

Financial Aid Office

All matriculated (pursuing a degree, certificate, or diploma) students are encouraged to apply for financial aid by completing a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. By completing this application, the student has applied for both state and federal programs that include State PHEAA Grants, Federal Pell Grants, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, Federal Direct Stafford Loans and Federal Work-Study. Processing time for this form is generally one to two weeks. All students are encouraged to complete the FAFSA by April 1st to ensure full consideration and to complete all necessary financial aid steps prior to the upcoming year's tuition due date. Once FAFSA results are received by the Financial Aid Office, students are to check their College email and myPEAK > Financial Aid for notifications regarding award letters and/or missing information needed.

Students earn their aid by going to classes and doing the work. Grades/attendance are checked at mid-semester and aid adjustments are made accordingly for "never" attending. In addition, Financial Aid Satisfactory Progress requires students to maintain a 2.0 GPA, 67% successful completion of all attempted credits and program completion within a 150% timeframe. This progress is checked at the end of each semester. Students not making progress will be placed on financial aid "warning" status; however, remain aid eligible. Students not making progress during a subsequent semester will be placed on financial aid "suspension" status and are not aid eligible; however, they will have the opportunity to a one-time appeal process.

College scholarship opportunities are available to students who complete the FAFSA and meet individual scholarship criteria. Complete the Pennsylvania Highlands Scholarship Application and essay by April 1st. Scholarship eligibility requirements are referenced in the College Catalog and Financial Aid page (www.pennhighlands.edu).

FINANCIAL AID DEADLINES

- **Pennsylvania State Grant, First-Time: May 1** - If you plan to enroll in a degree program or a college transferable program at a junior college or other college or university (excludes community colleges), you must submit the FAFSA and the Pennsylvania State Grant Form.
- **Pennsylvania State Grant, First-Time: August 1** - If you plan to enroll in a community college; a business, trade, or technical school; a hospital school of nursing; or a 2-year program that is not transferable to another institution; you must submit the FAFSA and the Pennsylvania State Grant Form.
- **Pennsylvania State Grant, Renewal: May 1** - You must submit a renewal FAFSA and any appropriate State Grant documents indicating any changes that may affect your State Grant award, such as a change in your marital status or a change in your income.
- **Federal Deadline: June 30** - Applications must be received no later than June 30. The College must have your correct, complete information by your last day of enrollment in the 2014-2015 school year.