

# Dixie State University Policy

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## 505 Financial Aid, Scholarships, and Waivers



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### I. Purpose

- 1.1 To outline the various scholarship and waiver programs available to students of Dixie State University outside of those available to DSU faculty, staff, and their dependents, as outlined in DSU Policy 344: Tuition Waivers for Employees, Retirees, and Dependents.

### II. Scope

- 2.1 Scholarship programs at Dixie State University encompass awards for academic preparedness, talent, financial need, and other areas.
- 2.2 Coordination and disbursement of institutional aid, scholarships, and waivers are handled by the Financial Aid Office.

### III. Definitions

- 3.1 ***Institutional Aid:*** includes endowment funds, state-authorized tuition waivers, and other funds set aside by the University and designated by the University for use toward financial aid opportunities for students.
- 3.2 ***State-Authorized Tuition Waivers:*** these are academic, talent, and performance based waivers that have no funds to transfer. They are waivers designed to reduce regular tuition for a recipient for the amount of the waiver.
- 3.3 ***Scholarships:*** includes any departmental, community, private, and endowment funds that are supported by cash accounts, donations, or endowments.
- 3.4 ***Endowment Funds:*** cash accounts set up that allow the interest to be spent to support private scholarships.

- 3.5 **FAFSA:** defined as Free Application for Federal Student Aid as sponsored and coordinated by the U. S. Department of Education. Federal & State financial aid may include grants, loans, and work-study funds, the eligibility of which is determined by the completed and verified FAFSA.
- 3.6 **Regular Undergraduate Tuition:** the sum of money charged for teaching or instruction at the University each semester, established by the institution and shown within the University's online catalog (catalog.dixie.edu). Does not include differential tuition nor graduate tuition for Master's programs, as established by individual programs.

#### IV. Policy

##### 4.1 Institutional Aid

- 4.1.1 Institutional Aid for academic preparedness will be awarded at the time of admissions based upon student academic preparation and other factors as determined by the Financial Aid Office.
  - 4.1.2 Institutional aid for talent and leadership will be awarded based on departmental recruitment and student application of assistance through the appropriate application process.
  - 4.1.3 Institutional aid for needy students will be awarded on an individual basis, generally to students who have documented need through the completion of their FAFSA.
- 4.2 Criteria for awarding academic scholarships will be established on a yearly basis and are dependent upon scholarship resources. The Financial Aid Office posts available scholarship opportunities through their webpage.
- 4.2.1 Students who do not qualify for an academic scholarship at entrance may earn an academic scholarship as a continuing student if their performance merits such an award and funds are available. The Financial Aid Office will accept applications on an annual basis.

##### 4.3 Talent Scholarships

- 4.3.1 Talent scholarships are usually determined by departmental standards and processes, such as departmental scholarship committees or left to the discretion of select faculty members.
- 4.3.2 Talent scholarships vary in amount and have different restrictions from one department to another.

- 4.3.3 Talent scholarship recipients must complete a minimum of 12 units of credit each semester.
- 4.3.4 Talent scholarship recipients whose cumulative grade point average falls below the 2.00 requirement will lose their talent award.
- 4.4 Extra-Curricular, Student Government, and Student Organization Scholarships
  - 4.4.1 It is noted that it is a privilege, rather than a right, to participate in these programs at Dixie State University.
  - 4.4.2 Undergraduate students participating in extra-curricular programs, student government, and other student organizations must not fall below their assigned minimum semester and cumulative grade point average to maintain scholarship status. Specific scholarship guidelines are outlined by the supervising organization.
    - 4.4.2.1 Student Government (DSUSA) must pass 12 credits per semester and pass those with a minimum of a 2.5 semester and cumulative grade point average.
    - 4.4.2.2 Student Ambassadors must pass 12 credits per semester and pass those with a minimum of a 3.0 semester and cumulative grade point average.
    - 4.4.2.3 Those participating with the Student Alumni Association must pass 12 credits per semester and pass those with a minimum of 2.5 semester and cumulative grade point average.
  - 4.4.3 Students on scholarships as listed in this section must enroll in a minimum of 12 credit hours per semester and take courses which lead to graduation.
- 4.5 Scholarship Deferments
  - 4.5.1 Scholarship recipients may defer their award no more than twice for up to three (3) years total. Deferment requests must be submitted with the associated form to the Financial Aid Office for assessment and an award to be held.
  - 4.5.2 Notification that a student is returning should be received by the Financial Aid Office before the reinstatement of the award.
- 4.6 State-Authorized Tuition Waivers

- 4.6.1 No more than one full regular tuition waiver can be used by a student in a single term. However, a student may have multiple scholarships from sources other than a tuition waiver. If a scholarship award causes financial need, as determined by federal regulations governing federal aid, to be exceeded the scholarship coordinator has the authority to reduce awarded funds. When reductions affect departmental scholarships, the authorizing agent from the department will be consulted.
- 4.6.2 Tuition waivers cannot be used toward students who already have a Bachelor's degree, have exceeded 180 credits, are in a non-degree seeking program, or declared a non-eligible program.
  - 4.6.2.1 Non-eligible programs include Communication Organizational Leadership Degree Completion Program, ESL Program, Institute for Continued Learning (ICL), Peace Officer Standards Training (POST), Road Scholar Courses, and other non-budget related programs and workshops.
  - 4.6.2.2 Tuition waivers cannot be used to attend all online courses in any given semester, or towards a program that is completely online.
- 4.6.3 Athletic waivers are overseen and managed by the DSU Athletic Department.
- 4.6.4 Students must be a U.S. Citizen or a naturalized citizen to be eligible to receive any State of Utah or DSU waivers or institutional funds.
- 4.6.5 Tuition waivers cannot be used to cover any differential tuition, fees, or any other associated differential costs incurred by the student, such as course fees, books, etc.
- 4.7 Aid Recall and Appeals
  - 4.7.1 If a student on institutional aid does not meet the requirements of his/her contract, institutional aid may be rescinded. Generally, aid that has been paid for a semester cannot be recalled. However, if mutual agreement is reached between a department and a student, and the student returns the funds to the student's account, the funds will be applied back to a department's account.
  - 4.7.2 Any appeal to this policy will be made to the Dixie State University Financial Aid Office. If needed, consultation and ultimate authority lies with the Vice President of Student Affairs.

## 4.8 Graduate Programs

- 4.8.1 It is up to the graduate program to raise their own cash donations or endowments to fund scholarships for their graduate programs.
- 4.8.2 Graduate scholarships are determined by departmental standards and processes, such as departmental scholarship committees or left to the discretion of select faculty members.
- 4.8.3 Graduate scholarships vary in amount and have different restrictions from one department to another.

## V. References – N/A

## VI. Procedures

- 6.1 Students interested in financial aid opportunities in the form of institutional aid, scholarships, and waivers may contact the Financial Aid Office directly or visit their webpage for information.

## VII. Addenda – N/A

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Policy Owner: Student Services, VP  
Policy Steward: Financial Aid Office

### History:

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