

Financial Aid Eligible Courses Q & A

1. Why is it important to take courses that match my program requirements if I receive financial aid?

Federal and state regulations mandate students must enroll only in courses required for an eligible program of study to receive financial aid.

2. What happens if I take course(s) outside my program of study?

Your aid may be prorated if excluding this course changes your enrollment status. Example: you enroll in 11 credit hours that count toward your major and a one credit hour PE class that does not. Your financial aid will be based on 11 credit hours, or $\frac{3}{4}$ time, and not 12 credit hours, or full-time. It also could result in the complete cancellation of your aid.

3. I want to take a course that will substitute for a required course in my program of study. How do I do this?

Course substitutions for career programs must be approved by the program's department chair. The course substitution form must be signed and submitted to the Registrar's office. Once the form is entered into the system, the course will show as required for your program of study and will count in your enrollment status for financial aid purposes.

4. Will financial aid cover additional courses once I have completed all of the course requirements for my program?

No. Once you complete the requirements for your program of study at Moraine Valley, financial aid will not cover additional courses. You may complete additional courses, but you will be responsible for out-of-pocket payment.

5. What if I finished my degree but want to take additional courses at Moraine Valley?

Financial aid may be available if you declare a new additional program. For example, a student who completes an Associate in Science degree could start a new Associate in Applied Science degree. Keep in mind, you only will be allowed to take courses applicable to your newly-declared program of study. If you need assistance exploring options for declaring a new program, see an academic advisor.

6. **I am presently taking developmental/remedial reading, English and math courses that are not part of my program of study. Will I receive financial aid for these courses?**

Yes, federal and state regulations consider these preparatory classes for successful completion of college level courses. However, once you have attempted 30 developmental credits, additional courses will not count toward your enrollment status.

7. **What if I am in my last term and need fewer than 12 credits to complete my program requirements?**

You must register for the required courses, and your aid will be prorated.

8. **How will I know if I'm not taking the right courses to satisfy the financial aid requirements?**

You will receive an email explaining some or all of your courses do not meet financial aid requirements. Be sure you are monitoring your school email account and take action promptly. Prior to registering for courses you should review your program of study to determine required courses.

9. **What happens if I find out my courses are not going to be paid for by financial aid?**

You will need to change your schedule and take courses that count for your program. If you choose to keep the courses not part of your program, your financial aid awards will be prorated, and you will owe for any charges no longer covered by your financial aid.

10. **Can I drop classes once school has started if I find out I'm not going to receive financial aid for them?**

Yes, if you are still within the published refund period. You can find the refund schedule online or in the course schedule. Failure to drop within the refund period will make you financially responsible for the full cost of the course. As a student, you are responsible for making sure your courses are required for your program of study.

11. **What if I want to take classes to prepare to transfer or because they sound interesting?**

You can always register for any classes you want. Your financial aid award is applied directly to your tuition and fees first. If your award amount is reduced, your tuition charges may still be fully covered. However, this could possibly reduce the amount of funds available for books, supplies and other educational expenses. Every student's situation is unique. Work with both Academic Advising and Financial Aid to make the best decisions for you.