PELL GRANT SUMMARY

The Federal Pell Grant is a form of federal gift aid for undergraduate students with exceptional financial need who have not yet earned a bachelor’s degree. You must submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.gov to be considered for the Federal Pell Grant. A new federal aid application must be filed every academic year. Approximate annual award limits for the 2016-2017 academic year range from $583 to $5,815.

GENERAL AWARD INFORMATION

- Pell Grant award amounts can change every year.
- How much grant aid you receive depends on:
  - Your Expected Family Contribution
  - Your Cost of Attendance
  - Whether you are a full-time or part-time student
  - Whether you attend school for a full academic year
- You may not receive Pell Grant funds from more than one school at a time.
- Students who graduate mid-year are not eligible for future Pell grants and will be required to repay additional Pell payments.

ANNUAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. You are enrolled in a regular degree program.
2. You are a U.S. citizen or an eligible noncitizen.
3. You are making Satisfactory Academic Progress.
4. You are not in default on any federal student aid and do not owe a refund on a federal education grant.
5. You show financial need as determined by the results of the FAFSA.
6. You have NOT previously earned a bachelor’s degree.

LIFETIME PELL GRANT LIMITS

Effective as of July 1, 2012, you can only receive Pell Grant funds for a maximum of 12 full-time semesters or its equivalent (600% lifetime eligibility).

This rule applies to all Pell Grant funds received prior to, on, and after July 1, 2012 and at any institution you attend. The U.S. Department of Education tracks every student’s Pell Lifetime Eligibility Used (LEU) among all institutions. To review your Pell LEU, log in to www.nslds.ed.gov using your FSA ID.

If you wish to decline or return Pell Grant funds within the award year to preserve eligibility for future enrollment periods, you must submit the request in writing directly to the WSU Office of Financial Aid (OFA).

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. The “Award Notification” you have been sent reflects your estimated award based on full-time enrollment. Your actual award will be determined at the semester’s census date (end of the 100% refund period) based on your enrollment and reduced accordingly if you enroll in fewer credit hours.

2. If you add classes after you initial Pell grant has been paid and after the census date (end of the 100% refund period), no additional Pell Grant funds can be disbursed.

3. Late Awards: If you applied late or regained your eligibility after the end of the 100% refund period, your eligibility for a Pell Grant will be calculated based on your enrollment status at the time of disbursement.

4. Repeated Courses: After a course has been successfully completed (with a D- or better grade), the course may only be attempted one additional time to still be eligible for the Pell Grant. This rule applies regardless of the minimum grade required by the program and regardless of whether or not you received aid for earlier enrollments in the course or its equivalents.

5. Disbursement and Your Student Account: Your Pell Grant will be applied directly to your WSU student account each term. Any excess financial aid remaining after applying towards semester charges will be sent as either by paper check or direct deposit. If your Pell does not cover the cost of your tuition/fees, you MUST make payment arrangements for the balance owed by the payment deadline.

6. Withdrawal: Any time you begin attendance in at least one course, but do not begin attendance in all of the courses scheduled to attend, regardless of whether or not you fully withdraw, the OFA must review the disbursed grant aid. This review determines if it is necessary to recalculate your eligibility for Pell Grant funds based on the revised enrollment and cost of attendance.

7. Dropping Courses: Dropping courses within the term may require you to repay all or part of the Pell Grant you received. If you are considering dropping a class, it is important to discuss your situation with a financial aid adviser before dropping.

8. Failing a Course: In the event you fail a course, the OFA is required to review if you attended or completed other academically related activity in the failed course. The OFA must determine if you earned the Pell Grant...
which was disbursed. If attendance or other academically related activity cannot be confirmed, the Pell Grant will be withdrawn for that class. As a result, you may owe a balance to Wichita State.

DEFINITIONS

**Academically Related Activity:** Academically related activities include, but are not limited to: physically attending a class where there is an opportunity for direct interaction between the instructor and student(s), submitting an academic assignment, taking an exam, an interactive tutorial or computer-assisted instruction, etc.

**Census Date:** The financial aid census date corresponds with the last day for 100% tuition refund (for full-semester courses) each semester. On that date, grant funds, the Perkins Loan, and the Cost of Attendance, will be locked based on your enrollment level. If you apply for aid, regain eligibility, or enroll for the first time after the semester’s census date, your awards and budget will be locked when your aid initially disburses.

**Cost of Attendance (COA):** The COA is an estimate of your educational expenses for the period of enrollment. The COA establishes average costs for different categories of students (i.e. full-time vs. part-time, in-state tuition vs. out-of-state tuition, etc.) and is the cornerstone for determining your financial need for "need-based" grants, loans, and work-study. It also sets the limit on the total federal aid that you may receive.

**Full-time Enrollment** (Based on the 9-month academic year): 12 or more credit hours per semester for undergraduate students; 9 or more credit hours per semester for graduate students.

**Half-time Enrollment** (Based on the 9-month academic year): 6-11 credit hours per semester for undergraduate students; 5-8 credit hours per semester for graduate students.

**Withdrawal Date:** The date the student begins the institutional withdrawal process or the last date of academically-related activity, whichever comes first.

CONTACT US

If you have any questions about your Pell Grant, please contact the Office of Financial Aid at (316) 978-3430 or toll free at 1-855-WSU1STP (978-1787).

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Wichita State University does not discriminate in its employment practices, educational programs or activities on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, gender expression, gender identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, political affiliation, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or status as a veteran. Retaliation against an individual filing or cooperating in a complaint process is also prohibited. Sexual misconduct, relationship violence and stalking are forms of sex discrimination and are prohibited under Title IX of the Education Amendments Acts of 1972. Complaints or concerns related to alleged discrimination may be directed to the Director of Equal Opportunity or the Title IX Coordinator, Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount, Wichita, KS 67260-0138; telephone (316) 978-3187.