

How to Determine Your 2021-2022 Federal Pell Grant Award

You can calculate the amount(s) of your Federal Pell Grant award for Summer 2021, Fall 2021 or Spring 2022 semesters by using the award schedule on the next page and other information from your Student Aid Report (SAR). Your SAR is a print or PDF summary of the information you reported on your 2021-2022 FAFSA. It contains information you will need to help you determine how much Pell you may be eligible for. Your SAR can be accessed online at <https://www.FAFSA.gov>. You will need your [FSA ID](#) to be able to view and download your SAR.

How to Use the Federal Pell Grant Award Chart

To use the Pell Grant Award Chart, you will need to know your **Expected Family Contribution (EFC)** and your **enrollment status**. The EFC is the index number generated when you file a FAFSA and when you meet the [Basic Eligibility Criteria](#). Enrollment status is the classification you fall into based on the number of credits for which you are registered and in attendance. Enrollment status credit weighting is defined below. You can determine your enrollment status from your class schedule on your [CUNYfirst](#) Student Center and find your EFC on your SAR.

1. Locate your EFC on your paper or electronic SAR.
2. Determine your semester enrollment status credit weighting: Full-time = 12 or more credits; 3/4 time = 9-11 credits; half-time = 6-8 credits; and less than 1/2 time = 1-5 credits.
3. On the Pell Grant Award Schedule, look at the left-hand column labeled "Expected Family Contribution (EFC)" and find the range of numbers containing your particular EFC.
4. Look at the columns to the right labeled with the different enrollment statuses. For each enrollment status there is an annual and semester amount indicated. The appropriate PELL Grant award amounts for every EFC are printed for each enrollment status by annual and term amounts. Find the column for your enrollment status and move across the same row as your EFC until you find the award amount for your particular enrollment status. **Pay careful attention to the term specific award column since this reflects your eligibility based on the specific term's enrollment status.**

Federal Pell Grant Ineligible Categories

- If you have already earned a bachelor's degree, either abroad or within the U.S., you are not eligible for the Federal Pell Grant regardless of your EFC.
- If you are pursuing a graduate degree then you are not eligible for the Federal Pell Grant regardless of your EFC.
- If your FAFSA is in a rejected status, meaning that you did not provide all information needed for the U.S. Department of Education to complete the processing of your application or there are other conflicts with the application, you will not have an EFC and you will not be able to determine your Federal Pell grant eligibility until the rejected status has been resolved. Refer to the comments section on your SAR for instructions on how to resolve the reject status condition or speak with a financial aid representative.

Lifetime Eligibility Usage

The Federal Pell Grant Program allows a student to receive up to 6 full-time years or 600% of the Federal Pell Grant award. This 6 year limitation is called Lifetime Eligibility Usage or LEU. If you are in your last year of Federal Pell Grant eligibility it is possible that your Federal Pell Grant award may be reduced, regardless of your EFC, to meet the LEU requirement.

Year Round Pell

For more information on year round Pell eligibility refer to our [Year Round Pell FAQ](#)

