

First Generation Scholarship

	<p>Policy identification number: To come...</p> <p>File: Enrollment Management Policies > Award of Scholarship</p> <p>First Generation Scholarship</p> <p>Policy Summary</p> <p>This policy states the requirements for awarding, disbursement, renewal, cancellation, and reinstatement of the First Generation Scholarship.</p>
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Policy Owner	Approval Date	Effective Date
Vice President, Finance and Administration	October 15, 2019	October 15, 2019

Search Terms	Scheduled for Review
vpfa, f, first, generation, scholarship	This policy is sunseting - no new awards after Fall 2020

I. General Criteria

1. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) serves as the application for the First Generation Scholarship.
2. New awards will be made in order of receipt of valid FAFSA and acceptance for admission, whichever is later. Because there is a limited number of these awards, meeting minimum eligibility standards does not result in automatic award.
3. Scholarship disbursements are applied to the Fort Lewis College tuition bill by the Accounting Office.
4. Scholarships will be disbursed at 50% of the annual award amount for each Fall and Spring semester. Under no circumstances will the scholarship be disbursed in one payment for the full annual award.
5. Students must enroll in a minimum of 12 credits each Fall and Spring semester by Census date to be eligible for disbursement.
6. Scholarship funds can be used for education expenses.

II. Eligibility Criteria for Initial Award

1. Students must be admitted as a first-time, baccalaureate seeking freshman, in a Fall semester.
2. Students must be considered a first generation student as defined as neither parent having received a Bachelor's Degree or higher.
 1. Data is pulled from the FAFSA application and the question must be answered for both parents to be considered.
3. Students must be classified as a Colorado resident for tuition purposes.
4. Students must have a valid FAFSA record at Fort Lewis College.

III. Scholarship Amounts

1. \$2000/academic year. \$1000/Fall and Spring semester.

IV. Renewal Criteria of Award

1. Cumulative Grade Point Average Requirement
 1. Students must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.00 or higher on college-level coursework taken at Fort Lewis College.
2. Length of Scholarship
 1. Scholarships are renewable up to 8 semesters.
 1. The 8 semesters will be counted from the student's first term of matriculation regardless of disbursement.
 2. The length of award will not be extended for students who are renewed under the initial award year criteria.

V. Scholarship Cancellation

1. Students who do not meet the renewal criteria set forth in Section IV will have their scholarship cancelled.
2. Students who do not meet the disbursement criteria set forth in Section IV will have their scholarship cancelled.
3. Students who fail to attend continuous Fall and Spring semesters after award of the scholarship will have their scholarship cancelled.
 1. Enrollment in but subsequent official withdrawal from the semester is considered failure to attend continuously.
 2. Enrollment in a summer semester cannot substitute for failure to enroll in a Fall and Spring semester for purposes of meeting continuous enrollment standard.

VI. Evaluation of Renewal Criteria

1. Students receiving First Generation Scholarship will be evaluated for renewal criteria after the posting of grades by the Registrar for the Spring semester.

1. Students not meeting renewal criteria after Spring semester who are enrolled in Summer courses at Fort Lewis College will be evaluated again once all grades are posted by the Registrar's Office at the end of the summer term.
2. Evaluation of renewal criteria will be done by the Financial Aid Office.

VII. Scholarship Appeal Process

Appeal of Scholarship Cancellation

1. Students who do not meet the criteria set forth in Section V are eligible to appeal the decision.
2. Students appealing to receive their scholarship must prepare an appeals package. Required documents are:
 1. Completed and signed Scholarship Cancellation & Award Amount Appeal Form
 2. Personal Statement
 3. Documentation materially relevant to verify their claim in personal statement.
3. A complete appeals package must be received by the deadline published on the financial aid website.
 1. Appeal packages should be submitted to the Financial Aid Office by Fax, Email, Mail or hand delivered.
4. In addition to the completed appeals package, the Scholarship Appeals Committee may consider academic and disciplinary history and standing in making its decision. Funding availability will also be considered.
5. The Scholarship Appeals Committee may make the following determinations after a review of an appeal:
 1. Deferred
 2. Denied, without option for further appeal
 3. Denied, with option to re-appeal after meeting cumulative grade point average and credit completion requirements
 4. Approved for immediate reinstatement of full scholarship, with or without conditions
 5. Approved for immediate reinstatement of partial scholarship amount, with or without conditions.

VIII. Notifications

1. Of Initial Award
 1. Students will receive an award notification from the Financial Aid Office detailing the amounts by term, terms and conditions.
2. Of Cancellations and non-renewals
 1. The Financial Aid Office will notify students at the end of the Spring term if their scholarship is cancelled due to failure to meet renewal criteria.
 1. Notice will be sent to the student's FLC email account.

2. Notice will include the reason for non-renewal and the process to appeal the decision.
2. The Financial Aid Office will notify students of cancellations due to failure to meet disbursement criteria after Census Date of the semester cancelled.
 1. Notice will be sent to the student's FLC email account.

IX. Reason for Policy

This policy provides a framework for the management of the First Generation Scholarship program.

X. Responsibilities

For following this policy: Scholarship Recipients, Director of Financial Aid, Assistant Controller

For oversight of policy: Vice President, Finance and Administration

For enforcement of policy: Vice President, Finance and Administration

For notifications of policy: Policy Librarian

For procedures implementing this policy: Director of Financial Aid, Assistant Controller

XI. Definitions

First-time Freshman: A student who is enrolling in college for the first time since graduating from high school.

First Generation: defined as neither parent receiving a Bachelor's Degree or higher.

Parent: Parent is defined as biological or adoptive. For purposes of determining First Generation status stepparent, legal guardian, or foster parent are not considered parent.

Valid FAFSA: a valid FAFSA is defined as a FAFSA record that is not rejected for processing by the Central Processing Service.