

Financial Assistance

Although primary responsibility for financing a college education must be assumed by the student, the College subscribes to the theory that no student should be denied the opportunity of acquiring an education because of financial barriers. Through diverse grant, scholarship, and work programs, Bevill State Community College has been able to offer educational opportunities to individuals who cannot, through their own resources, afford a postsecondary education.

Eligibility

General eligibility for most financial assistance programs requires that a student:

- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident;
- Be enrolled as a regular student in an eligible program;
- Demonstrate financial need;
- Have no default on any federal loan nor owe a repayment on a Pell Grant, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, or any federal grant at any institution;
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress.
- Have a high school diploma or GED.

Application for Financial Assistance

Financial assistance for students may be in the form of scholarships, grants, employment, or a combination of any of these programs. Financial assistance is awarded annually; therefore, each student must apply each year. It is the student's responsibility to secure the necessary applications, complete them as directed, and submit them to the designated place at the appropriate time. Students who wish to be considered for need-based financial aid must complete the U.S. Department of Education's **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**. Students are encouraged to apply as soon as possible after October 1 for the following academic year. All financial assistance applications may be obtained from the Office of Student Services or online at www.bscc.edu.

Federal Pell Grant

The Pell Grant Program serves as a foundation of financial assistance to which aid from other federal and non-federal sources may be added. To determine eligibility, students must complete a **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**. Students may apply online at <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa>.

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)

A limited number of Pell Grant recipients with the greatest financial need are given priority for the FSEOG program. Students do not need to complete any additional application for FSEOG. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) serves as the application.

Return of Title IV Funds

Bevill State is required to return unearned Federal grant funds to the U.S. Department of Education on the student's behalf if they completely withdraw prior to the 60% point of the semester. When this occurs, the student will owe a repayment of the unearned Federal grant funds to the College.

Complete withdrawal is defined as the date the student submits a completed schedule change form (dropping all classes) to the Office of Student Services or instructional site. In those cases when a student unofficially withdraws (stops attending without completing the withdrawal process), the withdrawal date is the mid-point (50%) of the term.

Repayment is defined as the unearned grant money the student must return to the College. The amount of repayment will be based on a formula prescribed by law that considers the date of withdrawal and the amount of federal grant funds (excluding work-study) received. Students who owe a repayment to the College will not be allowed to register for subsequent terms until outstanding charges are paid.

Federal Work-Study Program (FWS)

Eligible work-study students are paid minimum wage as mandated by the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act for part-time employment on campus. Students work in a variety of offices and departments with their work schedules built around their academic schedules.

Alabama Student Assistance Program (ASAP)

Funds are awarded to eligible Alabama residents who demonstrate need and who are enrolled in at least 6 credit hours. Students must be eligible for Federal Pell Grant. There is no special application for these funds and the funds are very limited for this program.

Institutional Scholarship Program

Bevill State offers numerous scholarships including academic, leadership/service, foundation/need-based, athletics and performing arts. For more information contact the Office of Student Services.

Private/Alternative Loans

Bevill State does not participate in the Federal Student Loan program. Students may wish to pursue a private/alternative loan option. Alternative Loans are private loans made through lending institutions based on the student's level of creditworthiness as determined by the lender. The student's level of creditworthiness affects the loan terms and if a co-signer is required. The college is not able to recommend, promote or endorse any specific loan products or lenders. Students should discuss all aid options before enrolling in any student loan program and should only borrow conservatively. Students should decide upon a lender that best meets his or her needs. Private/alternative loans will be certified upon the request from the lender and the student. The loan amount may not exceed the student's Cost of Attendance. Students must complete a Private Loan Request Form. Students must be enrolled for a minimum of 6 credit hours to be eligible. Tuition and fees must be paid before the remaining loan balance will be disbursed. The balance will not be disbursed until the 14th day of class and is dependent upon student attendance.

VA Benefits

Bevill State Community College is fully approved by the Veterans' Administration to offer training to veterans. Veterans or veterans' dependents planning to attend college should make application directly to the Veterans' Administration and acquire prior approval before entering college.

For students receiving VA education benefits, any complaint against the school should be routed through the VA GI Bill Feedback System by going to the following link: <http://www.benefits.va.gov/GIBILL/Feedback.asp>. The VA will then follow up through the appropriate channels to investigate the complaint and resolve it satisfactorily.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

The WIOA program offers assistance to selected eligible individuals who enter approved training programs at Bevill State Community College. Funds are generally provided for tuition, fees, books, and tools. Eligibility is determined by the local State Employment Office.

Vocational Rehabilitation

The State of Alabama provides certain benefits for students through the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services. Information is available from the Director of Rehabilitation, State Department of Education, Montgomery, Alabama 36104. Telephone numbers are 800-441-7607 or 334-293-7500.

Staff Financial Assistance Program (SFAP)

The Staff Financial Assistance Program is funded by College employees to assist students who may have immediate financial needs. Grants or loans are awarded for direct institutional costs only. The SFAP committee on each campus meets as necessary to determine these awards. Applications are available in the Office of Student Services.

Financial Assistance Academic Progress Standards

In addition to meeting the College's required progress standards as outlined in this publication, students receiving Federal Financial Assistance must meet the following standards of progress:

1. When a student who is eligible for Title IV Federal financial aid is academically suspended, whether the student serves the suspension or is readmitted upon appeal, the student is not eligible to receive financial aid for the duration of the suspension. The student will not be eligible again to receive financial aid until he or she earns the cumulative GPA required for the number of credit hours attempted at the institution or the semester GPA is 2.0 or above (based on at least 12 credit hours or more attempted at the institution during that term).
2. Eligible students may receive Title IV Federal financial aid for a period of time not to exceed 1.5 times the normal length of a specific program.
3. Students on Title IV Federal financial aid must earn two-thirds of their scheduled hours.

Students who do not meet the above standards will be ineligible for Title IV Federal financial aid. A Title IV Federal financial aid recipient who is enrolled in a developmental (remedial) course may not enroll in the same course more than three times and continue to receive financial assistance. A Title IV Federal financial aid recipient may not be paid for more than 30 credit hours of developmental work. Satisfactory academic progress is evaluated each year prior to the next Financial Aid year.

A student may receive Title IV aid for any repetition of a course as long as the student has never passed the course. Title IV aid will apply to only one paid repeat of courses where a student has earned a "D" or higher.

Due Process for Appeal of the Suspension of Title IV Financial Assistance

A student who desires to appeal the suspension of his/her financial assistance award may do so by submitting a Financial Aid Appeal Packet to the Financial Aid Services Central Processing Center (FASCPC). The Financial Aid Appeal Form outlines the guidelines for completing the appeal process. The form is available in the Office of Student Services or at www.bscc.edu under forms and publications. The completed appeal packet must be submitted no later than the date(s) outlined by term below:

Priority Review Deadline:

2019 Fall Term: July 25, 2019

2020 Spring Term: November 22, 2019

2020 Summer Term: April 17, 2020

Review Deadline:

2019 Fall Term: August 13, 2019

2020 Spring Term: January 6, 2020

2020 Summer Term: May 26, 2020

Bevill will consider the number of program changes when assessing an appeal request. Students are allowed two program/major changes for a total of three programs. Students who want to continue on financial aid must have documented circumstances explaining their reasons. Submission of an appeal is not an automatic approval for financial aid. The student may review the Committee's decision at www.bscc.edu/MyBSCC. This decision will be final. Students who have reached their 600% Lifetime Eligibility for Pell Grant funds are not eligible to appeal.