Cooperative Education
Frequently Asked Questions about Financial Aid and Scholarships

It is the student’s responsibility to meet with Financial Aid and Scholarship Services before enrolling in the co-op course to understand their unique financial implications of participating in the co-op program.

The below is offered as a generality. It must not be relied upon for specific situations.

Q: What will happen to my financial aid awards since I am only enrolled in 1 credit hour?

A: Your awards are offered based on full-time enrollment which is 12 credit hours for undergraduates and will vary based on your level of enrollment. Your awards will either be prorated or canceled if you are enrolled less than full-time. Note that some awards, like loans, require a minimum of half-time enrollment (6 credit hours). However, the federal Pell Grant is available at all levels of enrollment, including 1 credit hour.

Review ASU’s policy on award proration to determine what percentage of your award you can receive based on your intended credit-hour enrollment.

If your program allows you to enroll in additional credits, your awards will reflect the credit hours for which you are enrolled based on the award proration policy.

Understanding of Financial Aid Awards:
- These awards exist to pay for such things as tuition, fees, room and board, etc.
- Full-time (FT) enrollment = 12 credits, this is not the same as full-time equivalency status.
- FSE 399 is for 1 credit and considered full-time equivalency status.
- Pell grant may be awarded for 1 credit but will be prorated.
- Award Proration Policy (award proration) is something the student can review to determine impact.

Q: Will I have to begin repayment on my student loans since I will not be enrolled at least half-time?

A: Students are required to be enrolled in a designated co-op course within their college for a minimum of one credit hour. Co-op students will be identified for enrollment verification purposes as being in full time status. This will include verification to the National Student Clearinghouse for loan deferment purposes.

Understanding of Student Loans:
- Co-op students enrolled in FSE 399 for 1 credit will be considered full-time equivalency status and are not required to repay applicable student loans at this time.
- The acquisition of loans is dependent on the actual enrollment of course hours. Minimally, an undergraduate student would need to be enrolled in 6 hours to receive any loan funding.
Q: Can I receive my private scholarships while enrolled in the cooperative education course?

A: Disbursement of private scholarships at less than full-time enrollment is at the discretion of the donor. The Scholarship Services office requires authorization from the donor for the release of private donor scholarships at less than full-time. You may want to inquire about deferring your private scholarship for use in another semester in order to assist in completing your degree requirements upon return from your co-op experience.

Q: My New American University Scholarship requires full-time enrollment. What happens to my ASU scholarship while participating in cooperative education? Can I defer it? If so, what steps do I need to take to ensure my scholarship is available to me when I return?

A: Upon confirmation of your participation, FASS will automatically defer your institutional merit scholarship for the semester in which you are participating in the FSE Co-op program. Once you return to ASU you will need to complete the scholarship reinstatement request to re-activate your institutional merit award. The reinstatement process and form can be found at https://students.asu.edu/forms/scholarship-reinstatement?destination=node/13635.

Understanding of Scholarships:

- Private scholarships at < Full Time enrollment are at the discretion of the donor, contact Financial Aid and Scholarship Services if you have questions.
- New American University scholarship – requires Full Time enrollment but will automatically be deferred once registered for FSE 399. Then the student upon returning to campus must request reinstatement.
- The engineering scholarship will be processed to the student’s account for the amount equal to one unit of tuition and fees posted at https://catalog.asu.edu/tuitionandfees/. This award will be processed in the fall/spring semester for which the student is registered for FSE 399 and the corresponding summer term.
- Any extra or remaining funds allocated to the student’s engineering scholarship award(s) will be awarded to the student in the following fall or spring semester when s/he returns and enrolls at ASU.

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NOTE: Each individual’s situation is different, if you have any questions regarding your Financial Aid or Scholarship contact Nydia De Anda, Asst Director FA and Scholarship Services to review. (Nydia.Deanda@asu.edu or 480.965.5435)