



Financial Aid Office  
Quinsigamond Community College  
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Office hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:00 am - 6:00 pm  
Friday, 8:00am-12:00pm  
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## **A Guide to Your 2024-2025 Financial Aid Award**

### **PLEASE READ CAREFULLY--IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

We are pleased to assist you in your educational pursuits at Quinsigamond Community College! Enclosed is your 2024-2025 financial aid award offer letter. Please read all this information carefully.

This award offer is based on a review of the information you provided on the 2024-2025 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or equivalent state alternative (MASFA) and other documents.

**Note: If you do not plan to attend QCC for the 2024-2025 academic year, please notify the Financial Aid Office as soon as possible so the funds we offered you may be awarded to another deserving student.**

Log on to The Q and select the Financial Services page for information about your application, awards, and important information throughout the year. QCC student email is used for official College communications. Be sure to check it often for important information.

### **Terms and Conditions of Your Award**

Your award is based on an estimate of the number of credits we anticipate you will enroll in each semester or your actual enrollment at the time the award was made. Your financial aid award eligibility presumes that you will attend and complete the courses you enroll in.

**Enrollment:** Changes in the number of eligible credits you are enrolled in each semester may result in an adjustment to this award.

**Attendance:** You must attend classes to receive this funding. If you register for classes and do not attend, your financial aid will be canceled. Students must attend each class they are enrolled in to receive financial aid for that course. Aid may be reduced or canceled for non-attendance in individual course(s) based on instructor's attendance reporting. You must officially drop your classes prior to the last day of the add/drop period in a semester or you may be charged for these classes.

**Withdrawal from the College:** If you withdraw from QCC or you stop attending your courses before the end of the semester, your financial aid will be revised according to the federal Return of Title IV Funds policy. If your financial aid has disbursed, you may be required to repay some of your funds. If you did not receive your financial aid prior to withdrawing, it will be reduced based on the percentage of the semester that you attended and then posted to your student account. If you stop attending classes, without officially withdrawing, your financial aid will also be adjusted. You may owe a balance to the College as a result of your withdrawal. More detailed information is available at [www.qcc.edu/ReturnofTitleIVFunds](http://www.qcc.edu/ReturnofTitleIVFunds).

**Other Financial Assistance:** You must notify the Financial Aid Office, in writing, of all outside financial assistance you receive, such as scholarships, tuition waivers, grants, tuition reimbursement, payments made to your account by an outside agency, or other education loans. Your financial aid award may need to be adjusted based on the inclusion of these funds.

**Repeated Coursework:** Students enrolled in standard term programs will be allowed to repeat (and have counted in their enrollment status for financial aid purposes) any coursework previously taken in their program as long as it is not a result of more than one repetition of a previously passed course. If a student is enrolled in a non-term program (currently Nurse Education Evening, Nurse Education Adv Placement LPN, and Nurse Education Advanced Placement Paramedic), repeated coursework can only be funded if the student separated from the program for more than 180 days.

**Developmental Coursework:** You may not receive financial aid for more than 30 attempted credits of developmental coursework.

Please note that awards may be subject to change due to unexpected adjustments to Quinsigamond Community College's state or federal allocations or other congressional action.

### **Maintaining your Financial Aid Eligibility**

**Satisfactory Academic Progress:** You must be eligible under Quinsigamond Community College's Satisfactory Academic Progress policy to receive and keep financial aid. You can view the policy here: [www.qcc.edu/satisfactoryacademicprogress](http://www.qcc.edu/satisfactoryacademicprogress)

**Application Renewal:** You must apply for financial aid each academic year by submitting a new FAFSA at [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov). If you are not eligible to complete a FAFSA, you may complete the Massachusetts Application for State Financial Assistance (MASFA).

### **Important Information**

**QCC Financial Aid Programs:** The Financial Aid Office awards both Gift Aid as well as Federal Direct Loans. For an explanation of the financial aid programs awarded to QCC students, visit: [www.qcc.edu/financial-aid-scholarships/aid-programs](http://www.qcc.edu/financial-aid-scholarships/aid-programs).

**Release of Information:** Due to student privacy laws, QCC will only discuss a student's financial aid information with the student. A student may authorize us to share information with another individual by submitting a "Release of Aid Information Form" available at [www.qcc.edu/financialaidmissinginfo](http://www.qcc.edu/financialaidmissinginfo).

**Summer Financial Aid:** The Summer 2025 Financial Aid Application will be available in the Financial Aid Office at the end of March 2025. Funds are limited for students attending Summer sessions. Unfortunately, not all eligible students will receive funding, even if you received aid in prior semesters.

## What Happens Next?

**Bookstore Allowance:** If your award exceeds your charges, you may have a bookstore allowance available for the QCC Follett Bookstore, usually one week before classes start. You will be notified by your QCC student email if you qualify for this allowance. If you do not have a credit balance, contact the Financial Aid Office. Students who are using student loans toward their books must complete all loan requirements prior to being issued an allowance. You can only use your allowance at the QCC Follett Bookstore; however, you are not required to purchase your books here.

**Disbursement of Funds:** Financial aid will be applied to your student account by the Business Office after the Financial Aid Office has verified your eligibility and the funds have been received by the funding source. This timeframe can vary based on when the College receives funds for you, but typically begins 4-6 weeks after the start of the semester and weekly thereafter. If your disbursed financial aid exceeds your charges, you will receive a refund check from the Business Office at the address listed for you on The Q. You may receive multiple refund checks if funds for a particular award are received later than others. The Business Office will send you an email if you are eligible for a financial aid refund when a check has been mailed.

## Glossary

**Cost of Attendance (COA):** The total amount (not including grants and scholarships) that it will cost you to go to school during the 2024-25 school year. COA includes tuition and fees; food and housing; and allowances for books, supplies, transportation, and loan fees. It also includes miscellaneous and other personal expenses, such as an allowance for the purchase of a personal computer; costs related to a disability; and dependent care. For students attending less than half-time, the COA will only include food and housing through professional judgment. Your total award from all sources cannot exceed your COA. Go to [www.qcc.edu/costofattendance](http://www.qcc.edu/costofattendance) for more information.

**Direct Costs:** Include costs that are paid to the College and are directly related to your course costs. The amounts listed below are estimates of your tuition and fee costs for the year, as program fees vary by program and by semester. Always refer to your semester Course and Fee statement after you have registered to review your actual charges.

**Indirect costs:** Include costs that you may have incidental to your education, but the amounts are not determined by or paid to the College. These costs are estimated based on the costs of the average student.

**Direct Subsidized Loan:** Loans that the U.S. Department of Education pays the interest on while you're in school at least half-time, for the first six months after you leave school (referred to as a grace period\*), and during a period of deferment (a postponement of loan payments for qualified events).

**Direct Unsubsidized Loan:** Loans that the borrower is responsible for paying the interest on during all periods. If you choose not to pay the interest while you are in school, during grace periods and deferment or forbearance periods, your interest will accrue (accumulate) and be capitalized (that is, your interest will be added to the principal amount of your loan).

**Federal Work-Study:** A federal student aid program that provides part-time employment while the student is enrolled in school to help pay educationally related expenses. The student must seek out and apply for work-study jobs at their school. The student will be paid for the hours they work, typically through a paycheck. The amount earned cannot exceed the total amount awarded by the school for the award year. The availability of work-study jobs varies by school. Please note that Federal Work-Study earnings may be taxed in certain scenarios; however, the income you earn will not be counted against you when calculating your Student Aid Index (SAI) on the FASFA.

**Grants, Tuition Waivers, and Scholarships:** Student aid funds that do not have to be repaid. Grants are often need-based, while scholarships are usually merit-based. Occasionally you might have to pay back part or all of a grant if, for example, you withdraw from school before finishing a semester. If you use a grant or scholarship to cover your living expenses, the amount of your scholarship may be counted as taxable income on your tax return.

**Loans:** Borrowed money that must be repaid with interest. Loans from the federal government typically have a lower interest rate than loans from private lenders. Federal loans, listed from most advantageous to least advantageous, are called Direct Subsidized Loans, Direct Unsubsidized Loans, and Parent PLUS Loans. You can find more information about federal loans at StudentAid.gov.

**Net Price:** An estimate of the actual cost that a student and their family need to pay in a given year to cover education expenses for the student to attend a particular school. Net price is determined by taking the institution's cost of attendance and subtracting any grants and scholarships for which the student may be eligible.

**Non-Federal Private Education Loan:** A private education loan is a loan issued expressly for postsecondary education expenses to a borrower (either through the educational institution or directly to the borrower) from a private educational lender, rather than as a Title IV, HEA loan offered by the Department of Education.

**Origination Fees:** An upfront fee charged by a lender as compensation for processing a new loan application. Origination fees are typically quoted as a percentage of the total loan.

**Other Financial Assistance:** Other grants, scholarships, education loans, and wages from need-based employment, whether the assistance is awarded by the school or by an individual or organization outside the school.

**Parent Plus Loan:** A loan available to the parents of dependent undergraduate students for which the borrower is fully responsible for paying the interest regardless of the loan status.

**Student Aid Index (SAI):** A number used by your school to calculate the amount of federal student aid you are eligible to receive. It is based on the financial information provided in your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This is not the amount of money your family will have to pay for college, nor is it the amount of federal student aid you will receive. The MASFA (a state alternative form filed by students who cannot complete a FAFSA) calculates the SAI equivalent.

**Tuition Payment Plan:** A tuition payment plan offered by an institution may allow students to spread out their payments.