

FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for federal financial aid programs (the Federal Pell Grant Program, the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant [FSEOG], the Federal College Work Study [FCWS], and the Federal Family Educational Loan Programs that include the Federal Stafford and Federal Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students), students must meet the following criteria: be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen, be enrolled in a degree or certificate program, meet the Lon Morris College (LMC) Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Standards, and not be in default on a student loan or owe a repayment of Title IV federal financial aid funds. (A repayment occurs if the student receives funds for living expenses and then withdraws within the first 60% of the semester [officially or unofficially] from the College.)

All students borrowing in the Federal Stafford Loan Program for the first time at LMC (regardless of previous borrowing elsewhere) must complete entrance loan counseling. Entrance counseling is available at <http://www.mapping-your-future.org>. Be sure to complete the form at the end of the session. This form will be sent electronically to LMC. Loan funds for first-time borrowers will not be processed until LMC receives the electronic form certifying entrance loan counseling has been completed.

All entering first-time students borrowing for the first time at LMC must wait 30 days before Stafford loan funds can be credited to student accounts. All students who have sufficient loan funds can receive a bookstore credit from the Business Office to purchase books and supplies up to the amount that does not exceed the credit that would be applied after the student loan. The student will be obligated to repay this advance to Lon Morris College when the Stafford funds are received after the first 30 days of the semester. In the event the student is not enrolled when the Stafford funds are received, the student will owe the advance to LMC.

FINANCIAL AID

To apply for any type of financial aid administered by Lon Morris College:

1. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid Form (FAFSA). The purpose of the FAFSA is to collect information used in evaluating the financial ability of the family to contribute to the cost of the student's post-high school education. We recommend that you enter the FAFSA information on the web at www.fafsa.ed.gov for faster response from the Department of Education. If you do not have access to the web, you may get the paper application from your local high school or from Lon Morris College. Designate Lon Morris College (federal code 003585) as a recipient.
2. Complete and return all other applications and documents furnished by the Financial Aid Office.
3. Prior to award packaging, entering freshman students will be allowed to enroll only if they have completed all admission requirements.
4. Selected students who enroll at Lon Morris College and seek financial aid assistance from any Federal Title IV funds may be required to complete a process called Verification. These requirements are outlined below.
5. After all documents have been completed, the student will be awarded any and all Federal Title IV funds that are available. Awarding of funds will be based upon need.

Federal Verification Requirements

If a student is selected to complete the Verification process, the Director of Financial Aid will require that the following items be verified with documents submitted by both the parent(s) and the student:

1. Adjusted gross family income and miscellaneous information on the tax return and tax schedules
2. W-2 information
3. Family size
4. Number of family members in post secondary programs
5. Untaxed income and benefits
6. Selective Service verification
7. Statement of educational purpose
8. Non-default statement

SELECTION AND PACKAGING POLICIES

Using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid form (FAFSA), financial need will be determined for the student. Selection and financial aid packaging will be formulated using the "needs analysis" profile. Students with the highest degree of need will be reviewed and awarded first. All others will be awarded on a "first come, first served" basis.

All Pell Grants will be awarded as entitled. The Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (SEOG), college work study and the state grant programs will be awarded based on need and availability of funds. Stafford Loans will be awarded based on outstanding need and certification by the Office of Financial Aid, after all other funds have been utilized for the student. All institutional scholarships will be awarded as earned. All federal, state and institutional funds will be awarded until the total financial need is met or until funds are expended.

Applications for financial aid are accepted and considered without discrimination on any basis prohibited by law, including, but not limited to, race, color, age, national origin, sex, veteran status, religion, or disability.

STUDENT'S RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Students are required to notify the Office of Financial Aid in writing regarding any changes in their financial or academic status while attending Lon Morris College.
2. Financial Aid funds are disbursed on a semester-by-semester basis. Aid is credited to a student's account at the college and the balance of the award, after the account is cleared, will be disbursed to the student.
3. To continue receiving aid, a student must maintain satisfactory academic progress, financial aid academic progress and be in a degree or certificate program. Each student is responsible for becoming familiar with the Academic Progress Requirements policy and the Financial Aid Academic Progress Requirements policy as outlined in this catalog.
4. Lon Morris College will have the right to release any financial aid transcript to the proper officials of scholarship agencies or organizations who wish to consider the student as a recipient of their awards. Students receiving public assistance are responsible for reporting their student financial aid, including loans, to the appropriate agency.
5. Students must reapply for Federal and State financial aid for each academic year at www.fafsa.gov. The FAFSA may be completed after January 1st of each year.
6. Lon Morris College's Scholarships and Departmental Awards will be re-evaluated after each semester to determine if the student has met the requirement set by each Department or Campus Activity Department.

7. Students may accept one Lon Morris College Campus Activity Award or Departmental Award in an academic year. Students may be a participant in more than one Lon Morris College Campus Activity or Department.
8. Any awards made directly to the student through external sources must be reported to the Office of Financial Aid, so that these awards may be considered in the “need evaluation” process.
9. A drop or withdrawal from course study may result in a decrease or cancellation of financial aid awards, and any Title IV funds released to the student may have to be refunded. Student refund policy is available in the Office of Financial Aid and in this catalog.
10. All scholarships and grants received in excess of the total amount used to pay for tuition, fees, books, supplies and equipment are considered taxable income for U.S. income tax purposes, and it is the student’s responsibility to report this as income on the tax return.
11. All Stafford Loan information regarding the terms of the loan and repayment scheduling is available in the Office of Financial Aid.
12. Students participating the College Work Study Program must contact the Office of Financial Aid to complete the necessary paperwork. College Work Study funds awarded to the student will not disburse to the Business Office as a form of payment for each semester. College Work Study is not a grant; students must work for the funds. College Work Study students will receive paychecks from the Business Office on a monthly basis for their prior month’s hours worked.
13. General conditions for College Work Study assignments:
 - a. All students will be assigned the same number of hours to work each week. The student should work the hours assigned.
 - b. The work schedule for the semester is set up by the student in consultation with the supervisor. Student workers should follow the schedule as closely as possible.
 - c. A time card will be used by the student when working each day. Time cards should be signed by the student and the supervisor before the time card is turned in to the Business Office.
 - d. Other details regarding the College Work Study Program may be obtained in the Office of Financial Aid.

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS REQUIREMENTS FOR RECEIVING FINANCIAL AID

Students who receive federal or state funds administered by the Financial Aid Office must demonstrate Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) in order to remain eligible to receive federal and state financial aid.

Grade Point Average

Students must maintain a GPA of at least 1.5 during the first year and have a GPA of at least 2.0 at the end of the second year (measured as a period of time, not by the student’s grade level). Grades of A, B, C, D, WF and F contribute toward the semester GPA. Those who do not have a Lon Morris College academic history (incoming freshman or transfer students) will be assumed to be making satisfactory progress at the time of first enrollment. Developmental course work is included in the semester GPA.

Successful Completion of Courses

Students must successfully complete each semester at least two-thirds of all semester credit hours (SCH) attempted as of their enrollment at the end of the drop/add period at Lon Morris College. This includes both developmental and college level course work. Successful completion is measured by grades of A, B, C, and D.

Example: A student is enrolled in 15 SCH for a semester at Lon Morris College. At the end of the semester the student has successfully completed nine SCH, having received an F in one three SCH class and withdrawn from one three SCH class after the drop/add period. The student has not met Financial Aid SAP requirements for the semester because two-thirds of the SCH attempted (10 out of the 15) was not completed. Because the student was in Good Standing for the previous semester at LMC, the student will receive federal and state financial aid for the next semester at LMC but will be placed on Financial Aid Warning.

Duration

Students must complete their course of study in no longer than 150 percent of the published length of the course. All college-level credit hours attempted toward a degree at LMC, whether or not they are completed or passed, are counted toward the maximum duration. Students who exceed the 150 percent limit in their course of study will no longer be eligible for financial aid.

Example: A student is in a program that requires 62 SCH to graduate. The student is entitled to receive Title IV funds for 93 SCH attempted at Lon Morris College. When the student reaches 94 SCH attempted, no more Title IV funding will be available at Lon Morris College.

Satisfactory Academic Progress will be evaluated on a semester basis, before financial aid is extended for the following academic semester. Dependent upon their grades, students will fall into one of three categories--“good standing,” “warning,” or “cancellation”--for financial aid purposes as defined below:

- **Good Standing.** Students who fulfill the requirements stipulated for maintaining Satisfactory Academic Progress will be in Good Standing and eligible to receive funding in the subsequent semester.
- **Financial Aid Warning.** Students who fail to meet the semester GPA or fail to meet the 67 per cent completion requirement will be placed on warning for the subsequent semester, but will still be eligible to receive Title IV funds during that semester. They will be notified of this status by mail.
- **Financial Aid Cancellation.** Students who fail to meet the requirements of Satisfactory Academic Progress for two consecutive semesters will be placed on Financial Aid Cancellation for the next Academic semester and denied federal and state funding. They will be notified of this status by mail.

Extenuating Circumstances

Each situation will be reviewed by the Director of Financial Aid and the Academic Dean to determine if the unacceptable GPA was produced because of personal illness, injury, etc. A decision will be made after this review to decide if satisfactory academic progress can be accomplished and financial aid can be continued.

Appeals Process

A written appeal must be furnished to the Director of Financial Aid after notification of probation or suspension. This appeal will be reviewed by the Director of Financial Aid and Academic Dean to determine whether to waive the previous action taken.

AWARDS AND FUNDS

All financial aid award letters are prepared with the understanding that the student will enroll full-time. Full-time status for financial aid purposes is 12 credit hours or more. If students enroll less than full-time in any semester, they must notify the Financial Aid Office (FAO) prior to the first day of classes. Awards will be adjusted accordingly. Students have the option of accepting or declining any portion of the award. By signing and returning the award letter to the FAO, the student gives permission for accepted awards to be disbursed and credited to the student account.

When the student accepts Stafford loan funds on their award letter, the student must guarantee their student loan by completing an online application through TG Loans By Web™. The Master Promissory Note (MPN) for the Federal Stafford Loan Program only needs to be completed by the student once for the student's entire attendance at the College. The student's signature on this form allows for all future disbursements while enrolled at Lon Morris College. If the student needs additional funds during the academic year, the student's signature on the MPN gives the lender permission to disburse future loans certified by LMC. The student must request additional loan money with the FAO at LMC, and the FAO will ask the student to guarantee the requested additional loan amount through TG Loans By Web™.

Students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) every year as soon as possible after January 1.

Students should always notify the FAO if any awards such as scholarships, assistantships, or other types of assistance are not listed on the financial aid award letter. When a student receives funds after being notified of or receiving the original financial aid award, adjustment to the original financial aid may be required. Federal regulations require LMC to prevent awarding in excess of a student's financial need. In some instances, a portion or all of a student's loan or other funds may have to be returned to the source. If the student has already received these funds, the student may owe funds back to LMC.

Disbursement, Refund & Repayment Policies

Students are required to maintain regular and consistent attendance in all classes. Financial aid disbursements will be calculated on the student's class attendance. Students who stop attending class, drop out, or officially withdraw may owe money back to the federal financial aid programs or other scholarship or loan programs. Students should follow the procedures printed in Lon Morris College's catalog for formally withdrawing from LMC.

Lon Morris College's Refund Policy appears in the "Expenses" section of this catalog. If a student withdraws or drops out on or after the first day of classes, the Business Office will calculate a refund of tuition and fees. If the student is a Federal Title IV financial aid recipient, the return of Title IV funds is calculated and returned to the financial aid program(s) by the Financial Aid Office in accordance with federal law.

If a student withdraws, drops classes, or stops attending classes on or after the first day of classes, and the student receives a refund of Federal Title IV financial aid funds for the semester, the student may owe a repayment of a portion of the financial aid received for that term to LMC and the federal government. The repayment is calculated for the period of time the student is not in attendance, in accordance with federal formulas. The student is required to repay any funds received for the time the student is not in attendance.

In a refund, return, or repayment, the student may owe additional funds to LMC, the federal government, and state government. Students are encouraged to use caution in deciding to drop or withdraw from classes.

Dropping classes or withdrawing from LMC may impact the student's future financial aid eligibility. Students should be familiar with LMC Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Standards. Students are billed for a repayment or refund owed to LMC. The repayment must be paid before any

additional federal Title IV aid is awarded. Any unpaid amount may be assigned to the U.S. Department of Education. A hold is placed on all LMC records when the student owes a repayment. The student is ineligible for any additional federal financial aid funds until the debt is satisfied.

SCHOLARSHIPS-GRANTS-LOANS

Federal Programs

PELL GRANT - Federal grant that provides up to \$4,731.00 per year based on need. Separate application required

FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL ED. OPPORTUNITY GRANTS - A Federal grant to students based on need.

FEDERAL COLLEGE WORK-STUDY PROGRAM - A Federal student job program based on need.

FEDERAL SUBSIDIZED STAFFORD STUDENT LOAN – A loan awarded on the basis of financial need. The government pays the interest while the student is in school at least half-time, and during grace and deferment periods.

FEDERAL UNSUBSIDIZED STAFFORD STUDENT LOAN – A Federal Stafford loan not awarded on the basis of financial need. Interest accrues from the time the loan is disbursed, although interest payments may be deferred during in-school, grace, and deferment periods and added to the principle balance of the loan.

PARENT PLUS LOAN – Loans designed to help the parents or legal guardian of dependent students pay for post-secondary (college) education. They must be obtained in addition to or in place of Stafford loans. PLUS loans have a 8.5% fixed interest rate. Like Stafford loans, a guarantee and origination fee is charged.

PLUS borrowers may receive up to the student's estimated cost of education less other financial aid, including Stafford loan assistance for which the dependent student is eligible. Borrowers will be subject to a credit evaluation. If a PLUS loan is denied, the dependent student may be eligible for an unsubsidized Stafford loan. Repayment of the PLUS loan will begin within 60 days after the final disbursement.

State Programs

TEXAS TUITION EQUALIZATION GRANT (T.E.G.) - A program for Texas residents based on need to help offset tuition at a private college.

LEVERAGING EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT PARTNERSHIP (LEAP) – A Federal grant that matches the T.E.G. and is based on need.

SPECIAL LEVERAGING EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PARTNERSHIP (SLEAP) – A Federal grant that matches the T.E.G. and is based on need.

TEXAS COLLEGE WORK STUDY PROGRAM – A State student job program based on need.

EARLY HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION SCHOLARSHIP – A state funded grant for students that graduate from high school (grades 9-12) in 36 months.

Lon Morris College Scholarships

The scholarship program at Lon Morris College is maintained through the contributions of many friends of the College. Among these sources of aid are the income from endowment funds, churches, Sunday School classes, foundations, and alumni.

Students are eligible to apply for any combination of the following scholarships and awards:

LON MORRIS COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

Academic Scholarships

In order to receive a Lon Morris College Academic Scholarship, as outlined below, you must turn in the following documents to Lon Morris College, Office of Enrollment Management, 800 College Avenue, Jacksonville, TX 75766:

- Application to Admission at Lon Morris College with your application fee.
- Preliminary or Final High School Transcript.
- SAT or ACT scores.

When we receive the above information, the Office of Enrollment Management will mail you a letter listing your Academic Scholarship/Award Amount. You must return your Academic Scholarship/Award Letter within 14 days of receipt. In order to have your Academic Scholarship/Award Amount show on your Financial Aid Award Letter from the Financial Aid Office, complete the FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov and list our school as a recipient. Lon Morris College's Federal School code is 003585. If you do not plan on completing the FAFSA, you must notify the Financial Aid Office. Please note that an Academic Scholarship/Award cannot be combined with an Athletic Scholarship or Activity Award, or Bishop's Scholarship.

SCURLOCK SCHOLARSHIP – Students must rank in the top 5% of their high school graduating class and have scored a 1220 SAT or higher (CR+M) or 27 ACT. A limited number of the scholarships will provide up to full tuition and direct fees. This scholarship requires program application completed by February 1st. The student must maintain a 3.5 cumulative grade point average to receive the scholarship for their second year.

TRUSTEE'S SCHOLARSHIP – Students must score a minimum of 1000 on SAT (CR+M), 23 ACT, 3.50 high school GPA. A limited number of the scholarships will provide up to \$10,000. The student must maintain a 3.0 cumulative grade point average to receive the scholarship for their second year.

PRESIDENT'S SCHOLARSHIP – Students must score a minimum of 900 SAT (CR+M), 20 ACT, 3.25 high school GPA. A limited number of the scholarships will provide up to \$8,000. The student must maintain a 2.0 cumulative grade point average to receive the scholarship for their second year.

DEAN'S SCHOLARSHIP – Students must score a minimum of 800 SAT (CR+M), 17 ACT, 3.0 high school GPA. A limited number of the scholarships will provide up to \$6,000. The student must maintain a 2.0 cumulative grade point average to receive the scholarship for their second year.

BEARCAT AWARD – Students must score a minimum of 700 SAT (CR+M), 14 ACT, 2.25 high school GPA. A limited number of the scholarships will provide up to \$5,000. The student must maintain a 2.0 cumulative grade point average to receive the scholarship for their second year.

DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS

In recognition of a student's unusual talent or academic promise in a particular area of study, a limited number of departmental awards are available annually. Recipients are required to meet normal admissions standards. Some departments may require auditions or portfolios as part of the application process. The amount of the award may vary annually. The student must maintain a 2.0 cumulative grade point average to receive the scholarship for their second year.

CAMPUS ACTIVITY AWARDS

Students may qualify for activity awards determined by specific programs of the college. Applicants must meet normal admissions requirements and the granting of the award will require participation in the activity or program. The amount of the award may vary annually. Students must remain in good academic standing in subsequent semesters.

UNITED METHODIST SCHOLARSHIPS/AWARDS

In recognition of the historic importance to Lon Morris College of The United Methodist Church and the surrounding community, awards are available to members of the constituent groups listed below. These awards may not be combined with each other, but recipients may qualify for additional limited activity or departmental awards and all other need-based financial assistance funded from external sources. For specific information, contact the Office of Financial Aid.

BISHOP'S SCHOLARSHIP: A limited number are available to one student from each Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church who has been nominated by his or her presiding Bishop. The Bishop must write a letter of recommendation to the President of Lon Morris College. The value of the scholarship is up to \$10,000. This scholarship may not be combined with an Academic Scholarship.

UNITED METHODIST PASTORS' AWARDS: A limited number are available to students who are members in good standing of The United Methodist Church upon the written nomination of their pastor. The value of the award is \$1,250 annually. The student must maintain a 2.25 cumulative grade point average to receive the scholarship their second year.

UNITED METHODIST PASTOR'S DEPENDENT AWARDS: A limited number are available to a child of a United Methodist pastor in the Texas Annual Conference. The value of the award is up to \$1,500 annually. The student must meet normal admissions requirements and must maintain a 2.25 cumulative grade point average to receive the scholarship their second year.

MISCELLANEOUS PROGRAMS

UNITED METHODIST SCHOLARSHIP: Granted by The United Methodist Church to Methodist students who have made significant contributions to church and community.

HOPE PIERCE TARTT SCHOLARSHIP: Students who reside in Panola, Marion, Gregg, Harrison, and Upshur counties may apply for this special award that ranges up to \$2,500 per year.

P.L.A.N. SCHOLARSHIP/MERIT AWARD: A limited number are available to students who have one parent of Hispanic background. The student must live in Cherokee County. A full-time recipient enrolled in 12 or more hours will be awarded up to \$1,000 for the academic school year. A part-time recipient enrolled in 3-11 hours will be awarded up to \$500 for the academic school year. Award and scholarship amounts may vary from year to year based on investment returns and other financial considerations.

All scholarships and awards are payable at a rate of ½ per semester.

SCHOLAR DOLLARS

Scholar Dollars: Scholar Dollars is a grades for scholarship program for 7th-12th grades in designated public schools. Students may earn credit toward a scholarship at Lon Morris College by making good grades. To apply for the program, a student must complete the application and have it signed by a parent or guardian. The student must, also, write a brief essay on "Why Education is Important to My Future."

Guidelines for Lon Morris College's Scholar Dollar Program are as follows:

- You must enroll at LMC within 15 months of graduation from high school in order to be eligible for scholarship dollars. You must then be enrolled for four consecutive fall and spring semesters as a full-time student (registered for 12 semester hours) to remain eligible to participate in the program.
- After enrolling at LMC, you must maintain at least a C average (2.0) each semester.
- When eligible, you may receive up to ¼ of your LMC scholarship dollars each fall or

- spring semester that you are registered.
- Award cannot exceed tuition and fees.
 - Student must meet LMC admission standards.
 - LMC reserves the right to change or modify guidelines at any time. Exceptions to the guidelines will be considered on an individual basis.
 - Credit cannot be used for payment of dual enrollment, summer school, the May Semester, or other special terms.