



Third-Term OCOG Guidance

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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 \$96,000 (*new*)
- 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 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.
- *Note that with the recent implementation of year-round Pell grants, an institution may find less students that would qualify for third-term OCOG.*

17-18 Award Charts for Third-Term

*Based upon full-time (FT) enrollment status				
	Institution	1st term*	2nd term*	3rd Term*
Public	Community Colleges	\$0	\$0	\$768
	Regional Campuses	\$29	\$29	\$768

*Based upon three-fourth-time (TT) enrollment status				
	Institution	1st term*	2nd term*	3rd Term*
Public	Community Colleges	\$0	\$0	\$576
	Regional Campuses	\$22	\$22	\$576

17-18 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	\$384
	Regional Campuses	\$15	\$15	\$384

*Based upon quarter-time (QT) enrollment status				
	Institution	1st term*	2nd term*	3rd Term*
Public	Community Colleges	\$0	\$0	\$192
	Regional Campuses	\$7.50	\$7.50	\$192

Foster Youth at Community Colleges

- Qualified foster youth at community colleges continue to be eligible for OCOG for 2017-2018. 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 2017-2018 maximum public OCOG amount of \$1,536
- 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 Campuses

- The combined number of credits for students that are enrolled at both the public university main campus and the public university regional campus can be counted toward determining a student's enrollment status for OCOG eligibility. However, schools should factor in the modified tuition charges. It is possible that a reduced tuition charge could make an otherwise OCOG eligible student ineligible or eligible for less OCOG in any given term if their Pell/EFC combo covers all or a larger portion of their tuition/fees due to lower charges.
- 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 regional campuses, other institutions may not be eligible for the full OCOG term award amount for the first two terms of the academic year due to the Pell-first concept.
- Typically this is the case with institutions such as **Allegheny Wesleyan, Central State University, God's Bible College, Grace College and Seminary, and Trinity School of Nursing.**
- 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*).

Header Institutions (SM, AU, SP)

- 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: \$768 (FT), \$576 (TT), \$384 (HT), or \$192 (QT)
- OCOG is tuition and general fees specific, therefore 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 SP18 term window on HEI
- If the student is not enrolled all three terms, they would not be eligible for third-term OCOG
- 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 (\$384) 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 (\$192) 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 (\$192) 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 \$691.20 ($\$768 \times 90\%$)
- 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)

- 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: \$768 (FT), \$576 (TT), \$384 (HT), or \$192 (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 disbursement of Pell)
- School requests their SM (third-term) under the SP term window in HEI; Ex, SM18 will be requested under SP18
- 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 eligible for third-term OCOG
- 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 (\$384) 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 (\$192) for the SM term (TT-HT=QT). *Funds are requested under the SP18 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 (\$192) for the SM term (FT-TT=QT). *Funds are requested under the SP18 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 \$691.20 (\$768*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 at your institution 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, regional campus, or an institution with an adjusted award amount".

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

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 campus:

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

Students who transfer between main campus and regional campus:

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

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. With the recent implementation of year-round Pell grants, an institution may find less students that would qualify for third-term 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:

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