

Financial Aid

Holy Family University is committed to providing education to qualified students regardless of means. The financial aid program offers assistance to students in need through scholarships, grants, loans and employment. Non-need based scholarships are offered to incoming and transfer students based on academic achievement.

Overall, the University views financial assistance to students as a cooperative investment in a student's education. If parents and the student contribute to the maximum of their ability, then the University attempts to complete the partnership. Financial aid awards, then, are offered as a supplement to the family contribution.

Various Financial Aid Policies

1. Renewal of aid administered by Holy Family University is dependent upon the availability of funds and a reassessment of the aid recipient's eligibility.
2. Commitment of funds assigned by the federal and state government is made subject to legislative appropriation.
3. If a student receives a Pennsylvania State Grant, another state grant or an Athletic Grant after receiving a Holy Family Grant and/or a Federal SEOG Grant, the Holy Family Grant or Federal SEOG Grant may be reduced by the amount of the additional state grant or Athletic Grant. The Holy Family Grant or Federal SEOG Grant will not be increased if a student's state grant is lost due to late filing of their applications and/or the student's lack of response to the state's request for additional information.
4. A first-time Direct Federal Stafford Loan borrower must complete a Direct Federal Stafford Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN) and also loan entrance counseling before loan funds can be disbursed. Recipients of the Federal Perkins Loan and the Federal Nursing Loan must meet with the student loan officer to complete all necessary paperwork prior to the disbursement of those funds.
5. Before leaving the University, all student loan borrowers must complete a loan exit interview. The purpose of the exit interview is to make the student familiar with the rights and obligations for repayment of their student loan.
6. Each applicant for need-based financial aid must agree to submit his/her own and/or parents' IRS Tax Return transcript and any other requested

forms to the Financial Aid Office upon request. Omission or falsification of pertinent information does not relieve the student of financial obligations to the University and may result in refusal or withdrawal of financial aid, refusal of admission, dismissal from the University or any other penalty deemed appropriate by the University.

7. Federal regulations do not allow repeated courses when evaluating eligibility for federal aid, except for failed courses and one repeat of a passed course. Students repeating a course that will not be counted for aid eligibility must make sure that they are registered for enough additional credits (without counting the repeated course) to be enrolled at least full-time if they are normally full-time, or half-time if they are normally half-time.
8. Students are obligated to report to the Financial Aid Office any changes of enrollment or residency status or any changes in their financial situation (including receipt of gifts or outside scholarships and/or tuition reimbursement for expenses related to attending Holy Family).
9. When a student's financial assistance from outside sources in combination with federal, state and Holy Family funded grants and scholarships exceeds the general tuition and fee cost, their Holy Family funded grant and/or scholarship will be reduced by the amount in excess of the general tuition and fee cost.
10. Except for some Holy Family Scholarships, students must reapply for all types of financial assistance each academic year by the required filing deadline (see Annual Application Procedures for filing deadlines).
11. Holy Family University awards university-based grants and scholarships to first through fourth year full-time students. Fifth year full-time students may be eligible for Federal Pell Grants, Direct Federal Stafford Loans, and Private Education Loans but are not eligible for university based funds. University-based grants and scholarships also do not cover overload courses or double majors.
12. Holy Family University is committed to all qualified persons regardless of their economic or social status and does not discriminate in any of its policies, programs or activities on the basis of gender, race, age, handicap, marital or parental status, color or national or ethnic origin.

Satisfactory Academic Progress for Financial Aid

Students receiving financial aid are required by federal regulation to be making Satisfactory Academic Progress in order to continue to receive aid while enrolled at Holy Family University.

Minimum Standards for Satisfactory Academic Progress for Financial Aid

Federal regulations require that an institution establish, publish, and apply reasonable standards for measuring whether a student, who is otherwise eligi-

ble for aid, is maintaining satisfactory academic progress in their course of study. The standards must be the same or stricter than the institution's standards for a student enrolled in the same academic program who is not receiving financial aid. For the purpose of satisfactory academic progress, financial aid includes all federal, state, and Holy Family University funded scholarships, grants, discounts, work, and loans. Listed below is the complete statement of Minimum Standards for Satisfactory Academic Progress for financial aid. Please refer to our web site for the most up to date version of this policy (www.holyfamily.edu/finaid).

Maximum Timeframe for Completing Degree Requirements

- Students are expected to complete their program of study (degree) in the number of semesters indicated in the catalog. Transfer students and students changing programs are placed in an appropriate semester on the basis of credits transferred. Such students are expected to complete their degree according to the remaining semesters in their program plus one additional semester to allow for scheduling difficulties.
- The maximum timeframe for completing degree requirements is six years for full-time study, twelve years for half-time study and seven years for the accelerated program. Transfer credits earned at other institutions that are applicable to the student's program of study will be considered in determining the student's maximum timeframe for program completion.
- Holy Family University funded financial aid (scholarships, grants, and discounts) is not available for more than eight full-time semesters. Also, Pennsylvania State Grants are only available for eight full-time semesters and sixteen half-time semesters.

Students must make quantitative progress (pace of completion) and qualitative progress (minimum cumulative grade point average) toward their educational goals each academic year to receive aid. The academic year consists of the summer sessions and two regular semesters (fall and spring).

Quantitative Standards

To be eligible for continued receipt of financial aid (excluding Pennsylvania State Grants), students must satisfactorily complete at least 75% of all courses attempted.

Qualitative Standards

To be eligible for continued receipt of financial aid, students must achieve the following cumulative grade point average (GPA):

23 or fewer cumulative credits	1.75 cumulative GPA
24 and above cumulative credits	2.0 cumulative GPA

Students who receive the following scholarships must also maintain the stated minimum cumulative grade point average in order to continue to receive the scholarship:

Scholarship/Minimum Cumulative GPA

Scholarship	Minimum Cumulative GPA
Presidential	3.0
Trustees	3.0
Deans	2.6
Provost Grant	2.6

Measurement of Academic Progress

Academic Progress measurement includes all semesters and is usually measured at the end of the Spring semester. Students beginning their program in the Spring semester will be evaluated based on their academic performance during their first Spring semester and at the end of each subsequent Spring semester. Also, the satisfactory progress standards are cumulative and will include all semesters of the student's enrollment, even those for which the student did not receive financial aid.

Failures and withdrawals are courses attempted, not completed. Incompletes are not counted toward credits completed until after the course work is successfully completed and posted by the Registrar's Office. Repeat courses will be evaluated for satisfactory academic progress as outlined in the academic policy section of the University catalog.

When Minimum Standards of Academic Progress Are Not Achieved

Students who fail to meet these requirements will be notified in writing by the financial aid office after information on academic progress is available at the end of the academic year (typically May). Students who fail to meet these requirements will not be considered for financial aid until all requirements have been met. Under no circumstances will financial aid be awarded retroactively to the semester(s) in which the requirements were not met. Students who fail to meet these requirements have the opportunity to make up the hours and grade point requirements needed during the Summer sessions (at their own expense). Once the Summer course work is posted by the Registrar's Office, the student will be considered for financial aid for the next semester if the requirements are met. It is the student's responsibility to ensure the grades and credits completed have been properly posted with the Registrar's Office and to notify the Financial Aid Office once this has occurred.

The student may also submit a letter of appeal in writing to the Financial Aid Office. The appeal must include the following:

- The events that occurred within the past academic year that prevented the minimum requirements from being met. It should specify mitigating circumstances such as extended illness, death in the family, or other extraordinary extenuating circumstances. The financial aid office may request additional documentation to support the appeal.
- What has changed in their situation that will allow them to make Satisfactory Academic Progress at the next evaluation. This should include an explanation of what actions will be taken to ensure the requirements are met the following year.

Approval or disapproval of this appeal will be made by the Financial Aid Appeals Committee. The student will be notified in writing of the committee's decision. If the appeal is denied, the student will remain ineligible for financial aid until the minimum requirements are met. If the appeal is approved, the student will be placed on Financial Aid Probation for one semester. The student may also be required to complete an Academic Plan if it is determined it is not possible for the student to meet the minimum requirements after just one semester's coursework. At the end of the probationary semester it will be determined if all requirements have been met. If so, the probationary status will be removed. If the requirements were not met at the end of the probationary semester, the student will be ineligible for further financial aid until the minimum requirements are met.

Standards of Academic Progress for the Pennsylvania State Grant Program

Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Authority (PHEAA) requires recipients of the PA State Grant to complete a minimum of 24 credits for every two semesters of full-time grant assistance received, or a minimum of 12 credits for every two semesters of half-time grant assistance received. Students whose status is split between academic years (full-time/half-time) will have their state grant eligibility reviewed based on a proration of annual requirements for the appropriate semester. Students must appeal directly to PHEAA concerning extenuating circumstances. The University cannot override the state's decision regarding the loss of a State Grant.