



Third-Term OCOG Guidance

REFERENCE: FA 16-001B
TOPIC: ADDENDUM TO FA 16-001A (20 AUGUST 2015)
AUTHOR: TAMIKA BRASWELL, PROGRAM MANAGER
DATE: 05 JANUARY 2016
RELEVANT STATUTE: OHIO REVISED CODE, SECTION 3333.122



Department of
Higher Education



Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOOG)

The Ohio Department of Higher Education administers the Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOOG) program, which provides grant money to Ohio residents who demonstrate the highest levels of financial need (as determined by the results of the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#) that should be completed).

The initial FAFSA must be submitted by October 1 of each year.

General Eligibility Requirements

- Ohio residents in an associate's degree, first bachelor's degree, or nurse diploma program at an eligible Ohio institution
- EFC (Expected Family Contribution) of 2190 or less and a maximum household income of \$75,000
- Students are limited to 10 semesters or 15 quarters of state, need-based grant aid (including combination of OCOG and OIG)

Third-term OCOG

- For students attending year-round at a public community college, regional branch campus, or an institution with an adjusted award amount, statute now states that an OCOG award may be distributed for the third-term of the academic year, once Pell grants have been exhausted for that year.
- This exception is **only** for students that are Pell eligible.
- All other OCOG eligibility requirements remain.

15-16 Award Charts for Third-Term

***Based upon full-time (FT) enrollment status**

	Institution	1st term*	2nd term*	3rd Term*
Public	Community Colleges	\$0	\$0	\$ 648
	Regional Campuses	\$0	\$0	\$ 648
	Central State University	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 648
Private, Non-Profit	Allegheny Wesleyan	\$ 512	\$ 512	\$ 1,296
	God's Bible College	\$ 632	\$ 632	\$ 1,296
	Trinity School of Nursing	\$ 852	\$ 852	\$ 1,296

***Based upon three-fourth-time (TT) enrollment status**

	Institution	1st term*	2nd term*	3rd Term*
Public	Community Colleges	\$0	\$0	\$ 486
	Regional Campuses	\$0	\$0	\$ 486
	Central State University	\$ 225	\$ 225	\$ 486
Private, Non-Profit	Allegheny Wesleyan	\$ 384	\$ 384	\$ 972
	God's Bible College	\$ 474	\$ 474	\$ 972
	Trinity School of Nursing	\$ 639	\$ 639	\$ 972

15-16 Award Charts for Third-Term, cont.

*Based upon half-time (HT) enrollment status

	Institution	1st term*	2nd term*	3rd Term*
Public	Community Colleges	\$0	\$0	\$ 324
	Regional Campuses	\$0	\$0	\$ 324
	Central State University	\$ 150	\$ 150	\$ 324
Private, Non-Profit	Allegheny Wesleyan	\$ 256	\$ 256	\$ 648
	God's Bible College	\$ 316	\$ 316	\$ 648
	Trinity School of Nursing	\$ 426	\$ 426	\$ 648

*Based upon quarter-time (QT) enrollment status

	Institution	1st term*	2nd term*	3rd Term*
Public	Community Colleges	\$0	\$0	\$ 162
	Regional Campuses	\$0	\$0	\$ 162
	Central State University	\$ 75	\$ 75	\$ 162
Private, Non-Profit	Allegheny Wesleyan	\$ 128	\$ 128	\$ 324
	God's Bible College	\$ 158	\$ 158	\$ 324
	Trinity School of Nursing	\$ 213	\$ 213	\$ 324

Foster Youth at Community Colleges

- Qualified foster youth at community colleges continue to be eligible for OCOG for 2015-2016. Statute requires that for otherwise OCOG eligible students, their living expenses are to be added to their tuition/general fees to determine their OCOG award amount
- Qualified foster youth should receive a letter from the Ohio Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Program that lists their ETV award
- Could be eligible for the 2015-2016 maximum public OCOG amount of \$1,296
- For ease of administration, a calculator is available on our website for this purpose.
- Students eligible under the foster youth provision may receive OCOG for all terms in the academic year and are not restricted to third-term OCOG

Dual Enrollment at University Regional Branch Campuses

- The combined number of credits for students that are enrolled at both the public university main campus and the public university regional branch campus can be counted toward determining a student's enrollment status for OCOG eligibility if **EITHER** (a) the majority of the credit hours (51%) are being taken at the public university main campus **OR** (b) the student is being charged full main campus tuition and general fee rates for at least half of the credit hours (50%) being taken.
- For ease of administration, a calculator is available on our website for this purpose.
- Students eligible under dual enrollment may receive OCOG for all terms in the academic year and are not restricted to third-term OCOG.

Institutions with an adjusted award amount

- Outside of community colleges and regionals, the other institutions eligible for third-term OCOG are Central State, Allegheny Wesleyan, God's Bible College, and Trinity School of Nursing.
- These four institutions currently receive OCOG but at a lower award amount due to their lower tuition.
- For these institutions, a student would receive the adjusted term award amount for the first two terms.
- For the third term, a student would be eligible for up to the full sector award amount (*see award chart*).
 - *Ex. Central State's annual award max is \$600. So a full-time student can receive \$300 in the summer, \$300 in the fall, and if they have exhausted their Pell these two terms, can now receive up to the full public term award amount for the SP term which would be \$648 (half of the public \$1296 award).*

Header Institutions (SM, AU, SP)

Following is guidance for community colleges and regional branch campuses *only*:

- Account statement should read Pell (SM term), Pell (AU term), and OCOG (SP term) for the AY
- Term award amount is based on enrollment level and would be up to: \$648 (FT), \$486 (TT), \$324 (HT), or \$162 (QT)
- OCOG is tuition and general fees specific, so the OCOG award amount would be up to the charge for the term
- Students would not receive OCOG in the SM or AU terms
- OCOG funds are requested in the SP term window on HEI
- If the student is not enrolled all three terms, they would not be OCOG eligible
- If the student did not receive Pell in both the SM and AU terms, they would not be eligible for third-term OCOG
- If the student receives full-time Pell for SM and AU and therefore has exhausted their Pell eligibility for the year, they would be eligible for OCOG in the SP term at the applicable enrollment level

Header Institutions (SM, AU, SP), cont.

- If the student receives less than full-time for either SM or AU; they would be eligible for partial OCOG in the SP term. The OCOG amount would be based on the actual enrollment level minus the remaining Pell eligibility level.
 - Ex. student is half-time in SM, full-time in AU. If in SP student is enrolled full-time but has only half-time remaining for Pell, then they would be eligible for half-time OCOG (\$324) for the SP term (FT-HT=HT). If same student is enrolled three-quarters-time for the SP term then they would be eligible for quarter-time OCOG (\$162) for the SP term (TT-HT=QT).
 - Ex. student is half-time in SM, three-quarters time in AU. If in SP student is enrolled full-time and has three-quarters remaining for Pell, then they would be eligible for quarter-time OCOG (\$162) for the SP term (FT-TT=QT).
 - If same student is enrolled less than full-time for the SP term, they would NOT be eligible for OCOG (TT-TT= No OCOG).
 - Ex. student is half-time in SM, half-time in AU. If in SP they have a FT remaining for Pell, they would NOT be eligible for OCOG.

Header Institutions (SM, AU, SP), cont.

For students close to their Pell LEU in the SP term; the OCOG amount would be based on their remaining Pell eligibility level. *If student reached their LEU prior to the AU term, they would not be eligible for third-term OCOG.*

- Ex. student is half-time in SM, full-time in AU. If in SP they only have 10% remaining of their LEU, they could receive 90% of their OCOG award.
 - If SP enrollment level is full-time, the OCOG award amount would be \$583.20 ($\$648 \times 90\%$)
- Ex. student is half-time in SM (25% Pell), full-time in AU but was only able to be paid 25% Pell in AU because the student only had 50% Pell LEU remaining when the aid year started.
 - Student had used a lifetime of 600% of Pell in the first two terms, so there is 0% Pell remaining for the spring term. Student is eligible for 100% OCOG for the SP term and award amount would be based on their actual enrollment level.

Trailer Institutions (AU, SP, SM)

Following is guidance for community colleges and regional branch campuses *only*:

- Account statement should read Pell (AU term), Pell (SP term), OCOG (SM term) for the AY
- Term award amount is based on enrollment level and would be up to: \$648 (FT), \$486 (TT), \$324 (HT), or \$162 (QT)
- OCOG is tuition and general fees specific, so the OCOG award amount would be up to the charge for the term
- OCOG will be requested after the 2nd term of Pell is received (Do not request OCOG prior to the 2nd term of Pell disbursement)
- School requests their SM (third term) under the SP term window in HEI; Ex, SM16 will be requested under SP16
- Institutions will have until August to request for OCOG under the SP window in HEI, which may require an extension request
- If student is not enrolled all three terms, they would not be OCOG eligible
- If the student did not receive Pell in both the AU and SP terms, they would not be eligible for third-term OCOG

Trailer Institutions (AU, SP, SM), cont.

- If the student receives less than full-time for either SM or AU; they would be eligible for partial OCOG in the SP term. The OCOG amount would be based on the actual enrollment level minus the remaining Pell eligibility level.
 - Ex. student is half-time in AU, full-time in SP. If in SM student is enrolled full-time but has only half-time remaining for Pell, then they would be eligible for half-time OCOG (\$324) for the SM term (FT-HT=HT). If same student is enrolled three-quarters-time for the SM term then they would be eligible for quarter-time OCOG (\$162) for the SM term (TT-HT=QT). *Funds are requested under the SP window in HEI
 - Ex. student is half-time in AU, three-quarters time in SP. If in SM student is enrolled full-time and has three-quarters remaining for Pell, then they would be eligible for quarter-time OCOG (\$162) for the SM term (FT-TT=QT). *Funds are requested under the SP window in HEI
 - If same student is enrolled less than full-time for the SM term, they would NOT be eligible for OCOG (TT-TT= No OCOG).
 - Ex. student is half-time in AU, half-time in SP. If in SM they have a FT remaining for Pell, they would NOT be eligible for OCOG.

Trailer Institutions (AU, SP, SM), cont.

For students close to their LEU in the SM term; the OCOG amount would be based on their remaining Pell eligibility level. *If student reached their LEU prior to the SP term, they would not be eligible for third-term OCOG.*

- Ex. student is half-time in AU, full-time in SP. If in SM they only have 10% remaining of their LEU, they could receive 90% of their OCOG award.
 - If SM enrollment level is full-time, the award amount would be \$583.20 (\$648*90%)
- Ex. student is half-time in AU (25% Pell), full-time in SP but was only able to be paid 25% Pell in SP because the student only had 50% Pell LEU remaining when the aid year started.
 - Student had used a lifetime of 600% of Pell in the first two terms, so there is 0% Pell remaining for the spring term. Student is eligible for 100% OCOG for the SM term and award amount would be based on their actual enrollment level.

Transfer Students

If you have a student that *was not* enrolled for all three terms of the AY but is a transfer student during your third term, the first thing you will want to check is if the other institution is a community college or regional campus. If they aren't, then the student would NOT be eligible for OCOG because third-term OCOG is "for students attending year-round at a public community college or regional branch campus".

If you are unable to determine if the other institution is a regional branch campus vs a main campus on COD or NSLDS, please contact that other institution to clarify.

Transfer Students, cont.

Students who transfer between header and trailer institutions:

- All institutions (headers and trailers) will request under the SP term window. For audit purposes, we're looking for two-terms of Pell at a minimum and one-term of OCOG at a maximum within the AY, regardless of the institutions calendar.

Students who transfer from one community college to another:

- If in the same AY the student was at a community college for all three terms, then they would not have already received OCOG those first two terms and therefore could receive it for the third-term, assuming all other eligibility criteria is met.

Transfer Students, cont.

Students who transfer between a community college and regional:

- If in the same academic year the student was at either a community college or regional branch campus for all three terms, then they would not have already received OCOG those first two terms and therefore could receive it for the third-term, assuming all other eligibility criteria is met.

Students who transfer between main campus and branch campus:

- Third-term OCOG is "for students attending year-round at a public community college, regional branch campus, or an institution with an adjusted award amount". If the student did not attend the branch campus all three terms, they would NOT be eligible the third-term for OCOG.

Third-term OCOG, cont.

- All institutions (headers and trailers) will request under the SP term window in HEI. For audit purposes, we're looking for two-terms of a Pell at a minimum and one-term of OCOG at a maximum.
- If student has partial eligibility remaining for Pell in the third-term, the remaining Pell needs to be applied first and the remaining would be their OCOG eligibility. The award amount would be based on the enrollment level minus their remaining Pell eligibility level.
- Pell does pay first. So if you have a student that has partial remaining eligibility in the third-term but Pell fully covers their tuition and fees, they would NOT be eligible to receive OCOG.
- OCOG is tuition/general fees specific and any other tuition/general fees-specific aid must be applied prior to the OCOG award. Tuition/general fees minus tuition/general fees-specific aid equals OCOG eligibility (up to the respective maximum term award).



For questions, please contact:

Tamika Braswell

614-728-8862

tbraswell@highered.ohio.gov



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