

Two-Year College Transfer Grant

Fact Sheet

General Description and Purpose

The purpose of the Two-Year College Transfer Grant Program is to provide financial assistance to eligible students who have completed their associate's degree at a Virginia two-year public institution and transfer to a participating four-year institution. Funds are disbursed to the participating institution.

Process

Students are responsible for notifying their four-year institution that they may be eligible for the award. To assist and raise awareness, the two-year colleges notify potentially eligible students via email as the student nears completion of their Associate's degree.

NOTE: The email from the two-year college is not a confirmation of eligibility or that the student has met all of the two-year college eligibility criteria. It serves only to inform potentially eligible students.

Complete instructions will be included in the email (the email itself is not required) but all potential students must:

- Apply for financial aid by completing the FAFSA (www.fafsa.ed.gov) or the VASA (www.vasapp.org) by the four-year institution's deadline.
- Notify the financial aid office of their four-year institution of their potential eligibility, and;
- Submit a final academic transcript to the four-year institution as soon as their Associate's degree is posted.

The four-year institution will verify eligibility utilizing the student's final academic transcript and institutional data as of the institution's Census date. In most instances, final eligibility will not be established until well after the four-year college's semester is in session. Funding for awards will be made directly to the four-year institution on behalf of the student.

Eligibility

In order to be eligible, a student must:

- Be admitted into a Virginia public two or four year college or university
- Be a first-time entering freshman no earlier than fall 2007
- Be a Virginia student as determined by 1) meeting domiciliary resident of Virginia as defined by the Code of Virginia §23.1-502 and augmented by the Domicile Guidelines, 2) meeting the military dependent requirements under § 23.1-505 or 3) meeting the Tuition Equity provision requirements under § 23.1-505.1;
- Meet selective service requirements
- Have received an Associate's degree at a Virginia two-year public institution
- Have cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a scale of 4.0 for the Associate's degree
- Enroll full-time into a Virginia four-year public or Virginia four-year private nonprofit college or university by the fall following completion of Associate's degree
- Enroll into a degree program not for religious training or theological education
- Have applied for financial aid by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by the four-year institution's deadline
- Have financial need: defined as a federally calculated Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of 12,000, or less

Award Amount

- Awarded to students enrolled at a participating four-year institution
- Maximum annual standard award is \$1,000
- Additional \$1,000 for students enrolled into a degree program in: science, teaching, engineering, mathematics, or nursing
- Additional \$1,000 for students enrolled into either Norfolk State University, Old Dominion University, Radford University, University of Virginia's College at Wise, Virginia Commonwealth University or Virginia State University
- Reduced only if it results in an over award (total financial assistance is greater than the student's cost of Attendance) but can affect eligibility for state need-based aid

Renewal Criteria and Limitations

- Limited to three years (six semesters)
- Must maintain domicile in Virginia and full-time enrollment in an approved course of study
- Must have applied for financial aid by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by the institution's published deadline
- Continued eligibility based on college GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale and continued financial need, defined as a federally calculated Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of 12,000, or less.
- Must maintain satisfactory academic progress