Fletcher
TECHNICAL COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

FLETCHER TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Policy # 2.307

Go Grant Packaging Policy

| Authority: Enrollment Services | Effective Date: | 07/01/2022 |
| | Last Revision: | 07/01/2022 |

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Louisiana GO Grant program is to provide a need-based component to the state's financial aid plan to support nontraditional and low to moderate-income students who need additional aid to afford the cost of attending college. For all award years, the maximum award is $2000 annually ($1000 for Fall and $1000 for Spring).

POLICY STATEMENT:

It is the policy of Fletcher Technical Community College (Fletcher) to award GO grant allocations to eligible students who are currently receiving PELL payments. When GO grant funding is limited, awards are not guaranteed to ALL eligible students. An eligible student is defined as an individual who has met the criteria defined by the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) for the disbursement of GO grant funding.

Fletcher reserves the right to amend the priority processing defined above as a result of limited GO grant funding. A Fletcher Enrollment Management team member must request approval to change the priority processing through the College's Executive Director of Enrollment Management. The request should be made in writing and justification for the change in priority processing must accompany the request.

The summer semester is a header for the aid year. GO Grant is NOT paid in the summer semester.

POLICY/PROCEDURE:

Eligibility Requirements:

a) Must be a Louisiana resident
b) File a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the current year
c) Receive a federal Pell grant during the current semester
d) Have remaining financial need after deducting Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) and all federal/state/institutional grant or scholarship aid ("gift aid") from student's Cost of Attendance (COA)

e) Must be enrolled at least half-time (minimum of 6 credit hours per semester).

Campus Allocations
Annual allocation of funds to eligible participating campuses will be based on the annual legislative appropriation and will be proportionate to the institutions' prior year Go Grant expenditures.

Award Amounts

Award amounts to eligible students are based on the institution's allocation and their packaging policy. In an effort to award funds to more students, Fletcher has set a maximum award per student to $2000. Annual award amounts may vary with each academic year based on Fletcher's Packaging Policy, but must not be less than $300 and must not exceed $3000. Awards will not be paid for summer sessions, quarters or terms.

The GO Grant allocations using the LOSFA Guidelines are as follows:
   a) $2000 annual ($1000 Fall semester and $1000 Spring semester) for any student enrolled at least part-time (6 credit hours per semester).

Award Calculations

Fletcher makes a good faith effort to distribute Go Grant allocations in a manner that reaches students with the most financial need.

Example: Cost of Attendance = $25,000; EFC = 4,000; Remaining Need = 21,000 with gift aid and need-based aid (which include Federal Pell Grant, Federal SEOG, TOPS, TOPS stipends, and institutional scholarships).

$17,500	COA
-$1,500	EFC
$16,000	Financial Need

Packaging Policy
The Financial Aid Office will verify enrollment status of eligible students against official class schedule available in BANNER.

Prior to entering students on the portal, the Enrollment Services Office will total the amounts to be expended for ALL enrollment statuses to confirm that they have not funded more than allocated benefits.

The Enrollment Services Office will enter students on the portal by the following steps:
   a) Log on to the Award System by entering your User ID and Password
   b) Select Payments; then Go Grant Payment Requests
   c) Select Add to begin payment request entry
   d) Enter Student's SSN
   e) Select the appropriate semester/term; then Find Student
   f) IF a student record does not exist on the Award System, one of the following messages will appear:
      a. Student financial record does not exist. A request has been submitted to load the missing record. Please try again in 24 hours.
      b. Student financial records does not exist. Student FASFA not found.

g) If a student record does exist on the Award System, the screen will display with the student's name and DOB populated
h) Complete the payment by entering Enrolled hours and Award Amount
i) Save the record
j) As entries are saved, a list of payment requests in Pending status is created.

This could also be done in a batch process by running a COGNOS report and submitting the report in batch on the portal.

The Enrollment Services Office will award Go Grant in Banner as necessary.
a) Go to RPAAWRD, on the first tab enter annual award and save
b) If student is enrolled in only one semester for the aid year, edits are made on the second tab. Zero out the SPRING semester if the FALL is the current semester, save, and then lock the record. Zero out the FALL semester if the SPRING is the current semester, save, and then lock the record.

The Enrollment Services Office will disburse after they are entered on the portal.

Enrollment Services Office upon receipt of payment will provide a list to accounting in order for refunds to be issued.

Priorities

1. Students who are 25 or older.

2. Award to higher EFC's first.

3. The highest unmet need.

GO grant allocations are estimated based on the amount expended for the prior year and assumes students' enrollment status will remain consistent.

All eligible students (including transfer & re-entering students) are identified and a minimum of 5% of our annual student population is awarded Go Grant pending eligibility. The students are then reviewed for awards in order of priority. Eligibility criteria does not; automatically eliminate students receiving TOPS, nor eliminate students on the basis of any academic criteria other than Satisfactory Academic Progress for receipt of Title IV aid. Priority is given to transfer and re-entering students who self-identify as prior recipients at other institution(s).

Renewal Requirement

A. Must file a FAFSA or the Renewal FAFSA at least annually;
B. Continue receiving a Federal Pell Grant;
C. Have remaining financial need after deducting Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) and all federal/state/institutional grant or scholarship aid ("gift aid") from student's Cost of Attendance (COA);
D. The award can be renewed for subsequent years to a maximum lifetime award that correlates to that of the Federal Pell Grant.

<u>Over Award Policy</u>

The Louisiana Go Grant is packaged on a need basis and sometimes the student is inadvertently awarded over need allowed due to the addition of need-based aid later on in the year. In order to find these inadvertent over awards, all Go Grant recipients are double-checked to determine if they still meet the eligibility requirements for the grant prior to billing.

In the even the student's total aid exceeds their financial need or the COA, any federal loan aid included in the total aid package shall be reduced, then institutional and other aid in accordance with institutional practice, then the Louisiana Go Grant, then a TOPS award, if applicable, shall be reduced by the amount of any remaining over award.

If the receipt of additional gift aid occurs during the fall semester the Go Grant award for the spring semester will be reduced. If the receipt of additional gift aid occurs during the spring semester, no reduction is required per LOSFA guidelines. The reason for the excel award will be noted on the student file. If an over award occurs during the fall semester and the Go Grant has already been billed, a refund will be processed to LOSFA to return any funds that the student was ineligible to receive.

Go Grant eligibility is based on enrollment levels as of the 14th class day. If the student was eligible for the award on the 14th class day, no refund is due to LOSFA. Pell adjustments after the 14th class day will not impact the level of GO Grant funding. If a student withdraws from the institution prior to the 14th class day and the Enrollment Services office does not become aware of the withdrawal until after it has already billed for the student, then a refund will be due to LOSFA since the student did not meet the enrollment criteria to receive the grant.
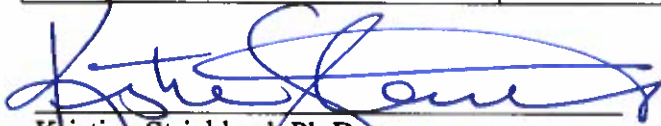
Go Grant eligibility is contingent on the student receiving a Pell Grant. If a student loses Pell Grant eligibility for a specific semester, then they will also lose their GO Grant eligibility. For instance, if a student Never Attends all of their coursework for a given semester, then they are no longer considered Pell eligible for that semester, and therefore, is ineligible for the GO Grant. In these such cases the GO Grant will be refunded to LOSFA.

Reference: Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA)

Distribution: Distributed Electronically via College's Internet.

APPROVAL:

Reviewing Council/Entity	Approval Date
Governance Council	N/A
Executive Cabinet	N/A

Kristine Strickland, Ph.D.
Chancellor

Date 9/22/22