

## **Year-Round Federal Pell Grant Policy**

Beginning with the 2009-2010 academic year, students are eligible for up to 2 scheduled awards (200%) per year of Federal Pell grants. For the summer of 2010 UIS will pay the Federal Pell grant out of the 2009-2010 year (as a "trailer") during the transition period for the new Federal Pell grant awards. If students use their first scheduled award and they enroll in a minimum of 6 credit hours they can be eligible for a second scheduled award. Students must also meet satisfactory academic progress according to the UIS Standards of Academic Progress (SAP) policy and have at least one credit hour that will go toward their second year. UIS defines its year as 24 credit hours, for example, if the student receives a full-time award in fall 2009 and spring 2010 and enrolls in 6 or more hours in summer they would receive the Federal Pell grant for the summer payment period from the 2009-2010 year, providing they are otherwise eligible. Federal Pell grants for a payment period may be awarded from both the first and second scheduled awards if the student is eligible. For the summer, 2010 only, no consideration will be given to 2010-2011 Federal Pell Grant student eligibility during the cross-over payment period.

For the summer of 2011, UIS will consider the term to be a "cross-over" payment period and will pay The Federal Pell grant out of the 2010-2011 or 2011-2012 award year based on which ever award year provides the student with the most Federal Pell grant eligibility. Students must have a valid ISIR on file for the year used to determine Federal Pell grant eligibility. If students use their first scheduled award and they enroll in a minimum of 6 credit hours they can be eligible for a second scheduled award. Student must have one hour which would go into their second year. For example, if the student receives a full-time award in fall 2010 and spring 2011 and enrolls in 6 hours or more in summer they would receive the Federal Pell grant for the summer payment period from either the 2010-2011 or the 2011-2012 award year based on which ever will provide the largest scheduled award, providing they are otherwise eligible. Federal Pell grants for a payment period may be awarded from both the first and second scheduled awards if the student is eligible. For the summer 2011, students will also need to meet the applicable acceleration and satisfactory academic progress requirement for a 2010-2011 award or they may not be eligible for a first scheduled award from the 2011-2012 year. For the summer terms in all subsequent years after 2011 the rules applied in summer 2011 will be applied using the appropriate aid years as determined by federal regulations. It is our policy to recalculate a student's Federal Pell Grant award prior to census date, which is the 10<sup>th</sup> day of classes. If a student withdraws from a course prior to the census date and we perform a recalculation of the student's award, then the student's eligibility to meet acceleration rules could be affected, resulting in a reduction of the student's award.

For example:

A student is registered for 9 hours in the fall 2010, 9 hours in the spring 2011 and 7 hours in the summer 2011 thereby making him/her eligible for 2011-2012 scheduled award. The student drops 1 credit hour prior to the census date and his/her award is recalculated based on the remaining 6 credit hours for the summer 2011. This hour is no longer counting toward the student's acceleration requirement and therefore the student cannot be awarded from the 2011-2012 scheduled award.

If the student drops the 1 credit hour after the census date, the student award is not recalculated; therefore the student is continuing to meet the acceleration criteria and can be awarded from the 2011-2011 scheduled award.

Transfer students for 2 scheduled Federal Pell Awards beginning 2010-2011:

UIS will use the assumption method to determine acceleration toward the second scheduled Federal Pell Grant award. If a student received 100% of the first scheduled Federal Pell Grant Award at a prior school(s), we will assume the student completed his/her first academic year.

If a student received less than 100% we will use the same ratio to UIS' academic year as the % of the scheduled award that was received from the other school(s) and round down.

Example: Assume a student completed the same ratio of the academic year as the % of the Federal Pell Grant received

- Prior school disbursed \$2,007 of \$5,350 Scheduled Award at that school.
- UIS academic year is defined as 24 credit hours
- $\$2,007 \times 24 / \$5,350 = 9$  credits assumed earned at prior school
- Student is given 9 credits toward completion of the first academic year.

#### **Special Circumstances for Academic Year Completion Requirement for Second Scheduled Award:**

If the FAA determines that student was unable to complete the hours of his/her first academic year due to "circumstances beyond the student's control," The academic year completion requirement can be waived. Determination must be documented and made on a student by student basis.

*Special Circumstances may include but are not limited to the following:*

- Student withdrawing from classes due to a verifiable illness.
- Student being unable to register for classes necessary to complete his or her eligible program because classes were not offered.

Special circumstances beyond a student's control do not include:

- Withdrawing to avoid a particular grade.
- Failing to register for necessary class that is offered during the term to avoid a particular instructor.
- Failing to register because the student is/was unable to register and classes are full.

<http://www.ifap.ed.gov/qadocs/policiesandprocedures/section7pandp.doc>