

Two Pell Grants in One Award Year

Student Guide

What is a Pell Grant?

The Federal Pell Grant Program provides need-based grants to low-income undergraduate students who have not yet earned a bachelor's or professional degree to promote access to postsecondary



education. Grant amounts are dependent on: your expected family contribution (EFC); your cost of attendance (as determined by your school); your enrollment status (full-time or part-time); and whether you attend

for a full academic year or less. You may use your Pell Grant at any CUNY college.

In order to apply for a Pell Grant you must fill out a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Learn more about this process at www.fafsa.gov.

NEW! Two Pell Grants in One Award Year

You can now receive two Pell Grant awards within one award year, if you meet certain criteria. The first scheduled Pell Grant award is the yearly amount initially provided and the second scheduled Pell Grant award is an additional amount you could receive based on your ability to successfully complete more than 24 credits in an award year. An example of an award year is July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011.

The purpose of implementing the Two Pell Grants in One Award Year option is to give you the opportunity to accelerate your progress towards your degree by giving you access to Pell Grant funding each semester you attend college. This will also include summer semesters.

Pell Grant Awards

During the 2010-2011 academic year, the maximum Pell Grant award amount initially provided is \$5,550. If you utilize your entire first scheduled Pell Grant award you may be eligible to get funding from a second scheduled award.

You can review your estimated annual award amount, based on your EFC and enrollment status using the [Federal Pell Grant Chart](#). Your EFC can be found on your Student Aid Report (SAR) at www.fafsa.gov.

Student Eligibility

You can be enrolled in any enrollment status to receive funding from the first scheduled Pell Grant award. However, in order to receive funding from the second scheduled Pell Grant award, you must be eligible to earn greater than 24 credit hours in the 2010-2011 award year and must be taking at least 6 credits in the term you receive it.

Transfer Students

If you transfer from one college to another, the new college will take into consideration your credits attempted and the Pell Grant award received at your prior college.

Here's an example of how this works:

Let's say you are enrolled in 9 credits for Fall and 12 credits for Spring. You still have 3 credits left to meet the award year requirement of 24 credits. So, you take 9 credit hours in the summer term. You have now met the 1st year award year requirement (for the first 3 credits that will be paid out of the first scheduled award) and you are now eligible to be paid under the second Scheduled Award (for the remaining 6 credits).

	Fall	Spring	Summer	Total
Credits registered & successfully completed	9 credits	12 credits	9 credits	30 credits
% of Pell award payment	37.5% from 1 st award	50% from 1 st award	12.5% from 1 st award & 25% from 2 nd award	100% from 1 st award & 25% from 2 nd award

Semester Limits

If you received your first Pell Grant payment in the 2008-2009 award year or after you will be limited to 18 semesters of full-time payments (or its equivalent for part-time study). You can track your remaining Pell Grant eligibility on NSLDS.ed.gov (National Student Loan Data Base) or through your Student Aid Report.