

Terms & Conditions

Terms and Conditions must be accepted through your myNW-SCC Banner account.

To accept your terms and conditions, access your **myNW-SCC Banner** account and select the **Financial Aid** tab. Click **Award** and choose the **"Award for Aid Year"** option. Select the current **Academic Year** and Select the **Terms and Conditions** tab. Click the link to read the actual Terms and Conditions. When you have finished reading, click **"Accept"** to accept the Terms & Conditions Governing Your Financial Aid. If you have any questions regarding any of the listed terms and conditions, please contact our office before accepting them. You cannot move on to accept your financial aid awards until you have accepted the Terms and Conditions.

Terms & Conditions Governing Financial Aid Awards

Please note that your entire Financial Aid Award is subject to change based on availability of funding from the Federal and State government. The financial aid identified on your Award Notification is being offered to you with the following terms and conditions:

- You must be enrolled in a degree-seeking program at NW-SCC.
- You must be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen.
- Special students, transient students, dual-enrolled, and unclassified students ARE NOT ELIGIBLE for federal student aid, including Federal Direct Stafford Loans.

Enrollment Requirements

- Your financial aid offers are based on the assumption that you will be enrolled full-time (12 credit hours) per semester. If you enroll less than full-time, your financial aid awards, including the Federal Pell Grant will be reduced or canceled.
- You must be enrolled at least half-time (six credit hours minimum per semester) to be eligible for the Federal Direct Stafford Loan(s).
- You may receive Federal Student Aid at only one college or university during the semester.
- Your eligibility for Federal Student Aid will be determined from your enrollment level at NW-SCC only.
- If requested, you must provide documents to verify the accuracy of information reported on the FAFSA before financial aid funds can be awarded or disbursed.

- You will be responsible for repaying any funds you receive that exceed your financial need, or if for any reason, you become ineligible for the financial aid.
- If you drop classes, withdraw, or make other academic changes, your financial aid awards may be adjusted and repayment may be required.
- If you receive Federal Student Aid (except Federal Work Study) and subsequently withdraw from all course hours during the semester, you are subject to federal regulations regarding complete withdrawal. If you have not completed at least 60% of the academic semester, you may have to return a portion of the federal student aid to the College.
- If you stop attending classes without officially withdrawing, your financial aid awards may be adjusted and repayment may be required.

Satisfactory Academic Progress

You must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) toward a degree program to be eligible for Federal Student Aid. Your academic progress will be checked at the end of each academic semester.

Student's must meet the following standards of academic progress:

- 1. Grade Point Average (GPA).** Each student will be expected to meet or exceed the following GPA value when satisfactory academic progress is checked at the end of each semester: If the student has attempted 1-21 hours, they must maintain a 1.5 Financial Aid GPA. If the student has attempted 22-32 hours, they must maintain a 1.75 Financial Aid GPA. If the student has attempted 33 & above hours, they must maintain a 2.0 Financial Aid GPA. All course grades attempted at NW-SCC will be calculated in the financial aid GPA even if Academic Bankruptcy or Academic Forgiveness has been applied for and received.
- 2. Completion Rate.** Each student will be expected to meet or to exceed the following completion rate when satisfactory academic progress is checked at the end of each semester: If the student has attempted 1-21 hours, they must have a 58% completion rate. If the student has attempted 22-32 hours, they must have a 62% completion rate. If the student has attempted 33 & above hours, they must have a 67% completion rate. All course hours attempted at NW-SCC, including any course hours which you may have withdrawn from or for which the student did not receive a passing grade, are included in this calculation. Any transfer course hours accepted by NW-SCC will be included in this calculation. There is no academic forgiveness of course hours attempted for federal calculation purposes even though the student may apply for and receive the benefit of the College's Course Forgiveness provision.
- 3. Maximum Time Frame:** A student receiving financial assistance will be expected to complete his/her course of study within a period not to exceed 1.5 times the length of his/her program of study; e.g. a two-year program of study (4 semesters, 64 hours) must be completed within 3 years (6 semesters, 96 hours) of attendance.

Complete details on the College's Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy, including reinstatement and appeal options, are available on the Financial Aid Section of the Northwest-Shoals Community College website.

Direct Student Loans

If you are receiving Direct Students Loans at Northwest-Shoals Community College, the following terms and conditions apply to your loan eligibility in addition to those listed above:

- You will receive financial aid in two installments (one half is disbursed for fall semester; the second half for spring semester), unless otherwise noted. Disbursements are made directly to your student account.
- If you are a first-time freshman student borrower, your first loan disbursement will be delayed until 30 days after the beginning of your first term at NW-SCC. This will occur only during the first semester of the student's attendance at the college.
- If you are receiving a federal student loan for one semester, i.e. fall term only or spring term only, your loan will be disbursed in two installments with one disbursement at the beginning of the semester and the second disbursement at mid-semester.
- If the total financial aid paid to your student account exceeds your total charges, a refund will be issued to your refund preference selected when you activated your BankMobile student card.
- If you drop below 6 credit hours in any semester, all remaining student loan disbursement(s) in the current academic year will be cancelled. You may request that you be re-awarded student loan money for the remaining semesters in the academic year. It is your responsibility to request re-awarding of your student loan money. Your student loan for the following semester will be disbursed in two installments, with one-half of your loan funds disbursed towards the beginning of the next semester and the second half of your loan funds disbursed towards mid-semester.
- Outstanding requirements may prevent your financial aid from disbursing in a timely manner. To prevent this from occurring, please check your outstanding requirements by logging into your myNW-SCC Banner account, clicking the Financial Aid tab then choosing Eligibility to review your Unsatisfied Requirements.
- If it is your first semester to receive student loans at Northwest-Shoals Community College, you will need to complete Loan Entrance Counseling and sign a Master Promissory Note, which is completed by accessing www.studentloans.gov. Student loans will not finish processing until both steps have been completed and received by the school.

Scholarships

If you are receiving a scholarship at the Northwest-Shoals Community College, the following terms and conditions apply to your scholarship eligibility in addition to those listed above:

- You must be enrolled in a degree-seeking or certificate program at NW-SCC.
- Scholarship funds will be credited to your NW-SCC student account. Northwest-Shoals Community College will not pay any amount of your scholarship award directly to you in the form of check, cash, direct deposit or debit card.
- Payment of your scholarship award is contingent upon funds being provided by NW-SCC or the NW-SCC Foundation. All scholarship awards are subject to change depending on fund availability, budgetary constraints, and the size/quality of the applicant pool.
- Only U. S. citizens are eligible for institutional scholarships.
- Students are only eligible to receive one Institutional Scholarships each semester.
- Students being offered institutional scholarships, including, but not limited to, Academic, Leadership, Applied Technology, etc. will be officially notified of their scholarship award by a letter from the Office of Student Financial Services signed by the Director or Assistant Director of Student Financial Services. No College employee or official other than authorized officials in the President's Office, the Director of Student Financial Services or the Assistant Dean of Student Success may approve changes or alterations to offers of institutional scholarships. Any other scholarship offer, change, or alteration by any other NW-SCC employee SHALL NOT be legally binding upon the College.
- Academic, Applied Technology, ACT, Ambassador, College Bowl, Music-Vocal, Music-Instrumental, General Leadership, and Art Scholarships are for incoming freshmen entering NW-SCC immediately after graduation from high school. As a rule, a student may receive no more than one of these scholarships.
- The Office of Student Financial Services (SFS) will check grades of all scholarship recipients at the end of each semester. The first time a recipient fails to meet the renewal criteria the scholarship will be awarded to the recipient the following semester on a probationary status, with the exception of Shoals Scholar Dollar. Following one semester of probation, if the recipient does not meet the renewal criteria a second time the scholarship will be canceled. For Shoals Scholar Dollar, there is no probationary period granted if guidelines are not met each semester.
- You must enroll in at least 12 credit hours at NW-SCC at the beginning of each semester (fall and spring) for which a scholarship is payable in order to receive credit for the scholarship. Credit hours for which you register at another university or college will not be considered to achieve a total of twelve (12) or more undergraduate enrolled hours.
- Fixed dollar amount scholarship awards are payable to your NW-SCC student account if you are registered for twelve (12) or more credit hours per semester. These fixed dollar scholarship awards are payable 50% in the fall semester and 50% in the spring semester, unless expressly approved otherwise in writing by the Director of Student Financial Services.

- Full-tuition and fee scholarships pay for twelve (12) to sixteen (16) credit hours per semester.
- Your scholarship award may increase or decrease from semester to semester and year to year, depending on the number of credit hours (12-16) for which you register.
- It is your responsibility to be aware of the amount your scholarship is eligible to pay.
- If you do not fulfill the terms applicable to the scholarships, you may be required to repay all or part of the scholarship.
- If you completely withdraw from all courses during any semester while receiving your scholarship, all remaining semesters of your scholarship, if any, may be canceled.
- Your scholarship award is payable for fall and spring semesters ONLY of the academic year, unless specifically stated in a separate scholarship agreement.
- You must enroll in consecutive fall-spring semesters to continue to receive your scholarship. Your scholarship is not eligible to be deferred to a later semester or a later academic year than what is stated.
- You must meet minimum renewal requirements for grade point average (GPA) and minimum credit hours earned in the fall and spring semesters if your scholarship is subject to renewal to the next academic semester or academic year.
- It is your responsibility to be aware of the minimum renewal requirements for GPA and credit hours earned for your scholarship to be renewed from semester-to-semester or year- to-year. The Office of Student Financial Services is not responsible or liable for reminding or notifying you, other than the initial notification, of the minimum renewal requirements for your scholarship. You may request this information from the Office of Student Financial Services.
- Your scholarship will not be renewed to the next semester or next academic year until the minimum academic requirements for your scholarship renewal have been recorded and posted.
- It is your responsibility to ensure the timely delivery of service reports, if any, associated with your scholarship award before consideration can be given to the renewability of your scholarship.
- Your failure to read and understand these terms and conditions neither releases you from the responsibility of complying with these terms and conditions, nor from the liability associated with the loss of your scholarship award for failure to meet the academic renewal requirements.