

GRANTS AND LOANS

These programs may be applied for by completing the FAFSA and NRCC Financial Aid Form. Eligibility for all programs is based on the student's demonstrated need, funds available, citizenship status and academic progress.

Federal Work-Study Program (FWS) *6 credits for summer and 12 credits for fall and spring*- A joint federal and college program that funds part-time employment of students. Placement is on/off campus. One hour's work equals one hour's pay. Funds are limited—early application is recommended.

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) *6 or more credits required* - A federal grant program for undergraduate students with exceptional financial need. Funds are limited – early application is recommended.

Federal Pell Grant (PELL) *Variable credits*- A federal grant program for undergraduate students. The Pell Grant is the foundation of all financial aid programs. Pell Grants are awarded only to undergraduate students who have not earned a bachelor's degree.

Commonwealth Award (COMA) *At least 6 credits* - A state program administered through the SCHEV, which provides educational grants, awarded on the basis of financial need for legal residents of Virginia. Funds are limited – early application is recommended.

Virginia Guaranteed Assistance Program (VGAP) *12 or more credits required*
A state program administered by the SCHEV which provides educational grants based on the following: a Virginia resident, a Virginia high school graduate with a 2.5 cumulative GPA, a dependent student, and a first-time freshman. **Spring 2010 high school graduates must submit a copy of their high school transcripts to the NRCC Financial Aid Office in order to be considered for VGAP.**

Part-Time Tuition Assistance Program (PTAP) *1 to 8 credits*
A state program established by the Virginia Community College System to assist part-time students with tuition/fees only. To be eligible for PTAP, students must be placed in a specific academic program, be enrolled for one to eight credit hours, not have a bachelor's degree and qualify as an in-state student.

Federal Direct Loan Programs *6 or more credits required* **Federal monies that have to be repaid.** - The **Federal Direct Student Loan Program** is a federally funded program. NRCC participates exclusively in the Federal Direct Loan Program which includes subsidized and unsubsidized student loans. The federal government is the lender in the Direct Student Loan Program. Students interested in federal student loans will be required to apply through the Direct Student Loan Programs and complete new master promissory notes.

The **PLUS loans** enable parents with good credit histories to borrow to pay the education expenses for the student who is a dependent undergraduate enrolled at least half-time.