printout Waiver/Agency Billings

FEE WAIVER FILE FOLDER CHART

- Career Technical Educational Program Progress Chart- as applicable
- Evidence of Unemployment Compensation
- Financial Aid Application FM-5467
- Gradebook Student Attendance Detail-Data In Your Hands Printout
- M-DCPS Satisfactory Academic Progress Reports FM-5431
- Notarized Statement of Income
- Program Training Plan- (if applicable)
- Signed and approved DFAP/FEE Waiver Application- Form FM-6498 Signed Income Tax Returns
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) food stamp authorization Student Schedule
- Vocational Student Attendance Summary / Data-In-Your-Hands Printout
- W-2 Forms



APPENDIX 20

SAMPLE STUDENT FINANCIAL AID FILE CHECKLIST

- Academic Year: State Date:
- SELECTED FOR VERIFICATION / NOT SELECTED FOR VERIFICATION
- STUDENT NAME: STUDENT ID:
- FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION
- VALID ISIR OR FSS
- DOCUMENTATION LOG
- FEDERAL PELL GRANT PAYMENT WORKSHEET
- FINANCIAL AID OFFER COPY
- REVIEWED NSLDS HISTORY ONLINE AND ADDED STUDENT TO TRANSFER MONITORING 0 RECORDS OF UNTAXED INCOME, SUCH AS WELFARE/AFDC/ADC, SS BENEFITS, ETC. 0 PROFESSIONAL JUDGEMENT DOCUMENTATION (if applicable)
- VERIFICATION WORKSHEET 1, (if applicable)
- IMMIGRATION STATUS/RESIDENCY DOCUMENTATION
- FEDERAL TAX FORM FOR BASE YEAR (1040-1040A-1040EZ, IRS TRANSCRIPT)
- SNAP DOCUMENTATION (if applicable)
- STUDENT RECEIPT FOR FEDERAL AID DISBURSED
- STUDENT ACADEMIC REPORT FOCUS-SIS BILLING
- WITHDRAWAL/ TERMINATION/ WORKSHEET (Return of Title IV if applicable)
- RETURN OF TITLE IV CALCULATION FROM FAS (if applicable)
- ACADEMIC CALENDAR
- FOLDER CREATED BY: DATE:
- NSLDS ENROLLMENT AND WITHDRAWAL DOCUMENTATION



APPENDIX 21

SAMPLE VERIFICATION CHECKLIST

The items checked below must be submitted to complete the verification of information entered in your FAFSA application (Pell Grant students only). All information may be Subject for verification depending upon the comments on your Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR) or your FASFA Submission Summary (FSS).

- 2023 Original IRS Transcript and your 2023 Tax Return with your W2
- 2023 Original Parent's IRS Tax Transcript and 2023 Tax Return/With W2
- Completed Verification Worksheet- Yellow Fann (signed by parent)
- Copy of High School Diploma/GED® and high school transcript*
- Verification of High School Diploma, if obtained out of the U.S.
- Child/Children's Birth Certificate/s
- Original Certificate of Citizenship or Naturalization
- Proof of SNAP benefits (food stamps)
- U.S. Passport
- 1-94 Card
- Resident Card
- Florida Driver's License
- Proof of Child Support
- Proof of Legal Guardianship
- Proof of dependent or ward of court since turning age 13
- Proof of Homeless status (letter from shelter)
- Correct 2025-2026 FAFSA
- Notarized Letter from an adult that provides the majority of your support for 2025 to the present. This is necessary for independent status students only that are unemployed and receiving support from a friend or family member.
- STUDENT'S SIGNATURE: DATE:



ANTI-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida adheres to a policy of nondiscrimination in employment and educational programs/activities and strives affirmatively to provide equal opportunity for all as required by:

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 - prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, and national origin, including actual or perceived shared ancestry or ethnic characteristics, or citizenship or residency in a country with a dominant religion or distinct religious identity.

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended - prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, and national origin.

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 - prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex. M-DCPS does not discriminate on the basis of sex in any education program or activity that it operates as required by Title IX. M-DCPS also does not discriminate on the basis of sex in admissions or employment.

Age Discrimination Act of 1975 - prohibits discrimination based on age in programs or activities.

Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (ADEA) as amended - prohibits discrimination on the basis of age with respect to individuals who are at least 40 years old.

The Equal Pay Act of 1963 as amended - prohibits gender discrimination in payment of wages to women and men performing substantially equal work in the same establishment.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 - prohibits discrimination against qualified students with disabilities. Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) - prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in employment, publicservice, public accommodations, and telecommunications.

The Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA) - requires covered employers to provide up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave to eligible employees for certain family and medical reasons.

The Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978 - prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions.

Florida Educational Equity Act (FEEA) - prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, gender, national origin, religion, marital status, or disability in public education.

Florida Civil Rights Act of 1992 - secures for all individuals within the state freedom from discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, pregnancy, national origin, age, handicap, or marital status.

Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA) - prohibits discrimination against employees or applicants because of genetic information.

Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act of 2002 - No public school shall deny equal access to or a fair opportunity for groups to meet on school premises or in school facilities before or after school hours, or discriminate against any group officially affiliated with Boy Scouts of America or any other youth or community group listed in Title 36 as a patriotic society.

Veterans are provided re-employment rights in accordance with 38 U.S.C. § 4312 (Federal Law) and Section 295.07 (Florida Statutes), which stipulate categorical preferences for employment.

In Addition:

School Board Policies 1362, 3362, 4362, and 5517 - Prohibit harassment and discrimination against students, employees, or applicants on the basis of age, citizenship status, color, disability, ethnic or national origin, FMLA, gender, gender identity, genetic information, linguistic preference, marital status, political beliefs, pregnancy, race, religion, sexual harassment, sexual orientation, social and family background, and any other legally prohibited basis. Retaliation for engaging in a protected civil rights activity is also prohibited.

For additional information about Title IX or any other discrimination/harassment concerns, contact the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights or:

Office of Civil Rights Compliance (CRC)
District Director/Title IX Coordinator
155 N.E. 15th Street, Suite P104E Miami, Florida 33132
Phone: (305) 995-1580 **TDD:** (305) 995-2400
Email: crc@dadeschools.net
Website: <https://hrdadeschools.net/civilrights>