

FINANCIAL AID ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To qualify for federal student aid (grants, loans and work-study funds), students have to meet certain requirements.

General eligibility requirements include:

- Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen
- Have a valid Social Security number (with the exception of students from the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Federated States on Micronesia, or the Republic of Palau)
- Be registered with Selective Service if you're a male (you must register between the ages of 18 and 25) only for those students receiving state financial aid
- Be enrolled as a regular student in an eligible degree or certificate program
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress as defined by the college
- Cannot be in default on a federal student loan or owe money on a federal grant (overpayment)
- Sign a statement that you will only use federal student aid for educationally related purposes
- Have a high school diploma or a recognized equivalent such as a GED certificate or completed high school in a homeschool setting approved under state law
- Not have a recent drug-related conviction only for students receiving certain types of state financial aid

Generally speaking, eligibility for state aid is the same as above with the following exception:

- A student seeking financial aid, who is ineligible to apply for federal student aid because of the requirement to be a citizen or eligible non-citizen (and usually has no social security number) but meets the State of Texas residency requirements under Senate Bill 1528, can complete the Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA).

The TASFA is designed to help institutions carry out need-analysis for S.B. 1528 students. The form allows institutions to collect the necessary data elements and information required to perform the Federal Methodology (FM) calculation. The Expected Family Contribution (EFC) generated from the FM calculation should be used to determine the student's eligibility for state aid programs only.

All other eligibility requirements that apply to students seeking federal aid also apply to these students as well as the requirement that males between the ages of 18 and 25 register for selective service or be exempt, and not having a felony conviction or drug conviction.