

MONEY MATTERS

The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships



FINANCIAL AID ELIGIBLE HOURS

Federal regulations stipulate that schools can only consider classes that count towards your degree requirements when awarding financial aid. Classes that can be included when determining financial aid eligibility are those that:

- count toward your degree or general education requirements,
- are required for your major,
- are required for your minor, or
- fulfill your electives to reach a minimum of 120 credit hours.

In MyMadison, you will see a “Yes” or “No” under the “Eligible for Financial Aid” column in “My Class Schedule”. A class with “Yes” next to it will be considered when calculating your financial aid eligibility. Those with a “No” will not.

For example, if you are registered for 12 credits and 9 of them are marked with a “Yes” but 3 say “No,” then you will be considered a 9-hour student for financial aid purposes.

<http://www.jmu.edu/financialaid/learn/faqs/faq-class-aid-eligibility.shtml>

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WITHDRAWALS CAN AFFECT FINANCIAL AID ELIGIBILITY

The decision to withdraw from one class or from all of your classes within a given term can affect your eligibility for financial assistance now and in the future. To comply with federal regulations, the financial aid office may need to reduce or cancel previously disbursed financial aid. This immediate consequence could cause you to owe the university money. For the future, withdrawing could result in your inability to meet Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements. Students who fail to meet SAP standards cannot receive financial aid. Use our online SAP Estimator to determine whether your academic progress meets requirements.

View SAP requirements at
www.jmu.edu/financialaid/learn/sap/index.shtml

To learn more about the effects of withdrawals, review the Section 12: Effects of Dropping and Withdrawing from Classes in JMU Terms and Conditions at <http://www.jmu.edu/financialaid/terms-and-conditions.shtml#Set-1-A-section12>

SUBMIT YOUR FAFSA NOW!

To receive priority consideration for 2020-21 financial aid, submit your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) before **March 1**, JMU's priority filing date.

Go to studentaid.gov to complete your application.



CHANGES TO FEDERAL STUDENT AID SITES

Federal Student Aid (FSA) is changing how students and parents access information about the federal aid programs.

StudentAid.gov is now the primary website. The following websites have been consolidated under this site:

- ☐ StudentLoans.gov
- ☐ FSAID.ed.gov
- ☐ NSLDS.ed.gov
- ☐ FAFSA.gov

For the foreseeable future, all of the existing websites will be redirected, so services will hopefully be uninterrupted while this transition takes place.

This change was initiated based on research conducted by FSA, which "revealed that many users find FSA's multiple, inconsistently branded websites confusing and frustrating. Consolidating the most-visited sites helps address this, creating a single, digital front door through which all FSA information and services can be found."

For more information about this change, you can view a video posted by FSA: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I1O6lpMUDqY>

For questions, call 1-800-4-FED-AID

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 21st - Add/Drop Deadline

January 27th - SAP Appeal deadline

March 1st - JMU's FAFSA priority filing date