



MID~ATLANTIC
CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Financial Aid Handbook

2023 ~ 2024

Dear Student or Prospective Student of Mid-Atlantic Christian University:

This handbook is published to help provide information to you about your financial opportunities and responsibilities while attending Mid-Atlantic Christian University (MACU). While over 95% of our students receive some form of financial aid, it does not just happen. Planning is essential and you, as a student, must make the necessary preparations if financial aid is going to help you meet college costs.

While MACU supports the federal government's view that the first responsibility for providing a college education lies with the student and/or parents, we also realize it is becoming more and more difficult to meet those costs alone. Though students and their families are expected to contribute what they can, we are here to assist you in your knowledge about financial aid resources and application requirements.

As a student at MACU, it would be worthwhile for you to research any financial aid which might be available from private sources, the Veterans' Administration, Rehabilitation Services, service organizations, your school, local community, and church. These are valuable resources that should not be overlooked.

For prospective students, once you have applied for admission to MACU, use the information in this handbook to become knowledgeable about, and apply for, all possible federal, state, and institutional aid. MACU has responded to the needs of our students with scholarships, grants, loans, and employment programs that are designed to help families meet educational costs. These programs are described in this handbook.

Remember that the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is an annual application and early application each year will help ensure that you are awarded all aid for which you are eligible.

If, at any time, the information provided does not answer your questions, please contact the Financial Aid Office. We want to help you make the appropriate financial preparations for college and help you succeed while you are here. The Financial Aid Office is located in the Administration Building (Wilkinson Hall). You are always welcome to email, call, or send any inquiries to:

Financial Aid Office
Mid-Atlantic Christian University
715 N Poindexter Street
Elizabeth City, NC 27909
Financialaid@macuniversity.edu
(252) 334-2022

Please let us know how we can help you and/or your family.

Praying for you!

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Students Rights & Responsibilities		Page 4
Financial Aid Basics		Page 5- 7
Attendance Policy	Page 5	
Definition of Full-Time	Page 5	
Dependent Student vs Independent Student	Page 5	
Eligibility Criteria	Page 6	
Types of Aid	Page 7	
Federal Financial Aid		Page 8
State Grants		Page 11
Institutional Scholarship Aid		Page 12
Other Resources		Page 13
General Information		Pages 14- 18
Refund Policy	Page 14	
Institutional		
Federal Return to Title IV Funds		
Satisfactory Academic Progress	Page 15	
Successful Completion of a Course	Page 16	
Financial Aid Warning	Page 16	
Financial Aid Suspension	Page 16	
Appeal for Reinstatement of Financial Aid	Page 17	
Financial Aid Reinstatement	Page 17	
Repeated Courses	Page 18	
Transfer Students	Page 18	
What else do I need to know?		Pages 19- 20
Important Information	Page 19	
Payment Policy	Page 19	
Statement of Licensure & Accreditation	Page 20	
Statement of Nondiscriminatory Policy	Page 20	
Check list		Page 21

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

You have the right to know:

1. What financial assistance is available to you at MACU
2. The procedure and deadlines for submitting applications for each of the aid programs.
3. The costs of attending MACU as well as the school's refund policy for those who withdraw.
4. The criteria used by MACU to select financial aid recipients.
5. The procedure for determining your financial need, including how costs for tuition and fees, room and board, travel, books and supplies, personal expenses, etc., are determined.
6. What resources are considered in determining your need (i.e., parental contributions, your assets, and other financial aid).
7. How much of your financial need has been met.
8. The various programs that are a part of your student aid package.
9. What portion of the financial aid you receive must be repaid, and what portion is grant aid. If the aid is a loan, you have a right to know what the interest is, the total amount that must be repaid, the payback procedures, the length of time you have to repay the loan, and when repayment is to begin.
10. How the school determines whether you are making satisfactory progress and what happens if you are not.
11. How to request reconsideration of the award(s) made to you if you believe you were treated unfairly.
12. The name of the institution's accrediting organization.
13. About institutional programs, instructional facilities, and faculty.
14. The special facilities and services that are available to the handicapped. It is your responsibility to:
 - a. Complete all financial aid forms and submit them to the right place at the right time.
 - b. Pay special attention to accurately completing all forms- mistakes only lead to delays in your receiving aid. Intentional misreporting of information on application forms for financial aid is considered a criminal offense subject to penalties under the U.S. Criminal Code.
 - c. Return all additional documentation, verification, corrections, and/or new information requested by either the financial aid office or the agency to which you submitted your application.
 - d. Read and understand all forms that you are asked to sign and keep copies of them.
15. Accept the responsibility for all agreements you sign.
16. Notify the Department of Education of changes in your name, address, or school status if you have a Stafford student loan.
17. Perform satisfactorily the work that is agreed upon in accepting a Federal Work-Study (FWS) award.
18. Know and comply with MACU's refund procedures.
19. Consider carefully all information provided to you by the university and make decisions accordingly.
20. How to submit all of the required forms in a timely manner.

FINANCIAL AID BASICS

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance and absences are defined in the MACU Student Handbook.

DEFINITION OF FULL TIME

The definition of a full time enrollment status is a student taking 12 or more hours a semester. Students taking nine to eleven hours are considered to be a $\frac{3}{4}$ time enrollment status. Students taking six to eight hours are considered to be a half time enrollment status and students taking five or less are considered to be a less than half time enrollment status.

DEPENDENT OR INDEPENDENT

The definitions for dependent and independent students often cause much consternation. What the student and family desires and feels to be true may not coincide with federal student aid definitions. Since the federal aid programs are based on the idea that students and their parents have the primary responsibility of paying for their children's education, students who have access to parental support -- dependent students -- should not receive Federal funds at the expense of students who don't have that access -- independent students. Quite often, the student's desire for independence would simply shift dependence from the parent to the government.

The FAFSA guides students through a series of questions to determine whether or not a student is dependent upon the parents for support or if the student is financially independent. If the student is independent, financial need will only be determined based upon the student's (and spouse's, if applicable) income and assets. If the student is dependent upon parents for support, the parents' income and assets will also be used to determine financial need.

Independent:

To be considered independent, a student must meet one of the following criteria:

- * Student is 24 years of age or older
- * Student is a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States of America
- * Student is an orphan or ward of the court or homeless
- * Student provides over half of the support for a dependent other than a spouse
- * Student is married

Dependent:

If the student does not meet any of the above criteria, he or she will be considered dependent on parents for support and parental income and assets must be considered on the need analysis.

Students with exceptional personal or financial circumstances are invited to contact the Financial Aid Administrator by email, letter, or by scheduling a meeting to explain the situation. On rare occasion where circumstances do exist which warrant special handling, the Financial Aid Administrator can work with students to create a more realistic financial situation for you and your family.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The majority of financial aid is awarded on the basis of need. Your financial need is determined by the following formula:

$$\text{COST OF ATTENDANCE} - \text{EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION (EFC)} = \text{FINANCIAL NEED}$$

An explanation of each aspect of the formula follows.

■ COST OF ATTENDANCE

The cost of attendance may include these expenses:

- Tuition and fees * Room and board * Books and supplies
- Transportation * Personal/miscellaneous * Child care

A budget is developed for each student using average costs for students with similar circumstances. Costs vary according to course load, living accommodations, and household size (children/no children). A list of actual expenses charged by the college can be obtained through the Student Accounts Office or the Financial Aid Office. The average cost of attendance budget for the 2023-2024 school year for a full-time student (taking 12+ credit hours per semester) at MACU are as follows:

<u>Dependent Student/ On Campus Living</u>	<u>Independent Student/ Off Campus Living</u>
Tuition/ fees per school year (full-time) \$17,280	Tuition/ fees per school year (full-time) \$17,280
Living (double room/ meal plan) \$10,800	Living \$7,500
Books/ Supplies \$1,200	Books/ Supplies \$1,200
Transportation \$820	Transportation \$1,020
Personal/ Miscellaneous \$2,500	Personal/ Miscellaneous \$2,500
Total: \$32,600	Total: \$29,500

■ EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION (EFC)

The Expected Family Contribution figure used in the equation is taken from the Student Aid Report (SAR). It is derived from the computation of a formula passed into law by Congress which takes into consideration many factors including family income and assets, family size, number in college, age of parents, and business and farm equity. Expected Family Contribution is the amount the student and parents are expected to contribute toward educational costs. It could come from assets, cash flow or loans. All students are expected to make some monetary contribution toward educational costs in addition to parental contribution. The combination is the Expected Family Contribution.

■ FINANCIAL NEED

When the Expected Family Contribution is subtracted from the cost of attendance, the resulting figure is called Financial Need. The maximum amount of financial aid that the student may be awarded, excluding the PLUS (Parental Loan), cannot exceed the financial need.

TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID

The types of financial aid offered at MACU are categorized as:

- (1) Federal (otherwise known as Title IV)
- (2) State
- (3) Institutional (aid offered by MACU)

Further information about each of these types are explained over the next few sections.

FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID

Mid-Atlantic Christian University participates in the following student financial assistance programs authorized and administered under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965. If further information is desired, please see more details online at www.studentaid.gov.

Federal programs have general eligibility requirements which don't necessarily pertain to institutional aid. A student must:

- * Have financial need.
- * Have a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent (such as GED).
- * Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen.
- * Be registered with the Selective Service, if a male 18 years or older.
- * Be working toward a degree.
- * Be making satisfactory academic progress.
- * Not be in default or owe a refund on a Federal grant or educational loan.
- * Agree to use any federal aid solely for educational purposes.
- * Have not borrowed in excess of the annual or aggregate loan limits.

Federal financial aid comes in three different forms.

(1) GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS- This is financial aid you do not have to repay.

- FEDERAL PELL GRANT
 - Maximum award - \$7,395
 - Required to fill out a FAFSA
 - Expected Family Contribution (EFC), hours enrolled and budget determine grant amount
 - Student account will be credited with PELL amount (This is done after the drop/ add period- two weeks after the first day of classes.)
 - There is a limit to how much Pell Grant a student could take out.
- FSEOG (Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant)
 - Must be eligible for Pell Grant
 - Must have lower Expected Family Contribution
 - Award amounts vary - \$250 - \$500 (depending on FSEOG funding)
 - Student account credited with SEOG amount
 - Early application helpful (awarded on a 'first come, first served' basis for each term)

(2) FEDERAL WORK-STUDY- This is a job opportunity on campus and a way to earn money to help pay for school.

- FWS (Federal Work-Study)
 - Job on campus or at the local elementary school as a Reading Tutors
 - Amount earned cannot exceed overall financial need
 - 10-15 hours per week (average) paid by-weekly

- Minimum wage – paid by actual hours worked per pay period
- Limited jobs available (Library, Reading Tutor, Housekeeping, Admissions, Athletics, and Building/ Grounds)

(3) LOANS- This is borrowed money that you must repay with interest.

- **FEDERAL DIRECT STAFFORD LOANS- Dependent Undergraduate Student**
 - Loan - must be repaid
 - Available to students showing need and available for up to the Cost of Attendance (COA)
 - Master Promissory Note (MPN), Loan Entrance Counseling, and Annual Loan Acknowledgement are required- completed through www.studentaid.gov
 - Subsidized loan amount \$3,500 and Unsubsidized loan amount \$2,000.00 for Freshmen (0-27 credit hours); Subsidized loan amount \$4,500 and Unsubsidized loan amount \$2,000.00 for Sophomores (28-59 credit hours); Subsidized loan amount \$5,500 and Unsubsidized loan amount \$2,000 for Juniors (60-91 credit hours) and Seniors (92+ credit hours)
 - Loan approved by school and processed through the Department of Education (DOE)
 - Funds arrive as an Electronic Funds Transfer - student receives notification in their campus email
 - Origination fees (regulated by DOE) deducted from funds before disbursements are made
 - Repayment begins six months after eligible enrollment ceases
 - No interest on Subsidized loans while in school (government pays interest for the student)
 - Unsubsidized Stafford Loans available to those not showing need (government does not pay interest)
 - Variable interest rate, changes July 1 of each year
- **FEDERAL DIRECT STAFFORD LOANS- Independent Undergraduate Students**
 - Loan - must be repaid
 - Available to students showing need and available for up to the Cost of Attendance (COA)
 - Master Promissory Note (MPN), Loan Entrance Counseling, and Annual Loan Acknowledgement are required- completed through www.studentaid.gov
 - Subsidized loan amount \$3,500 and Unsubsidized loan amount \$6,000.00 for Freshmen (0-27 credit hours); Subsidized loan amount \$4,500 and Unsubsidized loan amount \$6,000.00 for Sophomores (28-59 credit hours); Subsidized loan amount \$5,500 and Unsubsidized loan amount \$7,000 for Juniors (60-91 credit hours) and Seniors (92+ credit hours)
 - Loan approved by school and processed through the Department of Education (DOE)
 - Funds arrive as an Electronic Funds Transfer - student receives notification in their campus email
 - Origination fees (regulated by DOE) deducted from funds before disbursements are made
 - Repayment begins six months after eligible enrollment ceases
 - Unsubsidized Stafford Loans available to those not showing need (government does not pay interest- student pays interest)
 - Variable interest rate, changes July 1 of each year
- **FEDERAL DIRECT PLUS LOANS (Parental Loans for Undergraduate dependent Students)**
 - Variable interest rate, changes July 1 of each year

- Master Promissory Note (MPN), Credit Counseling, and Annual Loan Acknowledgement are required and can be completed by going to www.studentaid.gov
- Loan approved by school and are processed through Department of Education (DOE) Funds arrive as an Electronic Funds Transfer
- Payments begin 60 days after the final (or second) disbursement – families may ask for a forbearance while their student is enrolled

NORTH CAROLINA STATE AID

Mid-Atlantic Christian University partners with the State of NC to process two state based scholarships. Descriptions and qualifications of both are listed in this section and more information can be found at www.cfnc.org.

- NC Need Based Scholarship
 - Must be a North Carolina resident
 - Must be enrolled full time or three-quarter time each semester
 - Award ranges from \$3,000- \$8,240 per year depending on state funding, EFC, and enrollment status
 - Funds are posted to a student's account each semester after the drop/ add period is complete
 - FAFSA completion is required
- Golden LEAF Scholarship
 - Must be a North Carolina resident and reside in a qualifying rural NC county as identified by the Golden LEAF Foundation
 - Be a graduating NC high school senior or a currently enrolled student at a NC public/ private university.
 - Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5
 - FAFSA completion is required- qualifications also based on EFC
 - Students must express an intent to return to a rural NC community upon graduation
 - Must be enrolled full-time each semester
 - Scholarship amount is \$3,500 per school year
 - Funds posted to student account each semester after the drop/ add period is complete

INSTITUTIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The institutional aid offered by Mid-Atlantic Christian University is not subject to the same rules as Title IV aid. Scholarships require acceptance to MACU and some require a scholarship essay and the submission of reference letters. All students are encouraged to complete their FAFSA as well.

To be eligible for continuation of your scholarship, students must remain in good standing at MACU and maintain the noted GPA on their scholarship requirements. If a student receives a Foundation Scholarship, they are also required to attend the foundation banquet and submit “thank you” notes.

MACU scholarships are stackable up to a certain amount/ percentage determined by the VP for Finance, Financial Aid Administrator, and approved by the trustees. There are two scholarships that are not stackable (Luke 2:52 Scholarship and Military Appreciation Scholarship) because they have a higher award amount.

To be eligible for the full award of institutional scholarships, a student must be at least half time enrollment status.

Scholarships are reviewed each year for effectiveness and to make sure they are reaching the standards set by the University.

A list of all MACU scholarships is below. For a full listing of qualifications and requirements, please visit the Financial Aid page on the MACU website (www.macuniversity.edu).

- Academic Merit Scholarship
- Alumni Scholarship
- Athletic Leadership Scholarship
- Bible Bowl Scholarship
- Campus Visit Scholarship
- Commuter Scholarship
- Faculty/ Staff and Dependent Scholarship
- Fellowship Scholarship
- Foundation Scholarship
- Lighthouse Scholarship
- Luke 2:52 Scholarship
- Military Appreciation Scholarship
- Mountain Mission School Scholarship
- Mustang Scholarship
- Resident Assistant Scholarship
- Senior Citizen Scholarship
- Trustee Scholarship

OTHER RESOURCES

OUTSIDE SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships applied for through the student's high school, community organizations, and/or local agencies.

CHURCH SUPPORT/SCHOLARSHIP

A number of churches have recognized the need to help students attend a Christian university and have established scholarship funds especially for that purpose. Check with your minister or an elder in the congregation about the possibility of this aid.

VETERANS BENEFITS

Veterans attending Mid-Atlantic Christian University may be eligible for education benefits. Contact your area Veterans Administration office for information and application materials. The Registrar's Office at MACU verifies enrollment and processes benefits.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

If you qualify for rehabilitation funding, contact your home state area Department of Vocational Rehabilitation office for eligibility requirements. Students with physical disabilities, including certain visual and auditory losses, are candidates. Apply early as funds are limited. The Registrar's Office at MACU verifies enrollment and processes benefits.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

A number of opportunities may be available for part-time employment in retail stores, fast food restaurants, and other businesses. Many local employers call the school when they have need because they like to have MACU students fill their employee positions. When available, employment notices are posted on student information boards located around the campus. Available ministry opportunities can be found by contacting the MACU Advancement Department. Emails are routinely sent out to students regarding these ministry openings.

Some employment opportunities also exist on campus. Though Federal Work-Study jobs are need based and applied for through the Financial Aid Office, there are a few other positions available through the University which do not require that a student show financial need. Student work applications are sent out at the beginning of each semester.

GENERAL INFORMATION

REFUND POLICIES

“Refund” refers to money paid toward school charges that must be returned to the financial aid sources and/or the student. Mid-Atlantic Christian University will calculate all tuition refunds (regardless if the student was a recipient of Title IV funds) based on "The Return of Title IV" regulations (R2T4) by the Department of Education.

Once the appropriate refund amount has been determined, the refund will be allocated in the federally required order. Mid-Atlantic Christian University will distribute or return the funds within the 30-day requirement. Any outstanding balance on the student's account will be the responsibility of the student. If other charges and/or fines are applied to the student's account after a refund is determined, the student will be responsible for those charges and/or fines. The student may be required to repay a portion of Title IV funds to the Department of Education. If this is the case, the Finance Office will notify the student of the amount.

INSTITUTIONAL REFUND POLICY

For all students, MACU Foundation Scholarships will be refunded on the percentage basis used in Federal Aid withdrawal calculations.

- Refund recipients
 - If a refund is due to a lender, the Student Accounts Office will prepare a check to be returned to the lender for the full amount of the refund, indicating which loans should be credited. If a refund is due to the student, the Office of Student Accounts will inform the student and prepare a check to be returned to the student for the full amount of the refund.
- Refunds for veterans
 - For eligible individuals under Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) subsidy, the school will conform to DVA regulations.
- Refunds for tuition
 - Tuition will be refunded on the percentage basis used in Federal Aid withdrawal calculations.
- Refunds for room and board
 - Room and board will be refunded on the percentage basis used in Federal Aid Withdrawal calculations. Room deposits, less any expenses for damages, cleaning, etc., will be refunded upon completion of the Room Vacating Form with the Vice President for Student Services and inspection of the room.
- Student account overpayment
 - When a student's account has a credit balance, the student has two options. A student can notify the Finance Office that they would like the credit rolled over to the next semester or the student can receive a check for the credit on their account. No refund will be processed until after the drop/add period in each semester is over. Refunds will be issued within the 14-day federal required guidelines.

FEDERAL RETURN OF TITLE IV FUNDS

If you withdraw or are expelled from school on or before the 60% point in the enrollment period and have received any federal financial aid, you may be responsible for part or full repayment of the aid (programs affected are listed below). Repayment of Title IV Funds is figured according to the following formula and excludes Federal Work-Study:

Calendar Days Completed = % of Aid Earned- Countable Calendar Days in Period

% of Aid Earned X Title IV Funds Disbursed = Amount of Aid Earned

Title IV Funds Disbursed Amount of Aid Earned = Title IV Aid to be Returned

Note: If you withdraw or are expelled from school your Financial Aid will be suspended. You will then need to meet the qualifications outlined in the "Financial Aid Reinstatement" section of this handbook to receive Federal Financial Aid.

Any amount to be refunded to the Title IV Federal programs will be allotted in this order:

- (1) Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loan
- (2) Subsidized Federal Stafford Loan
- (3) Federal PLUS Loan (Parental Loan)
- (4) Pell Grant
- (5) Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)
- (6) Other Title IV programs

Only if there is any refund remaining following the return of this proportionate amount to Federal programs and if the student does not owe money to the college, then he/she will receive a refund.

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (SAP)

In order to be eligible to receive federal financial aid, students must be making satisfactory progress toward the completion of their chosen course of study. Both the quality (Qualitative) and the quantity (PACE/ Completion Rate) of work are monitored. MACU requirements for satisfactory academic progress as listed in the university catalog will apply. Satisfactory Academic Progress is evaluated at the end of each semester/term.

Qualitative (GPA)- Students are expected to maintain a cumulative GPA consistent with requirements for graduation. At the end of the semester, a student must have a cumulative GPA of a 2.00.

Quantitative (PACE/ Completion Rate)- This is measured by credit hours completed verses attempted credit hours. Students must successfully complete* at least 75% of the credits they attempt. For Example: If a full-time student attempts 12 credit hours and successfully completes only 9 credit hours, the student will have met their 75% completion standard (9 divided by 12 = 75%). If a student attempts 12 hours and completes only 8 hours (8 divided by 12 = 67%), the student will have missed the minimum 75% PACE requirement and will then be placed on financial aid warning for the following semester/term. It is very important that you carefully

consider decisions to drop credits once you have registered. (*For an explanation of successful completion, see the section titled “Successful Completion of a Course”.)

SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF A COURSE

Maximum Time for Program Completion- A student may not exceed 150% of the published length of an academic program measured in credit hours and still receive financial aid. For example: If a student wanted to get a Bachelor in Arts degree, the length of the academic program is four years. The maximum time frame for the student to attend is 6 years (4 yrs. x 1.5% = 6 yrs.).

<u>Degree Seeking</u>	<u>Program Length</u>	<u>Maximum Time Allowed</u>
Associates in Arts	2 years	3 years
Bachelors in Arts	4 years	6 years
Bachelors in Science	4 years	6 years

Note: Credit hours transferred in to MACU are also included when considering maximum time for completion.

To successfully complete a course taken for credit, the student must receive a letter grade of A, B, C, or D. Courses that receive F (Failing), WF or WP (Withdrawal), are not considered successful completions and can result in termination of financial aid.

FINANCIAL AID WARNING

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) will be evaluated at the end of each semester. Students who fail to maintain the qualitative standard (GPA) will be placed in a warning status, aid will continue during this time. If the qualitative standards are not met by the next semester the student will no longer be eligible for federal financial aid (suspended).

Students who fail to maintain the PACE (quantitative) standard (75% of attempted credits successfully completed/earned), will be placed on warning and aid will continue during this time. If quantitative standards are not met by the next semester the student will no longer be eligible for federal financial aid (suspended).

FINANCIAL AID SUSPENSION (NO LONGER ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID)

If the qualitative (GPA) standards are not met during the warning semester and satisfactory progress is not seen in the GPA, the student will no longer be eligible for federal financial aid (suspended) and federal financial aid will be withheld. Likewise, if the PACE (quantitative) standards (75% of attempted credits) are not met; the student will no longer be eligible for federal financial aid (suspended) and will not receive federal financial aid.

A student can request an appeal, and if approved will be reinstated for federal aid (see next section). If your financial aid is terminated, you will no longer be able to receive funding from the following sources:

Subsidized and/or Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loans

Federal PLUS Loan (Parental Loan)
Pell Grant
Federal Supplemental Educational Grant (FSEOG)
Other Title IV programs
State Grants
This suspension may also affect institutional aid.

APPEAL FOR REINSTATEMENT OF FINANCIAL AID

Occasionally there are unusual circumstances which affect a student's ability to perform to the best of their abilities (i.e.: serious illness or a death in the family). A student, who has not met satisfactory academic progress due to an unusual circumstance, may submit a written appeal with supporting documentation to the MACU Financial Aid Office for reinstatement. Appeals must be submitted as soon as possible. A decision on the appeal will be made by the MACU Appeals Committee and communicated to the student within 2 weeks of its receipt. Appeals are not automatically accepted and are limited to one time per the student's academic career at MACU.

Appeal letters must include:

Why student failed to make SAP

What has changed that will allow the student to make SAP at next evaluation

What plan of action the student intends to commit to in order to meet the SAP requirements by the end of the following semester

If the appeal is accepted, the student will be placed on Federal Financial Aid Probation for the following semester. If SAP is met at the end of that semester, the student will regain the "Good Standing" status and continue to be eligible for aid. If SAP is not met by the end of that semester, the student will no longer be eligible for federal financial aid (suspended).

FINANCIAL AID REINSTATEMENT

Students whose financial aid has been suspended can be reinstated once the student has met required eligibility components. Once the SAP requirements are met, the student must ask in writing to be reinstated. To be granted a reinstatement of aid, a student must submit a letter or email to the MACU Financial Aid Office.

REPEATED COURSES

If a student wishes to repeat a course to improve his/her grade, it will replace the previous grade and will be counted towards full time hours with financial aid eligibility. Repeated courses can be used to help reestablish financial aid eligibility.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Transfer credits will be calculated for SAP and grade level at the beginning of fall semester (or the beginning of the spring semester, when applicable).

WHAT ELSE DO I NEED TO KNOW?

IMPORTANT INFO

- You must reapply for financial aid each year. A MACU “Scholarship Application” is distributed to each non-graduating student during the spring of each year for those interested in the Foundation Scholarship. Renewal of the FAFSA's can be filled out online at www.fafsa.gov.
- You must have all necessary documents on file before receiving your awards (for example: scholarship application, FAFSA filed, verification paperwork completed, signed financial aid award letter, and FERPA release of information form).
- If you take less than twelve (12) credit hours at MACU, financial aid will be adjusted for three quarter, half-time, or less-than-half-time status in accordance with federal regulations.
- You must inform the financial aid office of any change in your financial status, including the addition of any scholarships or monetary gifts from outside sources.
- Once a FAFSA has been completed, figures may not be changed due to a change in marital status of student.
- All financial aid will be applied to student account. A school bill must be paid in full before any money can be returned to the student.
- You can receive Federal financial aid at only one college at a time. If the student is working toward a MACU degree and currently taking credit hours here, financial aid can be processed through MACU. If the student is taking only a few hours at MACU and not working on a MACU degree, financial aid must be applied for through the other school if the student is dual-enrolled and degree seeking at the other college/university.
- Financial aid offers are processed on a rolling basis as FAFSA results are received in the MACU Financial Aid Office. Signed awards are requested to be returned within 3 weeks of the financial aid offer. If you wish to be considered for all possible aid, completing the application process early is advised.

PAYMENT POLICY

The total student account balance is due and payable on the day of registration subject to any change based on class changes. If the total account balance cannot be paid in full on the day of final registration, the student will work with the Student Account Office to set up a payment plan. The amount due will be divided evenly into 5 payments to be made throughout the semester. Mid-Atlantic Christian University will post financial aid payments to the account as they are received. It is the student's responsibility to make sure that any difference is paid in a timely manner. Students may not be allowed to take finals if accounts are not paid in full.

Student accounts are available to be viewed by the student at their convenience via their Populi Account. It is the student's responsibility to provide access to their account to whomever they wish to share account information. Students may not graduate, re-enroll for an ensuing semester, or receive an official transcript with an outstanding student account. Additionally, at the conclusion of each semester, outstanding student accounts are transferred to a collection agency.

STATEMENT OF LICENSURE AND ACCREDITATION

Mid-Atlantic Christian College is listed in the Education Directory of the Department of Education as a recognized institution of higher education. MACU is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award associate and baccalaureate degrees. Mid-Atlantic Christian University also may offer certificates at approved degree levels. Questions about the accreditation of Mid-Atlantic Christian University may be directed in writing to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097, by calling (404) 679-4500, or by using information available on SACSCOC's website (www.sacscoc.org). The University is also approved by North Carolina State Law to grant degrees and certificates and for training of veterans and other persons eligible for Veterans Administration benefits. Approval has also been granted by the U.S. Department of Justice, Immigration, and Naturalization Service, for the training of non-immigrant alien students.).

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY

It is the policy of Mid-Atlantic Christian University not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin, sex, age, or physical disability in its educational programs, admissions policies, financial aid, or other school-administered programs.

CHECKLIST FOR APPLYING

- [] I have submitted my Application for admission to MACU (online at www.macuniversity.edu)
Date Completed ____/____/____

- [] I have completed my FAFSA for federal financial aid at www.fasfa.gov.
Date Completed ____/____/____

- [] If I received a verification worksheet, it has been correctly completed and the necessary tax return and/or other requested documentation have been submitted to the MACU Financial Aid Office.
Date Completed ____/____/____

- [] I have received my Financial Aid package and DocuSign link. I have signed the forms electronically or in the office indicating acceptance or rejection of any aid.
Date Completed ____/____/____

- [] If my award package allows a federal student loan and I choose to accept it, I will need to complete the Loan Entrance Counseling (LE), Master Promissory Note (MPN), and Annual Loan Acknowledgement (ALA) at www.studentaid.gov.
LE Date Completed ____/____/____
MPN Date Completed ____/____/____
ALA Date Completed ____/____/____

- [] I have made arrangements with Student Accounts to pay the balance of my student statement prior to the start of the semester.
Date Completed ____/____/____