

## FINANCIAL AID

### **Student Services Center - (541) 881-5833, or email [finaid@tvcc.cc](mailto:finaid@tvcc.cc)**

Treasure Valley Community College makes every effort to ensure that students with financial need have access to programs and courses of study. Answers to general questions may be found on the Financial Aid webpage at <https://www.tvcc.cc/financialaid/>. For more specific questions, contact the Financial Aid office located in the Student Services Center at (541) 881-5833 or email [finaid@tvcc.cc](mailto:finaid@tvcc.cc). Students are strongly encouraged to submit their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon as possible after Oct. 1 prior to the school year for which they are applying for aid (e.g. for 2024-25 school year students will submit their FAFSA October 1, 2023 using their 2022 income taxes). Please see [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov) for more details.

### **Who Is Eligible for Financial Aid?**

To be considered for financial aid at TVCC, students must meet general federal eligibility requirements, which include the following:

- be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen with appropriate documentation;
- have a high school diploma, a GED certificate or complete a home school program at a secondary level;
- be enrolled as certificate-seeking or degree-seeking students with a declared major at TVCC;
- maintain satisfactory academic progress; and
- certify that they are not in default on a federal student loan and that they do not owe money on a federal student grant.

To receive aid, students must complete the application materials, including the FAFSA, every year. They must also meet eligibility criteria and be enrolled and attending credit-based classes at TVCC.

### **How Student Financial Aid is Distributed**

On the second Thursday of each term, referred to as the "census date," enrollment status is frozen and financial aid is applied to a student's account based on enrollment level. Financial aid is applied first to tuition, fees, authorized bookstore charges, and room/board for on-campus students. Any remaining funds are refunded to the student. Work-study earnings are paid each month through the College's regular payroll process.

### **Determining Financial Aid Eligibility**

Four components are used to determine financial aid eligibility:

1. **Cost of Attendance (COA):** TVCC develops an average **Cost of Attendance Budget** that includes tuition and fees; books and supplies; food and housing; transportation; and other miscellaneous expenses. Additional considerations include dependent care expenses; costs related to a disability; loan origination fees; and costs for eligible study abroad programs. Your COA will depend on factors such as residency, housing plans, number of dependents, and enrollment status (the number of eligible credits taken each term).
2. **Student Aid Index (SAI):** The U.S. Department of Education calculates your SAI based on the information provided on your FAFSA. The SAI is used to determine your Pell Grant eligibility and is subtracted from your personalized COA to calculate your financial need. Note that the SAI is not a specific dollar amount, nor is it the amount your family is expected to contribute. It is simply an index tool to help determine financial aid eligibility.
3. **Enrollment Status:** Your financial aid is based on your enrollment status, which is frozen on the financial aid census date each term. Financial aid may be prorated based on your enrollment level (full-time, three-quarter-time, etc.) and/or enrollment intensity level.
4. **Year in School:** Financial aid eligibility may vary depending on whether you are a first-year or second-year student.

From these elements, TVCC will first determine the student's eligibility for a Federal Pell Grant and then attempt to meet the remaining unmet need with other funds as available and according to the school's awarding policies.

Students will receive notification of their Cost of Attendance Budget, Financial Need, and the financial aid funds they are eligible for in an award notification from TVCC Financial Aid.

### **How to Apply for Financial Aid**

Students can apply for financial aid by completing the FAFSA as early as December 1 for the 2025-2026 academic award year. We encourage students to apply early, as some funds are limited. Continuing students must reapply each year by submitting a new or renewal FAFSA. TVCC's federal school code is 003221.

Students can complete the FAFSA online at [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov), and paper versions are available on the same website, though filing online is the fastest, easiest, and preferred method for filing. For further assistance visit the Financial aid Office or contact us at:

- Phone: 541) 881-5833
- Email: [Finaid@tvcc.cc](mailto:Finaid@tvcc.cc)
- Mail: TVCC Financial Aid, 650 College Blvd, Ontario, OR 97914

Please include your name and TVCC Student ID number in all correspondence.

### **Types of Financial Aid Available**

Financial aid helps cover tuition, fees, books, food and housing, transportation, and other costs associated with earning a certificate or degree. TVCC offers four types of financial aid programs: Scholarships, Grants, Loans, and Federal Work-Study. Each of these programs has different eligibility requirements, funding sources, and conditions. Below is a detailed explanation of each funding type.

### Scholarships

Scholarships are a form of gift aid, meaning they do not need to be repaid. TVCC scholarships come from a variety of sources, including the TVCC Foundation and private donors. There are three primary types of scholarships:

- **Need-Based Scholarships**
  - These are awarded based on a student's demonstrated financial need as determined by the FAFSA.
- **Merit-Based Scholarships**
  - These are awarded based on academic or other achievements, such as leadership or community service, rather than financial need. This also includes tuition waivers for TVCC athletic programs or other departmental awards.  
*\*Note – Waivers only waive in-state tuition, up to the awarded amount, and limited to the number of eligible credits enrolled in multiplied by the in-state tuition rate.*
- **Criteria-Based Scholarships**
  - These scholarships are awarded based on specific criteria determined by private donors, such as residency, intended major, or personal background.

Students are encouraged to apply early for scholarships, as deadlines vary by donor, and funding is often limited.

### Grants

Grants are also a type of gift aid that does not need to be repaid. They are typically awarded based on financial need and availability of funds. TVCC offers several grant programs:

- **Federal Pell Grant:** This is the primary financial aid grant for low-income students and is based on financial need. The Pell Grant awards range from \$740 to \$7,395 annually, depending on a student's eligibility and enrollment status. Students are limited to 18 quarters of Pell Grant eligibility.
- **Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG):**  
This grant is designed for students with exceptional financial need. TVCC awards FSEOG funds to Pell Grant recipients, giving priority to students with the lowest expected family contributions or SAI. The current FSEOG grant is \$1,000 per year for full-time students, and funding availability is limited.
- **Oregon Opportunity Grant (OOG):**  
This is the largest state-funded, need-based grant program in Oregon. It is available to Oregon residents pursuing their first undergraduate degree or certificate. Eligibility is determined based on financial need as established through the FAFSA or the Oregon Student Aid Application (ORSAA). Award amounts vary each year based on state funding and the student's enrollment status. For more information, please see <https://oregonstudentaid.gov/grants/oregon-opportunity-grant/>
- **Oregon Promise Grant**  
: This state grant covers most tuition at Oregon community colleges for recent high school graduates and GED recipients. Student must meet specific residency, academic, and financial criteria to qualify. Oregon Promise helps recent high school or GED graduates attend community college within six months of graduation with minimal tuition costs. Award amounts vary each year based on state funding and the student's enrollment status. For more information and application, please see <https://oregonstudentaid.gov/grants/oregon-promise-grant/>

### Loans

Loans are funds that must be repaid with interest. TVCC offers several federal student loan programs, and students are encouraged to borrow only the amount they need to cover educational expenses.

#### Loan types include:

- **Federal Direct Subsidized Loan:** Available to students with financial need, this loan offers a fixed interest rate (currently 6.53%). Interest does not accrue while the student is enrolled at least half-time. Loan limits are \$3,500 for first-year students and \$4,500 for second-year students. Repayment begins six months after leaving school or dropping below half-time enrollment. Students not qualifying for a full or partial Direct Subsidized loan can borrow the same amounts under the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan program, below.
- **Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan**  
: This loan is available to all eligible students, regardless of financial need. Interest accrues while the student is in school. Dependent students may borrow up to \$2000 per year, while independent students may borrow up to an additional \$6,000. Loan repayment terms are similar to the subsidized loan. For students who do not qualify for a full or partial Federal Direct Subsidized Loan, the amount not borrowed as a Subsidized Loan can be borrowed as an Unsubsidized Loan.

Thus, the annual limits for all Federal Direct Loans combined are as follows:

- For Dependent Students  
, the maximum amount borrowed under both the Federal Direct Subsidized Loan Program and the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan Program combined cannot exceed \$5,500 for first- year students and \$6,500 for second-year students.
- For Independent Students  
, the maximum amount borrowed under both  
  
the Federal Direct Subsidized Loan Program and the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan Program combined cannot exceed \$9,500 for first-year students and \$10,500 for second-year students.
- **Federal Direct PLUS Loan:** This is a non-need-based loan available to parents of dependent students. The interest rate is fixed (currently 9.08%, and a loan origination fee is deducted at the time of disbursement. The loan amount is based on the total cost of attendance minus other financial aid.

### Work-Study

The Federal Work-Study (FWS) program provides students with part-time employment opportunities while they attend school. Work-study jobs are available in various fields, such as student services, the library, departmental jobs, and community service positions with approved Work-Study Agreements with the College. FWS earnings are paid monthly through the college payroll process. Work-study helps students gain work experience, preferably in fields related to their academic studies. However, funding and job availability are limited, so students should apply early.

### Maintaining Eligibility for Financial Aid

Students must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to remain eligible for financial aid. The Financial Aid Office monitors students' progress, and failure to meet the SAP standards may result in a loss of eligibility. For detailed information, please refer to TVCC's Standards of Academic Progress policy at <https://catalog.tvcc.cc/current/academic-policies-requirements/standards-for-satisfactory-academic-pogress.cfm>. Steps for regaining financial aid eligibility are outlined in the policy.

### Withdrawal and Repayment Requirements

Students who receive federal financial aid and then completely withdraw, stop attending classes, or are expelled may be subject to repayment of unearned financial aid. A Title IV return calculation, based on the withdrawal date, determines how much federal aid the student earned. If the earned amount is less than the tuition and other charges, the student may owe TVCC for the remaining balance. who:

- Subsequently completely withdraw, stop attending classes, or are expelled; or
- are enrolled in a combination of module and full-term classes and drop or stop attending all full-term classes.