

Welcome to Mid-Plains Community College

TITLE IV FEDERAL RETURN POLICY & STANDARDS OF SATISFACTORY PROGRESS

TITLE IV FEDERAL RETURN OF FUNDS POLICY

The unearned portions of Title IV grant or loan funds, but not FWS funds, must be returned to the Title IV programs upon a Title IV recipient's withdrawal from school. The withdrawal date is the date the student began the institution's withdrawal process or officially notified the institution of intent to withdraw. (The mid-point of the term will become the withdrawal date for students who do not officially withdraw and receive no earned credits for the semester -- unless a later documented attendance date can be verified.)

The percentage of the payment period or period of enrollment for which assistance was awarded that was completed is determined by dividing the total number of calendar days comprising the payment period or period of enrollment for which assistance is awarded into the number of calendar days completed in that period as of the day the student withdrew.

To calculate the amount of Title IV assistance earned by a student, the school must first determine the percentage of Title IV assistance the student earned. Up through the 60 percent point in time, the percentage of assistance earned is equal to the percentage of the payment period or period of enrollment for which it was awarded that was completed as of the day the student withdrew. If the student withdrawal occurs after the 60 percent point, then the percentage is 100 percent. That earned percentage is applied to the total amount of Title IV grant and loan assistance that was disbursed (and that could have been disbursed) to the student, or on the student's behalf, for the payment period or period of enrollment for which it was awarded as of the day the student withdrew.

The amount of Title IV grant and loan assistance not earned by the student is calculated by determining the complement of the percentage of assistance the student earned and applying it to the total amount of grant and loan assistance that was disbursed (and that could have been disbursed) to the student, or on the student's behalf, for the payment period or period of enrollment as of the day the student withdrew.

The school will follow the regulations for late disbursement if the student received less grant or loan assistance than the amount earned. If the student has received more grant or loan assistance than the amount earned, then the unearned funds shall be returned by the school or the student, or both. The school shall return the lesser of the unearned amount of Title IV assistance or an amount equal to the total institutional charges the student incurs for the payment period or period of enrollment for which the assistance was awarded, multiplied by the unearned percentage of awarded Title IV grant and loan assistance. Students return unearned Title IV assistance minus the amount the school returns.

SPECIAL RULE: A student (or parent for PLUS loans) repays the calculated amount attributable to a Title IV loan program according to the loan's terms. The student must repay funds or make arrangements to repay funds owed for a Title IV grant program to the college within 45 days of the withdrawal or their name will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Education as a student owing a repayment of Federal Title IV funds. The institution shall not be required to return 50 percent of the grant assistance received that is the responsibility of the student to repay.

Excess funds returned by the school or student are credited to outstanding Title IV loan balances for the student or made on the student's behalf for which a return of funds is required. Excess funds must be credited to outstanding balances in the following order: Unsubsidized; Federal Direct loans; Subsidized Federal Direct loans; Federal Direct PLUS loans. If excess funds remain after repaying all outstanding loan amounts, then the remaining amount is credited to grant programs in the following order: Federal Pell Grants; Federal SEOG; other Title IV assistance for which a return of funds is required.

Examples of all return calculations and the repayment calculations are available upon request at the Financial Aid Office.

TITLE IV FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID STANDARDS OF SATISFACTORY PROGRESS

The Higher Education Act mandates higher education institutions to establish minimum standards of satisfactory progress for students receiving financial aid. The college makes these standards applicable to all institutionally awarded funds and Direct Student Loans to maintain a consistent policy for all students receiving financial assistance. The Higher Education Act mandates higher education institutions to establish minimum standards of satisfactory progress for students receiving financial aid.

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Federal regulations mandate that Title IV program funds are not to be paid to students if they are not maintaining satisfactory academic progress in the program of study (leading to a degree or certificate which they are pursuing) according to the standards and practices of the educational institution. These standards apply to the following programs: Federal College Work-Study, Federal Pell Grants, Federal SEOG, Nebraska Opportunity Grant Program and Federal

Title IV Federal Return Policy & Standards of Satisfactory Progress

Direct Student Loans. The unearned portions of Title IV Federal grant or loan funds must be returned to the Title IV Federal programs upon a Title IV recipient's withdrawal from school or when a student does not officially withdraw and received no earned credits for the semester.

To maintain financial aid standards of satisfactory progress at any campus of Mid-Plains Community College, a student must meet the following standards each semester term, including summer:

1) Qualitative Standard: Students must pass 67 percent (rounded to the nearest whole number) of the credits for which they register each semester. Courses re-taken by a student in which a grade of A, B, C, or D was previously earned will count one-time towards eligibility for federal financial aid or current full-time enrollment for MPCC scholarships. Thus a student may be paid only twice for a class he/she successfully completes.

Students must maintain at least a 1.5 cumulative grade point average through the first 15 credit hours completed, a 1.75 for 16-30 credit hours, and 2.0 for 31 credit hours or more. Withdrawals, incomplete courses, audits, and credits by examination DO NOT count toward credit hours successfully completed each session, but they do count as hours attempted.

2) Quantitative Standard: The maximum time frame for a student to receive federal financial aid towards completion of a two-year degree at any campus of Mid-Plains Community College is the number of credit hours attempted equal to 1 ½ times the length of the student's program of study. All credits attempted at MPCC and all transfer credit hours accepted that can be used for the student's current program of study are included in the maximum time frame calculation. Students who have received a degree from MPCC or have been placed on financial aid suspension due to reaching their maximum time frame allotment must visit with the Director or Associate Director of Financial Aid to appeal for payment of additional credit hours at MPCC with federal funding.

If a student **does not comply** with the above standards at the end of the semester, he/she will be placed on warning or suspension and notified of such in writing.

Title IV Federal Aid will be paid during this warning semester. If at the end of this period appropriate standards have not been met, all Federal Pell, SEOG, NOG, Federal Loans, and Federal College Work-Study monies will be suspended and unavailable to the student until he/she re-establishes eligibility.

All students have the right to appeal warning or suspension status of financial aid through established MPCC Appeals Committees. **The student must request or pick up an appeal form from the Financial Aid Office within 10 business days from the date of the student's probationary or ineligibility notification.** At this time the college will supply an appeal form to the student with details on the appeal procedure and further instructions.

Repayment of Title IV Federal funds related to enrollment in a previous semester at MPCC will not remove you from your financial aid suspension status. The Directors of Financial Aid may make exceptions to the above standards on a case-by-case basis by exercising professional judgment.

NOTICE - The Financial Aid Office will notify, by letter, any student receiving financial assistance who does not meet minimum satisfactory progress and is being terminated from aid. The notice will be addressed to the student's most current local address on file with the financial aid office.

IT SHALL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT TO INFORM THE FINANCIAL AID OFFICE OF A CORRECT MAILING ADDRESS AT ALL TIMES.

MPCC OFFICIAL NON-DISCRIMINATION/ADA STATEMENT

MPCC adheres to all federal and state civil rights laws banning discrimination in public institutions of higher education. MPCC will not discriminate against any employee, applicant for employment, student or applicant for admission on the basis of race, religion, hearing status, personal appearance, color, sex, pregnancy, political affiliation, source of income, place of business, residence, creed, ethnicity, national origin (including ancestry), citizenship status, physical or mental disability, age, marital status, family responsibilities, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, veteran or military status (including special disabled veteran, Vietnam-era veteran, or recently separated veteran), predisposing genetic characteristic information and testing, domestic violence victim status, Family Medical Leave or any other protected category under applicable local, state or federal law, including protections for those opposing discrimination or participating in any grievance process on campus or within the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission or other human rights agencies.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Area Director of Human Resources, Mid-Plains Community College-North Campus, 1101 Halligan Dr., North Platte, NE 69101, 308 535-3679 or toll free 800 658-4308, Ext. 3679. Inquiries involving McCook Campus students should be directed to the Area Dean of Student Life in McCook at 1205 East Third Street, McCook, NE 69001, 308 345-8108, or toll free 800 658-4348, Ext. 8108; or, for North Platte Campus inquiries, the Associate Dean of Student Life in North Platte, 1101 Halligan Drive, North Platte, NE 69101, 308 535-3622 or toll-free 800 658-4308, Ext. 3622.

If you have a disability and require an accommodation while attending Mid-Plains Community College, please contact: Robin Rankin, North Campus, 308 535-3637 or 800 658-4308, Ext. 3637, rankinr@mpcc.edu; Chris Turner, South Campus, 308 535-3715 or 800 658-4308, Ext. 3715, turnerc@mpcc.edu; or Brandon Lenhart, McCook Community College, 308 345-8128 or 800 658-4348, Ext. 8128, lenhartb@mpcc.edu, or disabilityservices@mpcc.edu. For the latest version of this statement, visit www.mpcc.edu/non-discrimination-policy.