

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>

IN THIS ISSUE:

FINANCIAL AID ELIGIBLE HOURS

WITHDRAWALS

ATTENDANCE VERIFICATION

FILE YOUR 2021-22 FAFSA

DATES TO REMEMBER

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 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 2021-22 financial aid, submit your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) before **March 1st**.

Go to studentaid.gov to complete your application.



ATTENDANCE VERIFICATION

Federal regulations require institutions to document that students receiving Title IV (federal financial aid) funds have attended or conducted some form of academic activity in the classes for which they receive aid.

This verification must be completed once each semester by professors after the census date.

If a professor indicates that you did not begin attendance in a class, you will receive email notification of that response. In addition, you will be administratively withdraw from the course, and your financial aid could be adjusted.

If your professor misses the deadline for submitting a response, we will contact him/her several times and as a last resort, you will be notified to initiate contact as well before an answer of "no" has to be submitted.

For more information about attendance verification, review Section 1: How Financial Aid is Awarded at JMU and General Eligibility Requirements in JMU Terms and Conditions at <https://www.jmu.edu/financialaid/terms-and-conditions.shtml#Set-1-A-section1>. Search for "Beginning Enrollment."

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 29th - Add/Drop Deadline (Semester/7W1)

February 1st - SAP Appeal deadline

February 9th - Semester and 7W1 Census Date

March 1st - JMU's FAFSA priority filing date

April 15th - 7W2 Census Date