

Third-Term OCOG Guidance

REFERENCE: FA 26-004A
TOPIC: ADDENDUM TO FA 26-004 (01 JULY 2025)
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RELEVANT STATUTE: OHIO REVISED CODE, SECTION 3333.122

PLEASE NOTE: This guidance is solely for Community Colleges, Regional Campuses, and other institutions with a modified award amount only, and is an addendum to the OCOG guidance memo for the administration of a student's third term in the academic year.

Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG)

The Ohio Department of Higher Education administers the Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG) program, which provides grant money to Ohio residents who demonstrate the highest levels of financial need (as determined by the results of the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#) that should be completed).

The initial FAFSA must be submitted by October 1 of each year.

General OCOG Eligibility Requirements

- Ohio residents in an associate's degree, first bachelor's degree, or nurse diploma program at an eligible Ohio institution
- SAI (Student Aid Index) of 3,750 or less and a maximum household income of \$96,000
- Students are limited to 10 semesters or 15 quarters of state, need-based grant aid (including combination of OCOG and OIG)

Third-Term OCOG

- For students attending year-round at a public community college, regional campus, or an institution with an adjusted award amount, statute maintains that the maximum OCOG award may be distributed for the **third-term** of the academic year, **once Pell grants have been exhausted for that year.**
- Students eligible under the dual enrollment, foster youth, or veteran provisions may receive up to the maximum OCOG award for all terms in the academic year and are not restricted to receiving OCOG for just the third-term. See guidance memo FA26-004 for these exceptions.
- *Note that with year-round Pell grants, an institution may find few students that would qualify for third-term OCOG.*

How To Award Third-Term OCOG

Based on full-time (FT) enrollment status

	Institution	1st term*	2nd term*	3rd Term*
Public	Community Colleges	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
	Regional Campuses	\$132.50	\$132.50	\$2,000.00
	Central State University Continuing Students	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2019 Students	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2020 Students	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2021 Students	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2022 Students	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$2,000.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2023 Students	\$214.00	\$214.00	\$2,000.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2024 Students	\$331.00	\$331.00	\$2,000.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2025 Students	\$452.00	\$452.00	\$2,000.00
	Shawnee State University Continuing Students	\$321.00	\$321.00	\$2,000.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2018 Students	\$480.00	\$480.00	\$2,000.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2019 Students	\$434.00	\$434.00	\$2,000.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2020 Students	\$604.00	\$604.00	\$2,000.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2021 Students	\$767.00	\$767.00	\$2,000.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2022 Students	\$973.00	\$973.00	\$2,000.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2023 Students	\$1,113.00	\$1,113.00	\$2,000.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2024 Students	\$1,251.00	\$1,251.00	\$2,000.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2025 Students	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$2,000.00

25-26 Full-Time Award Chart for Third-Term

Private, Non-Profit	Allegheny Wesleyan	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
	Firelands Medical Center School of Nursing	\$508.00	\$508.00	\$2,500.00
	Franklin University	\$1,079.00	\$1,079.00	\$2,500.00
	God's Bible College	\$158.00	\$158.00	\$2,500.00
	Grace College & Seminary	\$1,055.00	\$1,055.00	\$2,500.00
	Trinity School of Nursing	\$928.00	\$928.00	\$2,500.00
	Tri-State Bible School	\$853.00	\$853.00	\$2,500.00
	University of Northwestern Ohio	\$2,288.00	\$2,288.00	\$2,500.00
	Valor Christian College	\$2,005.00	\$2,005.00	\$2,500.00

Based on three-quarter-time (TT) enrollment status

	Institution	1st term*	2nd term*	3rd Term*
Public	Community Colleges	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
	Regional Campuses	\$99.38	\$99.38	\$1,500.00
	Central State University Continuing Students	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2019 Students	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2020 Students	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2021 Students	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2022 Students	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$1,500.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2023 Students	\$160.50	\$160.50	\$1,500.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2024 Students	\$248.25	\$248.25	\$1,500.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2025 Students	\$339.00	\$339.00	\$1,500.00
	Shawnee State University Continuing Students	\$240.75	\$240.75	\$1,500.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2018 Students	\$360.00	\$360.00	\$1,500.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2019 Students	\$325.50	\$325.50	\$1,500.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2020 Students	\$453.00	\$453.00	\$1,500.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2021 Students	\$575.25	\$575.25	\$1,500.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2022 Students	\$729.75	\$729.75	\$1,500.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2023 Students	\$834.75	\$834.75	\$1,500.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2024 Students	\$938.25	\$938.25	\$1,500.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2025 Students	\$1,050.00	\$1,050.00	\$1,500.00

25-26 Three Quarter-Time Award Chart for Third-Term

Private, Non-Profit	Allegheny Wesleyan	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,875.00
	Firelands Medical Center School of Nursing	\$381.00	\$381.00	\$1,875.00
	Franklin University	\$809.25	\$809.25	\$1,875.00
	God's Bible College	\$118.50	\$118.50	\$1,875.00
	Grace College & Seminary	\$791.25	\$791.25	\$1,875.00
	Trinity School of Nursing	\$696.00	\$696.00	\$1,875.00
	Tri-State Bible College	\$639.75	\$639.75	\$1,875.00
	University of Northwestern Ohio	\$1,716.00	\$1,716.00	\$1,875.00
	Valor Christian College	\$1,503.75	\$1,503.75	\$1,875.00

Based on half-time (HT) enrollment status

	Institution	1st term*	2nd term*	3rd Term*
Public	Community Colleges	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
	Regional Campuses	\$66.25	\$66.25	\$1,000.00
	Central State University Continuing Students	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2019 Students	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2020 Students	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2021 Students	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2022 Students	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$1,000.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2023 Students	\$107.00	\$107.00	\$1,000.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2024 Students	\$165.50	\$165.50	\$1,000.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2025 Students	\$226.00	\$226.00	\$1,000.00
	Shawnee State University Continuing Students	\$160.50	\$160.50	\$1,000.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2018 Students	\$240.00	\$240.00	\$1,000.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2019 Students	\$217.00	\$217.00	\$1,000.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2020 Students	\$302.00	\$302.00	\$1,000.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2021 Students	\$383.50	\$383.50	\$1,000.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2022 Students	\$486.50	\$486.50	\$1,000.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2023 Students	\$556.50	\$556.50	\$1,000.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2024 Students	\$625.50	\$625.50	\$1,000.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2025 Students	\$700.00	\$700.00	\$1,000.00

25-26 Half-Time Award Chart for Third-Term

Private, Non-Profit	Allegheny Wesleyan	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,250.00
	Firelands Medical Center School of Nursing	\$254.00	\$254.00	\$1,250.00
	Franklin University	\$539.50	\$539.50	\$1,250.00
	God's Bible College	\$79.00	\$79.00	\$1,250.00
	Grace College & Seminary	\$527.50	\$527.50	\$1,250.00
	Trinity School of Nursing	\$464.00	\$464.00	\$1,250.00
	Tri-State Bible College	\$426.50	\$426.50	\$1,250.00
	University of Northwestern Ohio	\$1,144.00	\$1,144.00	\$1,250.00
	Valor Christian College	\$1,002.50	\$1,002.50	\$1,250.00

Based on quarter-time (QT) enrollment status

	Institution	1st term*	2nd term*	3rd Term*
Public	Community Colleges	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
	Regional Campuses	\$33.13	\$33.13	\$500.00
	Central State University Continuing Students	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2019 Students	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2020 Students	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2021 Students	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2022 Students	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$500.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2023 Students	\$53.50	\$53.50	\$500.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2024 Students	\$82.75	\$82.75	\$500.00
	Central State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2025 Students	\$113.00	\$113.00	\$500.00
	Shawnee State University Continuing Students	\$80.25	\$80.25	\$500.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2018 Students	\$120.00	\$120.00	\$500.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2019 Students	\$108.50	\$108.50	\$500.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2020 Students	\$151.00	\$151.00	\$500.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2021 Students	\$191.75	\$191.75	\$500.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2022 Students	\$243.25	\$243.25	\$500.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2023 Students	\$278.25	\$278.25	\$500.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2024 Students	\$312.75	\$312.75	\$500.00
	Shawnee State University Tuition Guarantee Cohort 2025 Students	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$500.00

25-26 Quarter-Time Award Chart for Third-Term

Private, Non-Profit	Allegheny Wesleyan	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$625.00
	Firelands Medical Center School of Nursing	\$127.00	\$127.00	\$625.00
	Franklin University	\$269.75	\$269.75	\$625.00
	God's Bible College	\$39.50	\$39.50	\$625.00
	Grace College & Seminary	\$263.75	\$263.75	\$625.00
	Trinity School of Nursing	\$232.00	\$232.00	\$625.00
	Tri-State Bible College	\$213.25	\$213.25	\$625.00
	University of Northwestern Ohio	\$572.00	\$572.00	\$625.00
	Valor Christian College	\$501.25	\$501.25	\$625.00

Header Institutions (SM, AU, SP) *Community Colleges and Regional Campuses Only*

- Account statement should read Pell (SM term), Pell (AU term), and OCOG (SP term) for the AY
- Students would not receive OCOG in the SM or AU terms
- Third-term award amount is based on enrollment level and would be up to: \$2,000 (FT), \$1,500 (TT), \$1,000 (HT), or \$500 (QT) for the third-term of the academic year *only*.
- OCOG is tuition and general fees specific, therefore the OCOG award amount would be up to the charge for the term, not to exceed the max term award.
- OCOG funds are requested in the SP26 term window in HEI
- If the student is not enrolled all three terms, unless they're a transfer student, they would not be eligible for third-term OCOG
- If the student did not receive Pell in both the SM and AU terms, they would not be eligible for third-term OCOG
- If the student received full Pell for all terms in the academic year, they would not be eligible for third-term OCOG
- If the student receives full-time Pell for SM and AU and therefore has exhausted their Pell eligibility for the year, they would be eligible for OCOG in the SP term at the applicable enrollment level

Header Institutions (SM, AU, SP) cont. *Community Colleges Only*

- If the student receives less than full-time Pell for either SM or AU; they would be eligible for partial OCOG in the SP term. The OCOG amount would be based on the actual enrollment level minus the remaining Pell eligibility level.
 - Ex. student is half-time in SM, full-time in AU. If in SP student is enrolled full-time but has only half-time remaining for Pell, then they would be eligible for half-time OCOG (\$1,000) for the SP term (FT-HT=HT). If same student is enrolled three-quarters-time for the SP term, then they would be eligible for quarter-time OCOG (\$500) for the SP term (TT-HT=QT).
 - Ex. student is half-time in SM, three-quarters time in AU. If in SP student is enrolled full-time and has three-quarters remaining for Pell, then they would be eligible for quarter-time OCOG (\$500) for the SP term (FT-TT=QT).
 - If same student is enrolled less than full-time for the SP term, they would NOT be eligible for OCOG (TT-TT= No OCOG).
 - Ex. student is half-time in SM, half-time in AU. If in SP they have a FT remaining for Pell, they would NOT be eligible for OCOG.

Header Institutions (SM, AU, SP) cont. *Community Colleges and Regional Campuses Only*

For students close to their Pell LEU in the SP term; the OCOG amount would be based on their remaining Pell eligibility level. *If student reached their LEU prior to the AU term, they would not be eligible for third-term OCOG.*

- Ex. student is half-time in SM, full-time in AU. If in SP they only have 10% remaining of their LEU, they could receive 90% of their OCOG award.
 - If SP enrollment level is full-time, the OCOG award amount would be \$1,800 (\$2,000*90%)
- Ex. Student has 75% remaining of their LEU and is enrolled half-time in SM, full-time in AU but was only able to be paid 25% Pell in AU due to the remaining LEU.
 - Student had used a lifetime of 600% of Pell in the first two terms, so there is 0% Pell remaining for the spring term. Student is eligible for 100% OCOG for the SP term and award amount would be based on their actual enrollment level.

Trailer Institutions (AU, SP, SM) *Community Colleges and Regional Campuses Only*

- Account statement should read Pell (AU term), Pell (SP term), OCOG (SM term) for the AY
- Students would not receive OCOG in the AU or SP terms
- Third-term award amount is based on enrollment level and would be up to: \$2,000 (FT), \$1,500 (TT), \$1,000 (HT), or \$500 (QT) for the third-term of the academic year *only*.
- OCOG is tuition and general fees specific, so the OCOG award amount would be up to the charge for the term, not to exceed the max term award.
- OCOG will be requested after the 2nd term of Pell is received (Do not request OCOG prior to the 2nd term disbursement of Pell)
- School needs to request their SM (third-term) under the SP term window in HEI; Ex, SM26 will be requested under SP26
- Institutions will have until August to request for OCOG under the SP window in HEI, which may require an extension request
- If the student did not receive Pell in both the AU and SP terms, they would not be eligible for third-term OCOG
- If the student received full Pell for all terms in the academic year, they would not be eligible for third-term OCOG
- If the student is not enrolled all three terms, unless they're a transfer student, they would not be eligible for third-term OCOG

Trailer Institutions (AU, SP, SM) cont. *Community Colleges and Regional Campuses Only*

- If the student receives less than full-time Pell for either AU or SP; they would be eligible for partial OCOG in the SM term. The OCOG amount for the third-term would be based on the actual enrollment level minus the remaining Pell eligibility level.
 - Ex. student is half-time in AU, full-time in SP. If in SM student is enrolled full-time but has only half-time remaining for Pell, then they would be eligible for half-time OCOG (\$1,000) for the SP term (FT-HT=HT). If the same student is enrolled three-quarters-time for the SP term, then they would be eligible for quarter-time OCOG (\$500) for the SM term (TT-HT=QT). *Funds are requested under the SP26 window in HEI
 - Ex. student is half-time in AU, three-quarters time in SP. If in SM student is enrolled full-time and has three-quarters remaining for Pell, then they would be eligible for quarter-time OCOG (\$500) for the SM term (FT-TT=QT). *Funds are requested under the SP26 window in HEI
 - If same student is enrolled less than full-time for the SM term, they would NOT be eligible for OCOG (TT-TT= No OCOG).
 - Ex. student is half-time in AU, half-time in SP. If in SM they have a FT remaining for Pell, they would NOT be eligible for OCOG.

Trailer Institutions (AU, SP, SM) cont. *Community Colleges and Regional Campuses Only*

For students close to their LEU in the SM term; the OCOG amount would be based on their remaining Pell eligibility level. *If student reached their LEU prior to the SP term, they would not be eligible for third-term OCOG.*

- Ex. student is half-time in AU, full-time in SP. If in SM they only have 10% remaining of their LEU, they could receive 90% of their OCOG award.
 - If SM enrollment level is full-time, the award amount would be \$1,440 (\$1,600*90%)
- Ex. student has 75% remaining of their Pell LEU and is enrolled half-time in AU, full-time in SP but was only able to be paid 25% Pell in SP due to the remaining LEU.
 - Student had used a lifetime of 600% of Pell in the first two terms, so there is 0% Pell remaining for the SM term. Student is eligible for 100% OCOG for the SM term and award amount would be based on their actual enrollment level.

Institutions With An Adjusted Award Amount

- Outside of community colleges, other institutions, including regional campuses, may not be eligible for the full OCOG term award amount for the first two terms of the academic year due to the Pell-first concept.
- These institutions, along with **regional campuses**, include **Allegheny Wesleyan, Central State University, Firelands Medical Center School of Nursing, Franklin University, God's Bible College, Grace College and Seminary, Shawnee State University, Trinity School of Nursing, Tri-State Bible College, University of Northwestern Ohio, and Valor Christian College.**
- For these institutions, a student would receive the adjusted term OCOG award amount for the first two terms (*see award chart*).
- For the third term, a student would be eligible for up to the full sector OCOG award amount (*see award chart*).

Transfer Students

If a student was not enrolled at your institution the entire academic year but are attending your institution for the third-term, they may be eligible for third-term OCOG, assuming all other eligibility criteria are met.

The student still must have exhausted Pell after the second term or have a partial Pell remaining in order to qualify. Verification of this can be found on COD or NSLDS. In keeping with federal guidelines, the institution must keep this documentation in the event of an audit.

To Summarize:

- Regional campuses and Community Colleges with headers or trailers will request under the SP term window in HEI. For audit purposes, we're looking for two terms of a Pell at a minimum and one term of OCOG at a maximum.
- Institutions with an adjusted award amount with headers or trailers will request under the SP term window in HEI. For audit purposes, we're looking for two terms of a Pell at a minimum and two terms of OCOG at an adjusted amount with one term of OCOG at the full sector level.
- If student has partial eligibility remaining for Pell in the third-term, the remaining Pell needs to be applied first and the remaining would be their OCOG eligibility. The award amount would be based on the enrollment level minus their remaining Pell eligibility level.
- Pell does pay first. So, if you have a student that has partial remaining eligibility in the third-term but Pell fully covers their tuition and fees, they would NOT be eligible to receive OCOG. With the implementation of year-round Pell grants, an institution may find less students that would qualify for third-term OCOG.
- OCOG is tuition/general fees specific, and any other tuition/general fees-specific aid must be applied prior to the OCOG award. Tuition/general fees minus tuition/general fees-specific aid equals OCOG eligibility (up to the respective maximum term award).

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