

283—13.1(261) Tuition grant based on financial need to Iowa residents enrolled in vocational or technical (career education) programs at community colleges in the state.**13.1(1) Financial need.**

a. Financial need is defined as the lesser of the difference between the average expenses for tuition, fees, and books and supplies, as determined by the commission, and the amount of the federal Pell Grant for which the student qualifies or the difference between the average total budget at a community college, as determined by the commission, and the expected family contribution.

b. Financial need shall be evaluated annually on the basis of a confidential financial statement filed on a form designated by the commission. For the purposes of determining financial need, the commission has adopted the use of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), a federal form used to calculate a formula developed by the U.S. Department of Education, the results of which are used to determine relative need. The FAFSA must be received by the processing agent by the priority date specified in the application instructions.

13.1(2) Student eligibility.

a. A recipient must be an Iowa resident as defined by the Iowa department of education's "Iowa community college uniform policy on student residency status."

b. A recipient must be enrolled for at least three semester hours, or the trimester or quarter equivalent, in a vocational-technical or career option program at an Iowa community college.

c. A recipient may receive an award under this program for liberal arts classes identified by the community college as required for completion of a vocational-technical or career option program. A recipient must be concurrently enrolled in a vocational or technical (career education) program.

d. A full-time recipient may receive an award under this program for not more than four semesters or the trimester or quarter equivalent of two full years of study. A part-time recipient may receive an award under this program for not more than eight semesters or the trimester or quarter equivalent of two full years of full-time study. A recipient who is making satisfactory progress but cannot complete the course because of required liberal arts classes may receive the grant for one additional enrollment period.

e. A full-time recipient may receive no more than the amount specified by Iowa law or the amount of the student's established financial need, whichever is less. A part-time recipient's award shall be a prorated portion of the full-time award. The proration will be established by the commission in a manner consistent with federal Pell Grant Program proration. Part-time recipients taking from 3 to 5 credit hours will receive awards equal to one-fourth of the full-time award; recipients taking from 6 to 8 credit hours will receive awards equal to one-half of the full-time award; and recipients taking from 9 to 11 credit hours will receive awards equal to three-fourths of the full-time award.

f. A recipient may again be eligible for an award under 13.1(2) "d" if the recipient resumes study after at least a two-year absence, except for coursework for which credit was previously received.

13.1(3) Priority for grants. Applicants who apply by the priority date specified in the application are ranked in order of the estimated amount of the family's contribution toward college expenses; and awards are granted to those who demonstrate need in order of family contribution from lowest to highest, insofar as funds permit.

13.1(4) Award notification. A grant recipient is notified of the award by the community college to which application is made. The community college is responsible for completing necessary verification and for coordinating other aid to ensure compliance with student eligibility requirements and allowable award amounts. The community college reports changes in student eligibility to the commission.

13.1(5) Full year of study. For purposes of this program, the commission has defined "full year of study" as either four quarters or two semesters. Grant payments are prorated according to this definition.

13.1(6) Award transfers and adjustments. Recipients are responsible for promptly notifying the appropriate community college of any change in enrollment or financial situation. The community college will make necessary changes and notify the commission.

13.1(7) Restrictions. A student who is in default on a Stafford Loan, SLS Loan, or a Perkins/National Direct/National Defense Student Loan or who owes a repayment on any Title IV grant assistance or state award shall be ineligible for assistance under the Iowa vocational-technical tuition grant program. Eligibility for state aid may be reinstated upon payment in full of the delinquent obligation or by

commission ruling on the basis of adequate extenuating evidence presented in an appeal under the procedures set forth in 283—Chapters 4 and 5.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 261.17.