

## Grants -

## Title IV Financial Aid Information

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Title IV financial aid is a federal financial aid that is authorized under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965. In order to be eligible for Title IV financial aid, a student must

- complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).\*
  - have a high school diploma from a state-approved high school or GED.
  - be enrolling in a program of choice to fulfill a goal of diploma or degree.
  - (if male) be registered with the U.S. Selective Service or be exempt.
  - not engage in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance during the period covered by financial aid.
  - not owe a repayment or an overpayment to Title IV. A student and/or student's parent(s) must not be in default on Stafford (GSL), SLS, PLUS, or any other educational loan.
  - not receive Title IV funds for no more than 150% of the number of credit hours required for the student's program of choice.
  - not receive funds while enrolled for more than 30 credit hours of developmental courses. These developmental hours are counted in determining the 150% maximum hours. Students who continue to be enrolled after having pursued 30 credit hours of developmental courses will receive aid based on the number of non-developmental courses in which they are enrolled for that semester. (All transfer credits older than 10 years from the date of application to Fletcher will not be included in the computation of maximum hours unless these hours are being counted towards the student's degree.)
  - maintain SAP.
- \* The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is a form that can be completed annually by current and anticipating college students and/or their parents. The FAFSA is used to determine eligibility for federal student financial aid.

The FAFSA consists of several questions regarding the student's finances. Questions regarding the parent's finances may also need to be answered. In addition to questions regarding finances, questions regarding family size, number in college, and other information are used in determining the Expected Family Contribution (EFC).

A Student Aid Report (SAR) is forwarded to the student once the FAFSA is completed and processed. A SAR is a summary of the FAFSA responses. Students should review their SAR and make any necessary corrections. An ISIR, an electronic version of the SAR, is sent to the colleges that the student listed on the FAFSA. ISIRs are also sent to state agencies that award need-based aid.

**PELL GRANT (TITLE IV).** The Federal Pell Grant Program provides need-based grants to low-income undergraduate students. Grant amounts depend on the student's EFC, the cost of attendance (COA), and the student's enrollment status. Pell grants do not have to be repaid.

Once a FAFSA is completed,

- new students will receive information in the mail regarding their financial aid.
- continuing students or students who have registered for classes, should contact the FAO.

Some students who complete a FAFSA are randomly selected for verification. If you are selected for verification, the FAO will require certain documents to be submitted. All documentation requested by the FAO is required prior to further processing. Students must submit all information requested within a timely manner (usually 2 weeks) of being notified.

Once a financial aid packet is complete, the student will receive an award letter. Grant disbursements are made on approximately the 30th class day of a semester and thereafter. These disbursements are based on enrollment status. Students are not paid for repeated courses.

**GO GRANT (TITLE IV).** The purpose of the Louisiana Go Grant Program is to provide a need-based component to

the state's financial aid plan to support nontraditional and low to moderate-income students who need additional aid to afford the cost of attending college. Additional information on the GO grant is available at [www.osfa.state.la.us](http://www.osfa.state.la.us).

**ACG (TITLE IV).** The Academic Competitiveness Grant is available for first-year college students who graduated from high school after January 1, 2006 and for second-year college students who graduated from high school after January 1, 2005. The ACG award is in addition to the student's Pell Grant award. Additional information on the ACG is available at [www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov).

**LEAP (TITLE IV).** Leveraging Educational Assistance Program awards are offered periodically. Recipients must be Pell Grant eligible and maintain SAP. Providing there are available funds, the FAO distributes LEAP awards.

## **Scholarships**

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**TOPS.** Louisiana's Tuition Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) is a comprehensive program of state scholarships. TOPS has five award components: TOPS Tech Early Start, TOPS Tech, TOPS Opportunity, TOPS Performance, and TOPS Honors. Fletcher accepts all five award components. You should refer to the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance's website at [www.osfa.la.gov](http://www.osfa.la.gov) for complete information regarding the five components.

**BIG SCHOLARSHIP.** Bayou Industrial Group, Inc. (BIG) may award a scholarship to a high school senior who will be enrolled as a full-time student at Fletcher in the fall semester immediately following high school graduation. BIG sends scholarship rules and applications to each public and private high school in Lafourche, Terrebonne, and Assumption parishes in the spring with a stated deadline for submission.

### **BERNT MARTIN "MIKE" MELUM**

**MEMORIAL ELECTRONICS SCHOLARSHIP.** The purpose of this scholarship is to provide financial assistance to a deserving full-time student majoring in the Electronics Technology program. The scholarship entitles the recipient to payment of tuition and fees and reimbursement for textbooks and supplies. Applications are available online.

### **COLIN BLACK-CUMMINS MARINE**

**DIESEL TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP.** The purpose of this scholarship is to provide financial assistance to a deserving full-time student majoring in the Marine Diesel Engine Technician program. The scholarship entitles the recipient to payment of tuition and fees and reimbursement for textbook and supplies. Applications are available online at [www.ftcc.edu](http://www.ftcc.edu).

### **SOUTH CENTRAL INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIP (SCIA).**

The purpose of this scholarship is to provide financial assistance to a student enrolled in a technical program. This scholarship is awarded annually. Applications are available online at [www.ftcc.edu](http://www.ftcc.edu).

**SOUTH LOUISIANA BANK BUSINESS AND SERVICES SCHOLARSHIP.** The purpose of this scholarship is to provide financial assistance to a deserving full-time Terrebonne Parish student majoring in the Office Systems Technology or Accounting Technology associate degree or diploma programs. Student recipient must enroll or be enrolled in classes and must make consistent progress toward his or degree or diploma program. Contact a local South Louisiana Bank for more information.

**THE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP.** The purpose of this scholarship is to award educational grants/scholarships to worthy students in their pursuit of a college education. To qualify, applicants must be a high school graduate aspiring toward an advanced degree, be a full-time student, and maintain a 2.0 "C" average each semester. Students interested in the Foundation Scholarship must apply in writing to the FAO every semester. Official transcripts, if applicable, must be included with the application letter. The application and official transcript should be submitted to the FAO by August 20 if applying for a fall semester and December 20 applying for a spring semester.

## **Employment Opportunities**

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**Federal Work Study (FWS).** The Federal Work Study program is a federally-funded financial aid program that enables students who have financial need (as determined by the FAFSA) to earn money for college costs by working on campus. FWS encourages community service, so off-campus jobs in the community may be available. Students participating in FWS must maintain SAP and priority is given to full-time students. FWS may be awarded in the fall, spring, and/or summer. Students are paid by the hour, and the amount a student earns cannot exceed the total FWS award. Applications for FWS employment are available in the Office of Student Affairs. Completed applications must be submitted to the Office of Student Affairs.

## **Additional Aid**

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**CAREER SOLUTIONS ONE STOP CENTER.** At no cost to the student, the Career Solutions One Stop Center may be able to assist in meeting the costs for training. Call the local One Stop Center in Houma at (985) 873-6855 for information on eligibility.

**CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES (CSS).** CSS provides various types of assistance dependant upon the student's need. Call (985) 876-0490 for additional information.

**INTER-TRIBAL.** Registered Native American students who enroll in training conducted in an institutional setting may be eligible to receive funding from Inter-Tribal. Contact the Inter-Tribal Council of LA, Inc. at (985) 851 5408.

## **LOUISIANA REHABILITATION**

**SERVICES (LRS).** LRS is a state agency whose purpose is to assist persons with a disabling condition(s) that may be a barrier to employment or training. Additional information can be obtained by calling (985) 857-3652.

**STRATEGIES TO EMPOWER PEOPLE (STEP).** The Strategies to Empower People program is for recipients of the Family Independence Temporary Assistance Program (FITAP) and is designed to help parents take charge of their lives through education, training, or job development leading to employment. For more information, call (985) 857-3620.

## **NATIONAL GUARD TUITION**

**EXEMPTION.** Contact the FAO at (985) 857-3659 for more information.

**UNITED HOUMA NATIONS.** United Houma Nations provides various types of assistance dependant upon the student's need. Call (985) 876-0490 for additional information.

**VETERANS EDUCATION BENEFITS (VA).** Interested applicants or students who are eligible for VA Educational Benefits should go online to [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) to complete an application to receive benefits or contact the FAO at Fletcher. Applicants or students who have already completed their application should present their certificate of eligibility to the FAO. Call 1-800-827-1000 for more information regarding education benefits.

**VETERANS VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND EMPLOYMENT.** This program helps veterans with service-connected disabilities prepare for and find jobs within their physical, mental, and emotional capabilities. Additional information is available at [www.vba.va.gov](http://www.vba.va.gov) or by calling (504) 619-4346.

## **Student Loans (Title IV)**

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Fletcher does not participate in the Guaranteed Student Loan program. To apply for a deferment on a prior Guaranteed Student Loan (Stafford Loan), obtain a deferment form from your lender and bring it to the Office of Student Affairs. Student loan deferment verification letters and/or forms require a minimum of two to three processing days.