



## Welcome to the Fall 2024 Semester!

Whether you attend our Anchorage, Kenai River, Kachemak Bay, Kodiak, Mat-Su, or Prince William Sound campus, this newsletter is designed to teach you more about the rights and responsibilities students hold when accepting financial aid to help pay for college.

Even though UAA's Financial Aid Office takes lead in processing federal, state, and institutional aid awards, we partner closely with our community campuses so you can receive customized help no matter where you may be studying.

We have compiled a list of reminders below to help you avoid some common pitfalls that will require you to repay or be ineligible for future aid. Please reach out to a Financial Aid Office near you if you have questions or wish to apply for aid.

**Shauna Grant**  
Director, UAA Office of Financial Aid

### IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

- **August 15** - **Financial Aid Eligibility Check Run (SAP)**
- **August 16** - Disbursement begins to financial-aid-eligible students (approximate)
- **August 26** - First day of classes & beginning of Add/Drop period
- **September 2, 5PM** - Alaska Performance Scholarship Disbursement begins (approximate)
- **September 6, 5PM** - Add/Drop Deadline\*  
  
(\*Federal Pell Grants - No adjustments permitted after this deadline)
- **September 9** - Alaska Education Grant disbursement day (approximate)
- **September 16, 5PM** - 1st Payment Deadline - \$125 Late Fee Assessed
- **October 1** - UA Scholarship Application opens for the 2025/26 year

- **November 1, 5pm** - Withdrawal Deadline\*

**\*Warning: Aid may need to be repaid if you drop or withdraw from classes.**

- **November 4, 5PM** - 2nd Payment Deadline - \$175 Late Fee Assessed

## IMPORTANT ELIGIBILITY REMINDERS

### WHERE IS MY MONEY?

**Disbursements and Refunds:** Most federal and state financial aid is disbursed each semester beginning the week before classes start.

The Alaska Education Grant is not disbursed until after the Add/Drop Deadline has passed.

Check either [UAOnline](#) or the [myUAA Student Dashboard](#) for additional student account balance and/or disbursement details. The UAA Office of the Bursar encourages students to sign-up for **Direct Deposit in UAOnline in order to receive refunds as quickly as possible.** For all other students, refund checks are mailed to the mailing address listed on the 'Personal Information' tab in UAOnline.

**Outside Resources:** Aid received from outside resources not listed on your UAA award notice, such as scholarships, tuition awards, third-party payments, etc. **MUST BE REPORTED** to UAA as soon as possible. Outside resources can have an impact on your eligibility for need-based federal/state aid programs. Your award offer may need to be revised as a result. Check UAOnline for revisions. Failure to do so could result in having to repay funds already disbursed to you.

### Returning or Increasing Loan

**Amounts:** You may make changes to awards that you have accepted and/or declined in UAOnline by submitting a Revision Request form. All forms can be

### PROBLEMS TO AVOID

**Repeat Coursework:** If you've received a grade in a course and decide to retake the course, you may repeat this passed course one time using financial aid. If you repeat it a second time, it does not count toward your financial aid enrollment status. This federal rule has additional conditions. To read more about it, visit our "Policies" webpage.

### Changes in Classification:

The award of federal and state financial aid is based on your undergraduate or graduate status, residency, and housing as indicated on your FAFSA. To avoid unanticipated delays or having to repay funds already disbursed, notify the Office of Financial Aid of any corrections or changes to this information as soon as possible.

**Graduate Students:** Only graduate level courses are financial aid eligible unless you meet permitted exceptions. You must contact the Office of Financial Aid directly to ensure your exception is clearly documented in order to receive your aid as soon as possible.

### Permitted Exceptions:

1. The UAA Catalog confirms specific undergraduate courses fulfill graduate program requirements.
2. Your department and college dean have approved an academic petition to replace a graduate course with an undergraduate one and that request has been processed by the Registrar's Office.

Note: Classes you must complete before being allowed to take graduate courses are called either leveling or prerequisites; and they do not count for most types of financial aid.

**Enrollment:** Many financial aid awards require at least half-time attendance, while others require full-time attendance.

- Full-Time: 12 credits for undergraduate programs and 9 credits for graduate level

found on our [UAA Financial Aid Forms](#) website. **Reminder: Loans are a form of financial aid that accrue interest and must be repaid. Borrow wisely.**

**Special Circumstances:** If you feel you have unusual family circumstances or have experienced a significant change in income please contact our office. We may be able to find options to help you resolve a financial difficulty.

**Admissions:** Financial Aid is available only to students enrolled in eligible degree/certificate programs. Not all certificates are considered "eligible programs" according to the federal government. [Contact our office](#) if you need help to determine if your program is eligible.

- If you complete a program and plan to continue on in another, you must reapply for admission to be eligible for financial aid. For example, if you complete your AA program in the summer and plan to continue on in a Bachelor's program in the fall, you must apply for admission to the Bachelor's program by the fall deadline.

programs

- Half-Time: 6 credits for undergraduate programs and 5 credits for graduate programs.

Financial aid award amounts are determined on the last day of the add/drop period at 5PM. If you change or reduce your enrollment after financial aid disbursement has occurred, you may have to repay some or all of the money you received.

## COMMON QUESTIONS

### **Why didn't my financial aid cover my textbook shipping charges, library fine, or other fees?**

Unless the Title IV Authorization Form is signed and submitted, federal aid cannot be used to cover non-UAA charges such as textbook shipping, parking permits, fines, health center expenses, late fees, and other charges not tied to a class. If you would like to have these covered by your federal financial aid, you must complete the [TIV Authorization Form](#). [Contact the UAA Bursar's Office](#) with questions related to this topic and form.

### **I didn't qualify for enough financial aid to cover my full bill, what options do I have to help?**

- **Considering UAA's EASY Payment Plan through UAOnline?** For complete instructions on how to sign up for this option, visit [UAA's Payment Plan website](#)
- **Considering a private student loan?** UAA's [Private Loan Comparison Tool](#) can help.

### **Can I buy my textbooks using financial aid?**

All UAA students, even those not on financial aid, are permitted to charge "REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS" to a student account. When students log into the UAA Bookstore portal, you will see "Your UAA Charge Limit" at the top of the screen. This charge-limit amount is identical for all students based on the number of enrolled credits and will refresh every 24 hours, so added classes will increase the charge limit the following business day. Visit the [UAA Online Bookstore and Seawolf Store website](#) for additional important details.

[Review Additional Aid Rules](#)

[What is SAP?](#)

[Login to your myUAA Dashboard](#)

[Additional Dates & Deadlines](#)