

Students and Financial Aid: Playing nice in the Sandbox

My question:

ICC's answer:

Do I need to be full time to receive financial aid?	No! Minimum for Pell grants is one credit hour. For MAP grants, the minimum is 3 hours. And for loans, the minimum is 6 hours.
Do I need to be full time to stay on my parents' insurance?	No! As of Sept. 23, 2010, the Affordable Care Act allows for young adults to stay on their parents' health care plan until the age of 26 regardless of college enrollment.
If I drop a class before the refund date on my schedule, will I still receive financial aid?	It depends. Financial aid is paid out based on "time" (ie. full time, 3/4 time, half time, and 1/4 time). Full time is equal to or greater than 12 hours. Depending on the type of assistance you are receiving, you can receive aid at some level based on the number of hours that you continue to have on your schedule.
I have W grades for all my classes from last semester. Why is the school telling me that I have to pay for them when I had financial aid?	If it is determined that you did not attend classes long enough to receive financial aid (according to federal guidelines), ICC must send money (a portion or all) back to the feds and the balance becomes your responsibility.
Why do I have to check with my advisor or financial aid before dropping a class?	First of all, you should always talk to your advisor before dropping courses. They may be able to help you salvage the class. If the drop is a must, financial aid will be able to explain how dropping a class can cause you to lose financial aid for upcoming terms.
I'm on financial aid termination. What does that mean?	That means that you cannot receive any more financial aid for one of three reasons. #1: Your cumulative GPA has been below a 2.0 for two consecutive terms. #2: Your course completion rate is less than 67% for two consecutive terms (and 2/3 or 66.66667% is not enough). #3: You have reached the maximum number of hours allowed for your program.
What is the course completion rate?	Course completion rate is the percentage of classes that you successfully complete using the federal guidelines. Divide the total credit hours attempted (including F, FA, W, WF and I grades) by the total number of credits where you earned an A, B, C, or D. We're looking for 0.67 or higher to continue receiving financial aid.
How do I know when I have reached the maximum number of hours allowed for my program?	The federal government gives you a total of 150% of the total number of hours to complete your degree or certificate. If you are in a program that requires 64 hours for completion, you can only have 96 hours on your record at ICC (including transfer hours) before you reach your maximum.
If I am placed on financial aid termination, can I appeal it?	Yes. But you'll need to meet with your advisor, fill out a financial aid appeal form, and the reason for not meeting the academic requirements must be documented extenuating circumstances.

