**COLLEGE POLICY: 516** 

# STUDENT FINANCIAL AID AND WAIVERS

UA Cossatot participates in federal, state, and local financial assistance programs that are deemed to be in the best interests of the College and students. In all cases, the College adheres to the guidelines set forth for those programs. Records of financial aid activities are audited along with the normal College records.

The Financial Aid Office disseminates information on the types of financial aid available and the requirements for each. In addition, the Financial Aid Office prepares a Financial Aid Procedures Manual detailing procedures for administering the financial aid program.

For the purpose of determining financial aid eligibility for Title IV programs, twelve semester hours is considered to be full time.

## **Policy History:**

January 6, 2025 September 14, 2020 January 12, 2015 January 1, 2011 July 30, 2001

## TITLE IV FUNDS

Student's financial aid awards are based on the official enrollment (census) date. In order to better serve our students, the following procedures have been set.

- 1. The (census) date is the eleventh (11<sup>th</sup>) class day for fall and spring terms and the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) class day for the summer term.
- 2. The Poise enrollment system will be locked, by the Registrar, each semester on the official (census) date. All departments will be notified by e-mail when the Registrar will lock down.
- 3. The Registrar provides the Financial Aid Office with a copy of the census date report.
- 4. The Financial Aid Office provides the Business Office with a list for disbursement.
- 5. The Business Office will order Title IV funds and disburse Title IV refund checks to students within fourteen (14) calendar days from the official census date.

#### **TUITION/FEE WAIVERS**

#### ACTIVE AND HONORABLY DISCHARGED MILITARY PERSONNEL

Active military or National Guard member or an honorably discharged veteran shall have the opportunity to attend credit courses at UA Cossatot at 50% of the tuition rate. Any registration fees or applicable program fees will not be waived. Military members or veterans must provide a signed UA Cossatot Military Waiver form along with proper military documentation to the Financial Aid Office to verify their status.

Dependents of the active military member or veteran may also be eligible for a 50% tuition rate when their status is verified by an income tax form or other proper documentation along with military documentation as stated above.

If a student is receiving financial aid that is tuition specific, UA Cossatot will reduce or cancel UA Cossatot's waiver. Students receiving UA Cossatot waivers must be meeting the Academic Policy and must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0.

## SENIOR CITIZENS

Arkansas Act 678 of 1975 entitles any Arkansas resident sixty (60) years of age or older shall have tuition and fees waived. This waiver applies to credit courses only.

#### **OUT OF STATE TUITION**

Act 1180 of 1999 allows McCurtain County, Le Flore County, Bowie County, and Cass County residents to enroll and receive the out-of-state tuition waiver at UA Cossatot. The out-of-state tuition is waived for the in state rate.

All UA Cossatot waivers must be completed and filed with the Financial Aid Office before the end of the semester in which enrolled or waivers will not be honored.

## WAIVER OF NON-RESIDENT TUITION FOR NATIVE AMERICANS

Native American people in other states belonging to tribes which formerly lived in Arkansas before relocation, and whose names are on the rolls in tribal headquarters, shall be classified as in-state students of Arkansas for tuition and fees purposes on all Cossatot Community College Campuses. Tribes so identified include the CADDO, CHEROKEE, CHICKSAW, CHOCTAW, CREEK, DELAWARE, KICKAPOO, OSAGE, QUAPAW, SHAWNEE, TUNICA, and PEORIA.

## **Procedure History:**

December 9, 2024 Updated January 12. 2015

## ADDITIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

#### VISITORS' SCHOLARSHIPS

The Board will award one scholarship to each graduating class of each high school in the service area. The recipients shall be selected by the UA Cossatot Scholarship Committee. The procedures are to be determined by the College Chancellor. Each scholarship is for one semester, renewable for a second semester provided the student is not on academic probation.

In addition, the Board will award one GED scholarship to a GED graduate earning their certificate within the prior twelve (12) months. The procedures and criteria will follow the same guidelines as stipulated in the above paragraph.

## SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The Board may determine as many as five scholarships to be awarded to a focus group of students whom the College wishes to attract to its programs. The procedure for this scholarship program is to be determined by the College Chancellor.

The Federal Cost of Attendance (COA) method shall be used for all students receiving UA Cossatot waivers, regardless of whether the student is receiving federal financial aid. If total financial aid funds exceed the COA, UA Cossatot will reduce or eliminate funds per state and federal regulations.

If a student is receiving financial aid that is tuition specific, UA Cossatot will reduce or cancel UA Cossatot's waiver.

## **Procedure History:**

December 9, 2024 Updated: January 12, 2015