

## The Award Guide: What You Need to Know

2016-2017

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## A Key to Your Financial Aid Award

Use of this "key" in conjunction with the page references to *The Award Guide: What You Need to Know About Financial Aid* will help you understand the contents of your award and any revisions. Keep it for future reference. If you have questions, please feel free to write, call or email the Office of Student Financial Services, 740-376-4712 or 800-331-2709.

Your award is also available on the Marietta College website at the WebAdvisor section of MyMarietta.



### TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.	2
Notice of Nondiscriminatory Policy	2
Financial Aid Code of Conduct	2
Who May Apply	2
How Eligibility for Financial Assistance is Determined	2
Accepting, Declining, or Appealing Your Financial Aid Award	2
Privacy Act Release	3
Financial Responsibility	3
Sources of Aid and Required Follow-up	3
Verification and Correction of Information	5
Financial Aid Standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress	5
Withdrawal, Refunds, and Your Financial Aid	5
Financial Aid and Your College Bill	6
Application for Continued Financial Assistance	6

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#### Introduction

The Marietta College Office of Student Financial Services carefully reviewed your family financial information to determine your eligibility for financial assistance. We are pleased to offer you a Financial Aid Award for the 2016-2017 academic year.

This guide is designed to help you understand the financial aid process. Please read it carefully and follow the instructions provided. You may telephone or stop by our office in the Irvine Administration Building if you need assistance or have questions.

#### Notice of Nondiscriminatory Policy

Marietta College does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, religion, color, gender, disability, marital status, creed, sexual orientation, national and/or ethnic origin in administering its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, or athletic and other College-administered programs.

#### FINANCIAL AID CODE OF CONDUCT

The Marietta College Office of Student Financial Services subscribes to the Statement of Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct of the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA).

#### WHO MAY APPLY

All students accepted and enrolled in a Marietta College degree or certificate program and who are citizens or permanent residents of the United States or Canada may apply for financial assistance. Students who enroll in a College approved study abroad program are considered to be enrolled at Marietta College for purposes of applying for financial aid.

# How Eligibility for Financial Assistance is Determined

The basis for determining your eligibility for need-based assistance is information provided on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). *Need* is defined as the difference between the cost of the terms of enrollment involved and the expected family contribution resulting from information provided on the application form.

Cost

- Expected Family Contribution
- = Need

*Cost* consists of the expenses a student incurs in order to attend college, including tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, transportation and personal expenses.

Expected Family Contribution is a calculated expectation from family resources toward college costs. For dependent students, contributions are calculated for both parents and student. For independent students, the contribution is calculated using resources of the student and, if applicable, the student's spouse. In each case, the contribution is based on information provided on the FAFSA.

As a result of this calculation you might receive assistance through a number of sources, including scholarships, grants, loans, and employment. These may be provided by the state, the college, or other private groups and agencies. These are *Non-Federal Aid Resources*.

Once cost, expected family contribution, and non-federal aid resources have been determined, the College determines your "federal eligibility." *Federal Eligibility* is defined as the difference between cost and the sum of the expected family contribution and non-federal aid resources.

Cost

- Expected Family Contribution
- Non-Federal Aid Resources
- = Federal Eligibility

A student's federal eligibility determines what might be available through federal aid programs like Federal Work-Study, the Perkins Loan, the Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford and Direct Loans, and the Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant. Your financial aid package is the result of these two processes.

Look in the following pages for the names of the resources found in your package. To make sure you receive the funds to which you are entitled, please follow the directions provided. In many cases, financial aid cannot appear as a credit toward the charges on your bill until additional action is taken. The College cannot replace funds lost if you fail to complete a part of the aid process.

When all required action has been completed and, in the case of awards from sources other than Marietta College, the College has received the funds, aid will be credited to the student's bill. Because of FERPA concerns, if a scholarship source requires documentation of enrollment or notification of a student's grades prior to sending the scholarship check, it is the student's responsibility to request this information from the Records Office. In most instances and unless specifically designated otherwise by the originator of the award, half of each award element is credited to fall and half to spring semester. Generally, aid is disbursed at the beginning of each semester and, thereafter, as Marietta College receives funds. Additional information can be found in the pages of *Guide to Financial Assistance*.

## Accepting, Declining, or Appealing Your Financial Aid Award

You have been sent two copies of your Financial Aid Award. One copy is provided for your records. Your award letter is also available on the Marietta College website at the WebAdvisor area of MyMarietta. You are free to decline all or a portion of the assistance offered. However, Marietta College will not replace declined aid with other sources of financial aid.

You may appeal the expected family contribution by addressing a letter to the Associate Director of Student Financial Services explaining the basis for the appeal or by phoning the Office of Student Financial Services and explaining that you have unusual circumstances that you wish to have considered. You will be sent

a special circumstance form to complete and return to our office. Please clearly state any change in your financial circumstances and any previously unreported family financial information. Also, be sure to include all supporting documentation that is requested on the form. Feel free to call the Office of Student Financial Services for guidance in completing this form.

Acceptance of an award does not preclude future revisions based on additional information submitted to our office.

#### PRIVACY ACT RELEASE

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) is a law that requires Marietta College to maintain the confidentiality of student education records. During your enrollment at Marietta College, questions may arise concerning your financial aid eligibility that you feel may best be addressed by another person — such as a parent, counselor, or friend. The Office of Student Financial Services will not discuss your information with anyone outside the institution, except where permitted by the Act, whose information is not listed on your FAFSA form unless you provide a written release specifying with whom we may discuss your information.

#### FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

The amount of financial aid provided through Marietta College, federal, state, and private sources of assistance, combined with your expected family contribution, will come as close as possible to meeting your direct costs, which are listed on your award under **Total Expenses**. You can expect additional out-of-pocket expenses for books, supplies, transportation, and personal items. For 2016-2017 you can reasonably expect to budget an average of \$1208 for books, \$776 for personal expenses and, depending on where you live, between \$704 and \$1736 for transportation expenses. Careful budgeting of your resources is essential. Doing so can help insure that sufficient funds are available to meet your educational needs. The Office of Student Financial Services staff is available to assist you as you plan for these expenses.

### Sources of Aid and Required Follow-up

#### Marietta College Scholarships and Grants

A student must be enrolled full time at Marietta to be eligible for Marietta College scholarships and grants. Students who have completed a Bachelors degree are not eligible for Marietta College grants and scholarships. Marietta College Grants or Scholarship Awards may be funded through other endowed scholarships or grants during the academic year or in subsequent years. With the exception of the McCoy Scholarship, Marietta College grants and scholarships will not exceed the cost of tuition.

## The McCoy, Trustee, President, Dean, Provost and Navy Blue & White Scholarships

Marietta's most prestigious merit scholarships, the McCoy, Trustee, President, Dean, Provost and Navy Blue & White Scholarships, are awarded to matriculating freshmen based on the strength of the application for admission. If you are awarded a scholarship, it is included in your Financial Aid Award.

Renewal of these scholarships is contingent upon maintenance of a cumulative grade point average of 3.00 on a 4.0 scale, and continuous full-time enrollment at Marietta College as stated in the original scholarship notification sent from the Admission Office. Grade point averages are reviewed at the end of each academic year. These scholarships provide funds for up to eight semesters of study at Marietta.

#### Talent Scholarships in the Fine Arts

Talent Scholarships in the Fine Arts are awarded to matriculating freshmen based on performance in a College-sponsored competition. Recipients must maintain continuous full-time enrollment, a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale, be determined by a Fine Arts faculty committee to still be eligible, and participate or enroll in academic and/or co-curricular activities related to the arts. Satisfactory academic progress is reviewed at the end of each academic year. Funds lost through failure to meet these requirements will not be reinstated. These scholarships provide funds for up to eight semesters of study at Marietta.

### Marietta College Grants

Marietta College awards grant funds to students who demonstrate financial need and are making satisfactory academic progress. These awards reflect the College's confidence in the ability of the student to succeed. The aid award is based on all information available at the time of awarding. The amount awarded varies with changes in the family's financial circumstances, the student's housing arrangements and the availability of financial aid resources. If the student's housing changes, the Marietta Grant will be affected. Receipt in future years is dependent upon continued demonstration of need, availability of funds, and personal responsibility.

#### Endowed and Gift Scholarships and Grants

Alumni and friends of Marietta College have established many endowed and gift scholarships and grants. These funds are used to assist students with need and are generally awarded to upper-class students. Descriptions can be found in the Marietta College Catalog. The FAFSA and your Marietta academic record are your application for these funds.

In some cases, the donor or contact person would appreciate correspondence from the recipient describing his or her progress at the College. You are encouraged to acknowledge receipt of the scholarship. Information about the donor or contact person can be obtained through the Office of College Advancement, located in the Irvine Administration Building. Endowed awards are subject to the same general criteria as Marietta merit scholarships and Marietta College grants unless otherwise noted in the fund description.

#### Federal Grants

#### Federal Pell Grant

The Federal Pell Grant program provides funds to students with exceptional need. The Student Aid Report (SAR) indicating your Pell Grant status is sent by the processor to your home, if you filed a paper FAFSA. If you filed online, you can view your SAR online.

Review your SAR for accuracy. You may make corrections online if you filed using the web. If you filed a paper FAFSA, correct

and return Part 2 of the SAR, "Information Review Form," to the processor.

Students who are Pell eligible may charge required books and supplies to their student account. Please see the Student Accounts Office for more information.

#### Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)

Marietta College awards these funds for the federal government to students with exceptional need. The FAFSA is your application for funds through this program.

## Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant

The TEACH Grant Program that provides grants of up to \$4,000 per year to students who intend to teach in a high need subject area in a public or private elementary or secondary school that serves students from low-income families.

#### **State Grants**

#### Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG)

This is a need-based grant program offered by the State of Ohio to its residents. You apply for it when you submit the FAFSA to the federal processor. Your eligibility will be listed in your award. Award amounts are subject to change based on state allocations.

#### **Grants Through Other States**

If you reside in a state other than Ohio, particularly Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Delaware, or Vermont, you should apply to your home state's scholarship or grant program.

Please provide the Office of Student Financial Services with a copy of your notification of eligibility.

#### Loans

#### Federal Stafford Loan

The federal government makes loan opportunities available to students through the Federal Direct Stafford Loan Program. The FAFSA is used to determine the amount and type of Direct Stafford Loan for which you are eligible. To actually receive funds, a loan application must be completed.

The agency that services these federal loans will send you a disclosure statement showing that the loan has been processed for you and showing the cumulative amount of the loans that you have borrowed through the Direct Loan program.

If you are a first time borrower at Marietta College, we will automatically contact you regarding the promissory note when you have paid your deposit to the College. You will be given a choice of completing an electronic or paper promissory note. You then complete and return it to us for processing. If you are borrowing for the first time, you may not receive loan proceeds until you have completed a loan entrance interview. You will be notified of the means for completing this mandatory entrance counseling.

The Stafford loan program has two types of loans: subsidized and unsubsidized. A brief description of each program follows. The

application and most repayment terms are identical, and the annual maximums apply to the sum of the two (e.g., the sum of a freshman's loans may not exceed the annual maximum of \$3,500 subsidized and \$2,000 unsubsidized). Repayment of the principal borrowed begins six months after the student graduates or leaves school. The type of loan can affect interest charges.

**Subsidized loans** are available only to those students who demonstrate need, and are only available to the extent that what the student borrows and the student's other financial aid does not exceed that need. The federal government pays interest that might have accrued on these loans while the student is enrolled.

**Unsubsidized loans** are available to those students who have applied for need-based aid, but have been determined not to have need. They are also available to students with need, but only to the extent that the unsubsidized and subsidized amounts do not exceed the maximum loan available based on the student's class, or do not, when added to all other financial aid, exceed the cost of attendance at the College for the loan period.

When you borrow through the Direct Loan program, funds will automatically be credited to your account when the loan has been approved and funds have been received.

#### Other College Administered Loans

Marietta College administers several loan programs of its own. You will receive additional information if funds through one of these programs are a part of your Financial Aid Award.

#### **Employment**

#### Federal Work-Study

If employment is part of your Financial Aid Award, the award listed is the amount you are eligible to earn. To receive this award, you must report to the Student Employment Office to obtain information on available positions and complete required hiring documents. At that time you will need to document your eligibility to work in the United States. For most students that documentation will be to show your driver's license and the original document of either your birth certificate or Social Security card. Then you may interview for a position with campus employers.

You and your employer arrange specific employment hours. If you experience difficulty finding a position on campus, please stop by the Office of Student Financial Services for assistance.

You will be paid at an hourly rate for those hours you have actually worked. The Payroll Office pays wages according to a published schedule. *Earnings may be credited directly to your bill, provided you return a request form to the Payroll Office. Forms are available from both the Student Employment Office and the Payroll Office.* The eligibility figure provided in your Financial Aid Award is the **maximum** you may earn on campus during the school year. However, if you would like to adjust this figure, please stop by the Office of Student Financial Services to determine if a change is possible. Students continue to be eligible for the Federal Work-Study employment as long as they have financial need as determined by federal regulations, have unearned work-study eligibility, meet satisfactory academic progress requirements and complete the required employment documents.

#### Community Service Work-Study

Most of the work-study positions available are found on the Marietta College campus. However, there are a number of opportunities in the surrounding community through the Community Service Federal Work-Study Program. These opportunities are in local educational and social service agencies that meet the needs of members of the community, especially those who are financially disadvantaged. Students are paid a hourly rate comparable to those working on campus and receive their pay from the College on the same schedule as students working on campus. These positions provide a great opportunity to assist the Marietta community while earning resources to assist with college costs.

#### Off-Campus Employment

Off-campus employment opportunities are posted at the Career Services Office.

#### Outside Scholarships, Grants, and Loans

In addition to financial aid programs administered by the College, you may be eligible for assistance through outside sources. It is your obligation to inform the Office of Student Financial Services if you receive such assistance. Receipt of these funds may affect your Financial Aid Award. However, in most instances, Marietta College gift aid will not be reduced. If the additional funds result in an overaward, a revised Financial Aid Award will be issued. You cannot receive credit on your account for these scholarships until funds through the agency or organization have been received by the Business Office.

## Verification and Correction of Information

Marietta College might be required by the United States Department of Education to verify the accuracy of the information you have provided on your FAFSA. This verification requirement applies to funds received through the Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG), Federal Stafford Loan, and the Federal Work-Study (FWS) programs. It also applies to Marietta College resources.

If you are selected for verification, an asterisk (\*) will be printed next to your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) on your Student Aid Report (SAR) and your SAR will contain a message that the College will be asking you to provide copies of certain financial documents. In addition, we will send you a letter requesting these documents. The resources in your Financial Aid Award cannot be credited to your account until verification is complete. The information you provide will be held in the strictest confidence. Failure to complete the verification process by October 1 will result in the loss of federal, Marietta College, and possibly state financial aid. Be sure you:

- 1. Complete and sign the Verification Worksheet and return it to the Office of Student Financial Services.
- 2. Send the Office of Student Financial Services a 2015 IRS tax return transcript designated on the Verification Worksheet and in our letter, unless you successfully used the IRS Data Retrieval process on your FAFSA and made no changes.
- 3. Return all other requested documents.

Regardless of whether a student is officially selected for verification, federal regulations require that upon receipt of the SAR, a student is to correct erroneous information. This may be done either through the web (if that is how a student submitted the FAFSA), by correcting the paper SAR and mailing it back to the processor, or by submitting to the College documents which show the correct information. All applicants must update their dependency status any time it changes during the academic year unless the change results from a change in the student's marital status.

## FINANCIAL AID STANDARDS OF SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS

Federal and state regulations, and Marietta College policy, require students to make satisfactory progress toward completion of their degree in order to maintain eligibility for financial assistance. Progress is based on both qualitative and quantitative measurements of all course work attempted at Marietta College. Students who fail to meet the required standards will lose eligibility for financial aid but have a one time opportunity to appeal and request the allowance of probationary semester.

The entire policy is printed in the *Marietta College Catalog* and is available at: http://www.marietta.edu/academics/ugradcatalog.pdf. The undergraduate catalog contains the most current policy at the time of printing. The official policy is maintained in the Office of Student Financial Services. You are subject to the Satisfactory Academic Progress policy as listed in the catalog from your first term of enrollment.

# WITHDRAWAL, REFUNDS, AND YOUR FINANCIAL AID

If you withdraw from the College during a semester, you might be eligible for a partial refund. The refund is determined according to the policy outlined in the Marietta College Catalog.

If the College grants a refund, some of your financial aid might be returned to the provider. It is possible to lose all of the financial aid offered for that semester. If your financial aid package includes federal financial aid, the College will follow the federal refund policy for federal funds. The Marietta College refund policy will be followed for all non-federal funds. The student may be responsible to repay to the aid provider the difference between what has been earned in financial aid (based on length of enrollment in the semester of withdrawal) and what the school has returned to the provider. According to federal regulation, the amount of federal aid earned is equal to the percentage of the payment term completed. If the day of withdrawal occurs on or before 60% of the semester is completed, the percentage earned equals the percentage of the semester completed. If the withdrawal date is after the 60% point, the student has earned 100% of federal money. If the reduction in charges exceeds the amount of financial aid to be returned to the financial aid programs and there is no resulting unpaid balance on your student account, the excess funds will be returned to you.

Refunds to the following financial aid program accounts will be calculated according to published federal and state regulations. Repayments are credited to accounts in the following order: Unsubsidized Stafford loans, Subsidized Stafford loans, Unsubsidized Direct loans, Subsidized Direct loans, Federal Perkins loans, Federal PLUS loans, Pell Grants, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, other Federal Title IV aid (excluding work-study) and other programs as required by the program.

A sample calculation may be obtained by contacting the Office of Student Financial Services. Information about both refund policies is listed in the *Marietta College Catalog*.

#### FINANCIAL AID AND YOUR COLLEGE BILL

Financial aid, which you have accepted and completed all required application for, will appear as a credit on your bill. No credit will be given for estimated aid until the required verification and/or eligibility requirements have been satisfied. One-half of the aid awarded will be credited in each semester of enrollment for full year awards. Please note your award letter is not a bill. It reflects standard charges, not necessarily your specific charges.

Your earnings through on-campus employment, including the Federal Work-Study program, are paid directly to you. These earnings do not appear automatically as a credit on your bill unless you have completed the required form to request this and have a work history with the College. Payments you make from your earnings will appear as a "payment" on the next bill.

Credit for loans and outside scholarships or grants will not be given until the College receives the funds. Because all lenders charge fees for loans, the amount of credit to your bill will be about 1% less than the awarded amount on Stafford Loans and about 4% for PLUS

Loans. Alternative loan fees vary by lender of each loan.

Additional information is available by contacting the Office of Student Financial Services.

# Application for Continued Financial Assistance

The College will continue to offer you financial assistance in later years provided you continue to demonstrate financial need, are making satisfactory academic progress, and you demonstrate personal responsibility. Renewal application information for the next academic year will be sent to you in January. Materials can also be obtained at the Office of Student Financial Services.

Because updated information is required on an annual basis, the amount of financial assistance you receive from each aid program for each year may change. Changes could reflect increases or decreases in your family's ability to contribute, changes in your eligibility for certain aid programs, an increase in demand for available funds, changes in federal or state regulations and funding, or other factors.