

# Consequences of Dropping or Withdrawing from Courses Offered in Modules

## Fall Semester 2020

### Key Takeaways

- Students need to contact the Financial Aid Office if they plan to drop a course or withdraw from the college.
- Full-time status is not earned until a student has begun attendance in at least 12 credit hours.
- Loan eligibility requires attendance in at least six credit hours.

Due to the change in the academic calendar this fall, we have to combine September Term and the two Fall Terms (Q1 and Q2) into a semester for financial aid purposes. Each one of these terms is considered a module for financial aid purposes. These three modules make up the semester. In order to achieve full-time status, a student must be registered in at least 12 credit hours over the course of these three modules. Students should keep the following in mind when considering changes to their schedule:

- Students must begin attendance in a course in order for those credits to be counted towards full-time status. If, for example, a student is registered for one four-credit course in each of the three modules and withdraws from classes half way through Fall Term 1 (Q1), the student will have only sat in eight credit hours' worth of classes. This means that their federal and state financial aid must be reduced to half-time standing before a withdrawal calculation is performed.
- Federal loans require that the recipient be at least a half-time student (minimum of 6 credit hours). If a student drops credits before they have attended at least six credit hours of courses, all loans must be canceled, as eligibility for those loans was never established.
- Tuesday, October 6, is the last day to add classes in Fall Term I (Q1). A census of the number of credits for which a student is registered will be taken after the close of business on that day for financial aid purposes. We will use this to determine the enrollment status for each student for the remainder of Fall Term I (Q1) and Fall Term II (Q2) and adjust financial aid accordingly. Students cannot add classes after October 6 to achieve full-time enrollment for financial aid eligibility. If a student sat in a September course and received no credit from the course either due to withdrawal from the course or course failure, those credits will not count towards enrollment status taken on the census date.
- If a student chooses to withdraw from all courses in September Term or Fall Term I (Q1) and plans to attend subsequent courses in the fall semester, the student must confirm in writing to the Financial Aid Office their future attendance in those courses.
- If a student is considering withdrawing from the college, we recommend that the student first review the Financial Aid Refund Policy and the Financial Services Withdrawal Policy. We strongly encourage students that have federal and state grants and/or loans to visit with Financial Aid before making any final decisions.