

# GREENBACK

## NOVA's Financial Aid Quarterly Newsletter

August 2014

### Time Limitation on Direct Subsidized Loan Eligibility for First-Time Borrowers

#### Maximum eligibility period for Direct Subsidized Loans

Beginning July 1, 2013, students are limited on the maximum period of time (measured in terms) that they can receive Direct Subsidized Loans. In general, you may not receive Direct Subsidized Loans for more than 150% of the published length of your program. This is called your "maximum eligibility period". You can usually find the published length of any program of study in your school's catalog.

Your maximum eligibility period is based on the published length of your current program. This means that your maximum eligibility period can change if you change programs. Also, if you receive Direct Subsidized Loans for one program and then change to another program, the Direct Subsidized Loans you received for the earlier program will count against your new maximum eligibility period.

#### Periods that count against your maximum eligibility period

The periods of time that count against your maximum eligibility period are periods of enrollment (also known as "loan periods") for which you receive Direct Subsidized Loans. If you receive a Direct Subsidized Loan for a period of enrollment that is shorter than a full academic year, the period that counts against your maximum usage period will generally be reduced accordingly.

With one exception, the *amount* of a Direct Subsidized Loan you receive for a period of enrollment does not affect how much of your maximum eligibility period you have used. That is, even if you receive a Direct Subsidized Loan in an amount that is less than the full annual loan limit, that lesser amount does not reduce the amount of maximum eligibility period you have used. The one exception applies if you receive the full annual loan limit for a loan period that does not cover the whole academic year; that circumstance will count as a full year.

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### Bookstore Purchase Authorization E-form for Fall 2014

Students with pending financial aid can purchase books against their excess financial aid. Campus bookstore purchases using financial aid began on Aug 6th and continue through the term census date, Sept 8th. Students enrolled in distance learning or wishing to make their purchase online **must** complete and electronically sign the [Bookstore Authorization form via the Dashboard](#) prior to your order being processed. Students picking their books up at the campus book store will still be required to complete the Bookstore Authorization form to confirm financial aid available for book purchases.

Students enrolled or planning to enroll in later starting classes who desire to use their financial aid to purchase books must do so during this purchase period. Students who are awarded after the term census date and/or who still show anticipated aid at that time will be able to charge bookstore purchases against their undisbursed financial aid award when a second book purchase period opens prior to the second eight-week session.

### Follow Us



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## Effect of borrowing while enrolled part-time

Except as stated in the last paragraph, if you receive a Direct Subsidized Loan when you are enrolled less than full-time, the period will count as a partial year against your maximum eligibility timeframe.

## Loss of eligibility for additional Direct Subsidized Loans and becoming responsible for paying interest on Direct Subsidized Loans

After you have received Direct Subsidized Loans for your maximum eligibility period, you are no longer eligible to receive additional Direct Subsidized Loans. If you enroll again for the same program or one that is the same or shorter length, you lose eligibility for loan subsidy on all loans taken for this program length. Remember, your maximum eligibility period can change if you enroll in a longer program.

[Click this link to see a chart with examples of these circumstances.](#)

If you meet any of the “yes” conditions indicated on the chart, you will become responsible for the interest that accrues on your Direct Subsidized Loans--during periods when interest would have normally been paid for you.

## Regaining eligibility for Direct Subsidized Loans

If you become ineligible for Direct Subsidized Loans because you have received Direct Subsidized Loans for your maximum eligibility period, you may again become eligible to receive Direct Subsidized Loans if you enroll in a new program that is longer than your previous program.

If you regain eligibility to receive additional Direct Subsidized Loans because you enrolled in a program that is longer than your prior program and you previously became responsible for paying all of the interest that accrues on your Direct Subsidized Loans, the government will pay the interest that accrues on your new loans during the periods described in the chart above. You will continue to be responsible for paying all of the interest that accrues on the previous Direct Subsidized Loans that you received.

[Read the complete article on Financial Aid Blog](#)

## FAS Online Verification Interview

- Website: [www.sscwp.org/](http://www.sscwp.org/)
- Toll free number for customer Support: 1-855-328-4400
- Toll free number to Fax documents: 1-866-258-8362
- Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. (ET) Monday - Thursday  
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (ET) Friday



Online Help



## Financial Aid Pending (FAP) Holds

The College Financial Aid Office (CFAO) is working diligently to process all financial aid applications. To prevent classes from being cancelled, we have placed FAP indicators on eligible student accounts that meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress standards and have no debt holds.

**Watch your NOVAConnect account. Respond immediately to additional requests for information.**

The CFAO will award, in the order files are completed, as many files as possible between now and the first day of classes. Additionally, the CFAO will continue to process late applications beyond the start of classes. Students needing financial aid to enroll should consider enrolling in later starting classes. Notify the Support Center immediately when you enroll.

You are responsible for your own registered classes. Drop all fall 2014 registered classes you are not planning to attend. You can be charged for these classes and can even receive failing grades for these classes. A FAP (NVCC Financial Aid Award Pending) will prevent your classes from dropping for non-payment but does not prevent you from dropping classes yourself.

If you withdraw or stop attending before the term is over, whether or not you complete some credits, a portion of your aid will likely have to be returned, resulting in your owing money to NOVA, the Department of Education and/or the Commonwealth. Review the [Return to Title IV policy on NOVA's website](#).

## Disbursement Update

Approximately six weeks into the term, excess financial aid above what you owe the college will be mailed to your address of record at NOVA. For students in later starting classes and/or less than full time, your disbursement will process once we have confirmed enrollment to meet the required eligibility for your financial aid. Student must be meeting [Satisfactory Academic Progress](#) to be eligible for financial aid.