Financial Aid Guide

IMPORTANT WEBSITES
College of Menominee Nation
Log on to www.menominee.edu
Under Quick Links, select My Empower

Free Application for Federal Student Aid
www.fafsa.ed.gov

Military
http://gibill.va.gov
http://dvा.state.wi.us/Ben_Education.asp

Student/Parent Financial Aid Information
www.ed.gov

Scholarship Search
www.fastweb.com
www.collegefund.org

Tribal Higher Education Contact Information
Menominee Phone 715.799.5110
Oneida Phone 920.869.4033
Stockbridge Phone 715.793.4830
Ho-Chunk Phone 715.284.4975
Lac Courtes Oreilles Phone 715.634.1775
Lac Du Flambeau Phone 715.588.7925
Forest County Potawatomi Phone 715.478.7355

FEDERAL PELL GRANT REGULATION

Federal Pell Grant Duration of Eligibility — The duration of a student’s eligibility to receive a Federal Pell Grant was reduced from 18 semesters (or its equivalent) to 12 semesters (or its equivalent). This provision applies to all Federal Pell Grant eligible students effective with the 2012-13 award year. The calculation of the duration of a student’s eligibility will include all years of the student’s receipt of Federal Pell Grant funding. Please refer to the College website or contact your Financial Aid Office for additional information.

Applying for Financial Aid
• You must be officially accepted into the College of Menominee Nation.
• Use the College of Menominee Nation’s Federal School Code -- 031251.

During the application process, you may be asked to verify the information reported on the FAFSA. We will request the appropriate documentation from you, if necessary.

It is recommended that the above application requirements be completed at least five weeks prior to the start of the semester to ensure the timely processing of your financial aid award. After you’ve completed all the application requirements, you will receive an Award Letter. This will contain a financial aid award based on the maximum amount for which you are eligible.

Award Letter
• You will receive notification through your student CMN email to accept your Award Letter on your My Empower.
• To Accept the Award, log into My Empower, located on the College website.
• Under the Financials tab, click on Financial Aid Award Letter and select your Award Year.
• Click on tab – Accept/Decline Financial Aid

Financial Aid Responsibilities
• You will apply for Financial Aid in a timely manner each academic year, including any Tribal Higher Education Grant application.
• You will maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress.
• You will notify the Financial Aid Office of all assistance you receive from any agency outside the College.

Text Books - Books are purchased on an individual basis from the College bookstore website or elsewhere. Books cost approximately $600-$1,000/year. Students are able to charge their student account for books upon receipt of Student Payment Contract.

Miscellaneous Information
• Financial aid does not transfer between colleges.
• If you are in default of a previous Federal education loan, you are not eligible for financial aid until the default has been resolved.
• Students who have already received a Bachelor’s Degree are not eligible for financial aid.
• Currently, the College of Menominee Nation does not partake in Federal education loans.
• The priority date to apply for financial aid is April 15. Meeting this deadline reasonably assures the student the maximum amount of financial aid available.
• If you are receiving financial aid and withdraw from the College prior to completing 60% of the semester or quit attending class, you may be required to repay some of the Federal grants per the Federal Title IV refund policy.

College of Menominee Nation
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Tel 715.799.5600
Fax 715.799.5602
www.menominee.edu
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What if I did not complete the FAFSA by the April 15 priority date?
You can still apply for financial aid after the priority date, but funds may be limited.

What is an Expected Family Contribution (EFC)?
The Department of Education calculates this number based on the FAFSA information that you provided. The EFC is used to determine what you or your family can be expected to contribute to the cost of your college education.

Do I have to reapply for financial aid every year?
Yes. Financial aid is not automatically renewed or guaranteed from one year to the next. You must reapply for financial aid every year by completing the FAFSA or the Renewal FAFSA. Also, program funding is dependent upon annual appropriations. For Tribal Higher Education grants, please refer to your tribe.

Where can I apply for Federal student loans?
The College of Menominee Nation does not participate in any Federal student loan programs.

What is a verification?
In this process, the Financial Aid Office will compare information from your FAFSA with tax transcripts, W-2’s, or other financial documents. Differences in data will be corrected and the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) recalculated. A change in EFC may result in a change to your financial aid package.

My parent(s) no longer claim me as a Federal tax exemption, and I work to support myself. Can I file my FAFSA as an independent student?
Federal statute defines the conditions for independent status. Self-sufficiency is not a criterion. Also, parent(s)' unwillingness to provide financial data or to pay for educational expenses cannot be recognized as the basis for independence. Currently, an applicant is independent if the individual meets one or more of the following:

• 24 years or older by December 31 of the award year;
• veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces, National Guard or Reserves;
• ward/dependent of the court or was a ward/dependent of the court until age 18;
• has legal dependents other than a spouse;
• determined to be homeless or an unaccompanied youth by your high school or homeless shelter;
• legal guardianship as determined by a court in your state;
• married.

FINANCIAL AID ACADEMIC STANDING AND SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (SAP) POLICY

• All students are required to meet the standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy based on Federal regulations. Failure to meet the minimum requirements of this policy can result in a student becoming ineligible for financial aid. This policy will be reviewed after each semester in the academic year.

1. Cumulative Grade Point Average — Student must meet the minimum cumulative GPA requirement of a 2.0. Only the highest grade of all repeated courses is used in the cumulative GPA calculation.

2. 67% Completion Ratio — 67% completion ratio is the total number of credits completed divided by the total of credits attempted. Students must complete their program within the time frame given.

• Failure to Meet Satisfactory Academic Progress
  1. First Occurrence — When the student does not meet the minimum GPA requirement, a Financial Aid Warning is imposed. Financial Aid will continue during the semester the student is on Financial Aid Warning.
  2. Second Occurrence — If the student does not meet the criteria for Satisfactory Academic Progress for two consecutive semesters, the student will be ineligible for Title IV Funds and will be placed on Financial Aid Suspension until he/she can return their academic record to good standing for Satisfactory Academic Progress and/or an appeal has been approved.

• Students may appeal the financial aid suspension using the process indicated with the financial aid suspension notification.

Course Withdrawal
Students wishing to withdraw from the College of Menominee Nation must formally notify the CMN staff member assigned as their Student Achievement Specialist of their intent to withdraw. When a student withdraws from the scheduled course by the designated deadline, a grade of “W” will be received for the course reflected on the student’s transcript. Withdrawing from courses does not avoid charges from course withdrawal.

Course Drop
Students may drop courses by the designated deadline listed on the Administrative Calendar. Courses dropped within the drop period do not appear on the student’s transcript. Students are not charged for courses dropped by the designated session/term deadlines.

Course Repeats
CMN allows students who receive a grade “C” or below in a course to repeat that course. However, for financial aid funding purposes, students are only allowed one repetition of a previously passed course.

Federal Financial Aid
During the first 60% of a period of enrollment, a student “earns” Title IV (Federal financial aid) funds in direct proportion to the length of time he/she remains enrolled. Students withdrawing from the College of Menominee Nation may be required to repay some of the Federal funding. The Federal formula requires a return to Title IV aid if the student withdrew on or before completing 60% of the semester and received Federal financial assistance. The percentage of the Title IV aid to be returned is equal to the number of calendar days remaining in the semester divided by the number of calendar days in the semester.

Please refer to the College of Menominee Nation Academic Catalog or Student Handbook located on the College website for more information.