

Notice of Student Financial Aid Penalties for Drug Law Violations

Suspension of Federal Financial Aid Eligibility for Drug Convictions

The Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 includes provisions that authorize federal and state judges to deny certain federal benefits, including federal student aid, to persons convicted of drug trafficking or possession.

The Department of Education accesses a hold file of individuals who have received such a judgment to determine if any FAFSA applications must be denied eligibility. FAFSA applicants matching the drug abuse hold file will receive a rejected application (indicated on the FAFSA Submission Summary with a reject code 047).

To address these issues and potentially regain eligibility of federal student aid, affected students must contact the Department of Education by:

1. Calling 202-377-4600; or
2. Sending an email to applicationsystemsdivision@ed.gov

Suspension of State Financial Aid Eligibility for Drug Convictions

The Texas Controlled Substances Act of 1989 includes provisions that a student is not eligible to receive state financial aid if they have been convicted of any offense under the law involving a controlled substance.

To potentially regain eligibility of state financial aid, affected students must contact the Alamo College's Student Financial Aid office to complete our required State Financial Aid Eligibility self-certification form. One of the following conditions must be met in order to be approved:

1. The student successfully completed a period of probation ordered by a court, and at least two (2) years have elapsed from the date of completion.
2. The student received a certification of discharge by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice or a correctional facility and at least two (2) years have elapsed from the date of the certificate.
3. The conviction has been pardoned, and/or reversed, expunged, or removed from the student's record.

Notifying the Student Financial Aid Office of Drug Convictions Status Changes

If a student becomes convicted of a drug offense after they have already received either federal and state aid for the academic year, the student must notify the Financial Aid Office immediately.