

Lottery Tuition Assistance

Academic Year 2009-10

What is Lottery Tuition Assistance?

The purpose of the Lottery Tuition Assistance Program (LTAP) is to provide resources to the extent that funds are available that supplement existing resources for educational purposes to South Carolina residents. The program will assist students who wish to attend eligible two-year public or independent colleges in South Carolina.

Is eligibility based on income or need?

No, Lottery Tuition Assistance is not based on income or need.

What is the award amount?

Lottery Tuition Assistance may be awarded for the Fall, Spring, and Summer terms. For the 2009-10 academic year, eligible full-time students may receive up to \$900 per term and eligible part-time students may receive \$75 per credit hour to be used toward the cost-of-tuition. In calculating the amount a student is eligible to receive in Lottery Tuition Assistance, all federal grants and the SC Need-based Grant must be awarded first. The institution at which the student is enrolled will notify each student of the exact award amount.

Please note that award amounts are subject to change each term based upon the number of eligible recipients and available funding.

How do I apply for Lottery Tuition Assistance?

The first step to apply for Lottery Tuition Assistance is to complete and file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form. You must complete the FAFSA form online at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>. The student should contact the institutional financial aid office for questions of any additional steps that are necessary to be considered for Lottery Tuition Assistance.

Certain students are exempt from completing the FAFSA. These students include: students who have already earned a bachelor's degree, students who are enrolled in a program that is not eligible for Title IV aid, dually enrolled students, and students who cannot obtain their parents' tax information. These students will be required to complete a FAFSA Waiver and possibly provide other documentation. Please contact your institution's financial aid office if you think you meet any of the above exemptions.

If I have already been awarded a college degree, am I eligible to receive Lottery Tuition Assistance?

Yes, you may use Lottery Tuition Assistance for additional training toward another certificate, diploma, or degree in a different field of study. If you received Lottery Tuition Assistance to obtain a college degree, you are not eligible to receive Lottery Tuition Assistance for more than one certificate, diploma, or degree earned within any **five-year period**.

Once a student completes a certificate, diploma, or degree, is he or she still eligible for Lottery Assistance Tuition for another certificate, degree or diploma?

According to the established legislation, students are not eligible to receive Lottery Tuition Assistance for more than one certificate, diploma, or degree earned within any **five-year period** unless the additional certificate, diploma, or degree constitutes progress in the same field of study. A certificate or diploma earned that relates to the associate's degree constitutes the same field of study.

Are there specific criteria I must meet in order to retain eligibility to participate in the Program?

- File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form and complete the process to determine eligibility for federal student aid each academic year (unless you meet one of the FAFSA exemption criteria);
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress toward completion of a certificate, diploma, or degree;
- After attempting 24 credit hours, earn a minimum 2.0 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 scale for graduation purposes by the end of each academic year (fall, spring, summer terms); and
- Continue to meet all general eligibility requirements annually.

What exactly will Lottery Tuition Assistance help pay for?

Lottery Tuition Assistance will be applied to the cost of tuition only. It will not cover the cost of textbooks, housing, transportation, etc.

Will the lottery tuition assistance pay for non-credit courses?

No.

Will Lottery Tuition Assistance pay for remedial classes?

Students enrolled in an eligible program of study as stated in the "Program Definitions" section of the regulations may include remedial courses as part of the minimum number of required credit hours for part-time or full-time status, as long as such courses carry credit hours and meet Title IV limitations on remedial coursework.

If I receive a private scholarship, will it be used to determine the amount awarded of Lottery Tuition Assistance?

No.

What happens if I want to transfer my Lottery Tuition Assistance from one institution to another?

To find out if you qualify for Lottery Tuition Assistance at another two-year institution, you must check with the institution's financial aid office that you will be transferring to.

Will I be eligible to receive Lottery Tuition Assistance in the summer if I receive all of my Pell Grant eligibility in the fall and spring semesters?

Yes.

For more information about Lottery Tuition Assistance, contact:

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~Please note that the information provided is subject to change~