2022-23 Program Guidelines Texas Educational Opportunity Grant (TEOG)

Texas Higher Education

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| TEXAS EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY GRANT | 1 |
|--|----|
| Program Authority and Purpose (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.253) | 1 |
| State Priority Deadline (TEC, Title 3, Section 56.008 and TAC, Title 19, Section 22.6) | 1 |
| Eligible Institutions (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.255) | 1 |
| ELIGIBILITY | 2 |
| Eligibility Requirements (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.256 and 22.258) | 2 |
| Conviction Restrictions (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.258) | 3 |
| Discontinuation of Eligibility (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.258) | 3 |
| Hardship Provisions (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.259) | 4 |
| Satisfactory Academic Progress (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.257) | 4 |
| Selective Service Statement (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.3) | 5 |
| AWARDING | 6 |
| Priority Awarding (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.260) | 6 |
| Summer Awarding | 6 |
| Semester Maximum (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.261) | 6 |
| Required Matching (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.261) | 7 |
| Over Awards (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.11) | 7 |
| Award Adjustments (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.11) | 7 |
| PROCESSING FUNDS | 8 |
| Requesting and Returning Program Funds | 8 |
| CBPASS Grant Payment Portal Instructions | 8 |
| Registration Process | 8 |
| Requesting Funds | 9 |
| Canceling a request | 9 |
| Returning Funds | 10 |
| Student Count Changes | 10 |
| Timely Distribution of Funds (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.2) | 11 |
| Late Disbursements (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.11) | 11 |
| Authority to Transfer Funds (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.11) | 11 |
| APPENDIX 1: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS | 12 |
| APPENDIX 2: OLUCK REFERENCES | 13 |

TEXAS EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY GRANT

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) Program Guidelines are intended to support institutions by highlighting requirements that appear in the Texas Education Code (TEC) and Title 19 of the Texas Administrative Code (TAC). When administering this program, institutions should always refer to the relevant statutes and rules. The information provided in this document is to be used solely as a resource and does not override the statute or rules for this program.

Statutes (TEC) and rules (TAC) periodically change and may affect the links referenced in this document.

Copies of statutes and rules used to create these guidelines are available in Appendix 2.

PROGRAM AUTHORITY AND PURPOSE (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.253)

The Texas Educational Opportunity Grant (TEOG) Program is authorized by <u>TEC, Chapter 56, Section 56.402</u>. Rules for administering the program can be found in <u>TAC, Title 19, Chapter 22, Subchapter M</u>. The program is funded by appropriations from the Texas Legislature. The purpose of the TEOG Program is to provide financial aid to eligible students attending Texas two-year public institutions of higher education.

STATE PRIORITY DEADLINE (TEC, Title 3, Section 56.008 AND TAC, Title 19, Section 22.6)

The THECB sets the same priority deadline for all applications that qualify for state-funded financial aid in an academic year. General Academic Teaching Institutions in Texas (*including* Lamar State College Orange and Lamar State College Port Arthur), as defined in TEC, Title 3, Section 61.003(3), must publicize and use January 15 as the state priority deadline for identifying eligible students to be given priority in receiving awards through the state financial aid programs. Institutions may define how their students must meet the priority deadline and are encouraged to adopt a policy describing the actions that students must take to meet the deadline.

ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.255)

Community colleges, public state colleges, and public technical institutes, as defined in <u>TEC, Title 3, Section 61.003</u>, are eligible to make initial year and renewal year awards. Each eligible institution will have a single allocation each fiscal year from which to make both initial year and renewal year awards.

ELIGIBILITY

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.256 AND 22.258)

TO RECEIVE AN INITIAL (IY) AWARD, A STUDENT MUST:

- ✓ be classified by the institution as a Texas resident;
- ✓ be registered with Selective Service, or be exempt (see <u>Selective Service</u> Statement);
- ✓ have applied for any available financial aid;
- ✓ have financial need;
- ✓ be enrolled at least half-time as an undergraduate student in an associate degree or certificate program at a two-year institution;
- ✓ not have attempted more than 30 semester credit hours (SCHs) (excluding credits for dual enrollment or by examination);
- ✓ not have earned an associate or baccalaureate degree;
- ✓ not be concurrently receiving a

 TEXAS Grant;
- ✓ not have been convicted of:
 - any felony; or
 - any offense under the law of any jurisdiction involving a controlled substances as defined by <u>Chapter 481</u>, <u>Health and</u> <u>Safety Code</u> (Texas Controlled Substances Act).

TO RECEIVE AN RENEWAL (RY) AWARD, A STUDENT MUST:

- ✓ be classified by the institution as a Texas resident;
- ✓ be registered with Selective Service, or be exempt;
- ✓ be a previous TEOG initial award recipient;
- ✓ have financial need;
- be enrolled at least half-time as an undergraduate student in an associate degree or certificate program at a two-year institution;
- maintain satisfactory academic progress;
- ✓ not have earned an associate or baccalaureate degree;
- ✓ not be concurrently receiving a TEXAS

 Grant;
- ✓ not have been convicted of:
 - any felony; or
 - any offense under the law of any jurisdiction involving a controlled substances as defined by <u>Chapter</u> <u>481</u>, <u>Health and Safety Code</u> (Texas Controlled Substances Act).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

TEOG AND TEXAS GRANT IN THE SAME AWARD YEAR

A student may receive a TEOG and TEXAS Grant award during the same award year if both awards are not received for the same semester or term.

Example:

Student attends a public university in the fall and receives a TEXAS grant award but transfers to a public community college in the spring. A TEOG can be awarded for the spring semester if the student meets the eligibility requirements.

HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY DEGREE

A student who received a GED or high school equivalency degree can be considered eligible for a TEOG if the student is admitted for enrollment as an entering student in the first 30 attempted SCHs of an associate degree or certificate program.

ALERT: Child Support Arrearages

Per <u>Texas Family Code</u>, <u>Title 5</u>, <u>Section 231.006</u>, a student who is obligated to pay child support and is more than 30 days delinquent is not eligible to receive a state-funded grant or loan.

Institutions determine how to best comply with this state requirement and should work with their legal counsel on questions related to this statutory mandate.

CONVICTION RESTRICTIONS (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.258)

A student is not eligible to receive a TEOG award if they are convicted of a felony or any offense under the law in any jurisdiction involving a controlled substance as defined in Chapter 481, Health and Safety Code (Texas Controlled Substances Act), unless they meets **all** other eligibility requirements and **one** of the following conditions exists:

- The student received a certificate of discharge by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice or a correctional facility, or they completed a period of probation ordered by a court, and at least two years have elapsed from the date of receipt of discharge or completion of probation.
- The student has been pardoned, or the record of the offense has been expunged from the student's record, and, therefore, the student has been released from the resulting ineligibility to receive a TEOG.

STOP: The eligibility requirement found under TEC, Sections <u>56.404</u> and <u>56.405</u>, relates to **convictions of any felony as well as convictions of any offense under Chapter 481**. The phrase is not limited to controlled substance felonies. For more information, please refer to the <u>Updated Requirements that Impact Financial Aid Memo</u> from **Sep. 29, 2021**.

Institutions are required to collect a controlled substance statement (electronic or paper) from each TEOG recipient to confirm eligibility before they disburse funds. This statement must be kept with the student's records at the institution and be made available if requested during a program review or audit. Each statement must be kept for seven years after the end of the student's award period (see <u>TAC</u>, Title 19, Section 22.4(a)(2)(A)).

The institution has the flexibility to determine the wording of the statement and the frequency with which it is collected. A **sample** statement is provided.

| | t of Student Eligibility |
|--|--|
| Have you ever been convicted of a felony? | |
| YesNo | |
| YesNo | controlled substance as defined by Chapter 481, Health and Safety Code? Itatament is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand required to reimburse the institution and penalties may be imposed. I |
| also understand that it my responsibility to inform the | ennanciar and omice it my status concerning this statement of engionity |
| also understand that it my responsibility to inform the changes at any time while attending this institution. Student Full Name: | Date: |

Note: Institutions should consult with their legal counsel concerning questions about this program requirement.

DISCONTINUATION OF ELIGIBILITY (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.258)

TEOG funds can be used to pay for a maximum of 75 SCHs while a student remains eligible. Unless an extension of eligibility (due to a hardship circumstance) is granted, a student's eligibility ends if any of the following maximums have been met or the student earns an associate degree, whichever comes first.

| TIME LIMIT | ATTEMPTED HOURS** | HOURS WHILE RECEIVING GRANT FUNDS |
|--|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 4 years from the first semester awarded | 75 SCHs | 75 SCHs No hardship allowed |

^{**}Attempted hours are defined as every course in every semester for which a student has been registered, as of the official census date for that semester, regardless of whether TEOG funds were used to pay those courses. This includes, but is not limited to, repeated courses, courses the student drops, or those from which the student withdraws. Transfer hours (including dual credit) and hours for optional internship and cooperative education courses are included if they are accepted by the receiving institution toward the student's current program of study.

HARDSHIP PROVISIONS (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.259)

A student who is ineligible for a TEOG may be eligible under a hardship provision based on one of the following provisions:

- If the student's GPA falls below SAP requirements
- If the student's completion rate falls below SAP requirements
- If the student is enrolled in less than six SCH
- If the student receives a grant after **attempting** more than 75 hours
 - o However, the total number of hours **paid for**, at least in part, with TEOG funds may not exceed 75 semester credit hours or the equivalent
- If the student requires an extension of the year limits

The institution will determine any acceptable reasons to grant a hardship decision. Each institution must adopt a hardship policy and have the policy available for public review. All hardship decisions must be documented in the student's record and be available for submission to the THECB, upon request.

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.257)

At the end of the first academic year, a student must meet the satisfactory academic progress (SAP) requirements set by the institution to be eligible for a first RY award.

At the end of the second academic year, and all subsequent years, a student must have completed 75% of total attempted hours and have a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA or its equivalent.

The chart below reflects these requirements, which must be monitored to ensure compliance.

| ACADEMIC YEAR | SAP REQUIREMENTS | |
|---|--|---|
| END OF 1ST ACADEMIC YEAR | Institutional SAP policy | |
| END OF 2ND ACADEMIC YEAR AND ALL SUBSEQUENT YEARS | Complete 75% of attempted SCHs in the most recent academic year | 2.5 cumulative GPA on a 4-point scale or its equivalent |

STOP: Summer Satisfactory Academic Progress Requirements

If the student *receives* state grant funding for the summer term(s), institutions **must** include credits attempted for summer coursework when calculating the satisfactory academic progress.

If a student *does not receive* state grant funding for the summer term(s), a student could take summer coursework to re-establish eligibility if they failed to meet SAP requirements during the last term or semester. Summer coursework not funded using state grants should not be used to recalculate SAP if the attempted credits will result in the student losing their eligibility for the fall term.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FIRST YEAR APPEALS

If a student completes their first year on academic warning, probation, or on an approved plan, the student can be considered meeting SAP if the institution's policy includes such provisions. However, at the end of the second year, the student must meet the program SAP requirements for continued eligibility, unless deemed eligible by the institution under a hardship provision.

MAXIMUM HOURS OF **ELIGIBILITY**

While a hardship exception may be granted to allow an award in excess of 75 attempted semester credit hours (SCH), the total number of hours *paid for* with TEOG funds cannot exceed 75 SCH.

GPA REQUIREMENT

A student who does not meet the GPA requirement at the end of the academic year may appeal to have courses taken at other institutions included in the GPA calculation. In this case, all grade points previously earned must be included in the overall GPA calculation. If the resulting GPA meets or exceeds the program's academic progress requirement, an otherwise eligible student may receive an award in the following term.

ELIGIBILITY



SELECTIVE SERVICE STATEMENT (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.3)

Under TEC, Title 3, Section 51.9095, an individual must file a statement of their selective service status with the institution confirming registration or exemption.

This statute applies to all state-funded financial aid, as well as "federal funds or gifts and grants accepted by this state." The statement is required from students receiving federal aid or private donations that pass through the state Treasury or Governor's office (i.e., Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER)), state-appropriated funds, or institutional funding, which includes programs funded by tuition set-asides, exemptions, and waivers.

ALERT: Proof of Selective Service Status No Longer Required

Institutions are no longer required to collect "proof" of registration or exemption from students or to verify the accuracy of the statement against external databases or other resources if conflicting information does not exist (see Updated Guidance on Statutory Requirements that Impact Financial Aid Memo).

Note: The THECB approved an amendment to TAC, Title 19, Section 22.3 during their quarterly meeting held on April 28, 2022.

Any of the following can be used to meet the statutory statement requirement:

- THECB Selective Service Statement of Registration Status (English Statement or **Spanish Statement**)
- Printout from SSS.gov website
- Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR) if status is available
- THECB Selective Service Statement of Registration Status imbedded in the Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA)

| SELECTIVE SERVICE STATEMENT OF REGISTRATION STATUS In accordance with Texas Education Code, Section 51,9095, male students must file a Selective Service Statement of Registration Status with their institution or other entity granting financial assistance. For more information about the Selective Service System, visit ssss.gov. Please mark one option below: | | |
|--|---|--|
| I was born female and not required to register. I was born male and am under the age of 18 and not currently required to register. I was born male and am REGISTERED with the Selective Service. I was born male and am over the age of 18. I am not registered with Selective Service and I am not exempt from registration with Selective Service. | I was born male and am EXEMPT from registration because: (please briefly explain why you are exempt in the box below.) | |
| I,, hereby certify that the Selective Service status statement provided above is true and accurate. Student ID: Date: | | |
| Complete and return to the Financial Aid O. Selective Service Statement of Registration Status | ffice at your institution of higher education. As of 09/28/2021 | |

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

COLLECTION METHOD

The institution has flexibility to create an online, paper, or alternate method to collect the statement as long as it uses the content developed and required by the THECB.

FREQUENCY COLLECTING THE **STATEMENT**

If the student's status will NOT change, the statement collected can be used for subsequent semesters at the same institution.

If the student is NOT registered for selective service, a statement must be collected each time they apply for financial aid or a student loan until the statement indicates registered or exempt.

MALES AGE 26 OR OLDER

Individuals older than the maximum age at which an individual is required to be registered with the Selective Service System under federal law are not required to complete this status statement.

RETENTION SCHEDULE

The status statement must be retained in the student's record based on the retention schedule outlined in the institution's Program Participation Agreement (PPA).

AWARDING

PRIORITY AWARDING (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.260)

If allocated funds are insufficient to award all eligible students, below is the priority for awarding funds:

- Precedence goes to Renewal Year students over Initial Year students.
- Once all eligible RY students have been awarded, precedence goes to eligible IY applicants who do not exceed the Priority Expected Family Contribution (EFC).
 - At the time the award is made, highest priority goes to those who demonstrate the greatest financial need, defined as cost of attendance minus the calculated EFC (TAC, Section 22.1(14)).

ALERT: Priority EFC

The **priority EFC** set by the THECB should serve as a method for prioritizing initial year awards for eligible students and is not an eligibility requirement to receive an award. The calculated priority EFC for 2022-23 is \$6,454.

SUMMER AWARDING

All basic eligibility requirements remain the same for summer terms, including the student's minimum enrollment status. Since summer terms vary in length and in the number of hours a student can enroll, summer terms or modules can be combined to establish the student's enrollment hours for eligibility purposes.

SEMESTER MAXIMUM (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.261)

Students receiving a TEOG award cannot exceed the **semester** maximum amount. Students may be issued a total of three awards (fall, spring, and summer) in an academic year.

| 2022-23 AWARD MAXIMUMS | | |
|--|----------|--------------------------------------|
| Students may be issued a total of three awards (fall, spring, and summer) in an academic year. | | |
| INSTITUTION TYPE | YEAR MAX | SEMESTER MAX (fall, spring & summer) |
| PUBLIC STATE COLLEGES | \$4,599 | \$1,533 |
| PUBLIC TECHNICAL INSTITUTES | \$11,937 | \$3,979 |
| PUBLIC COMMUNITY COLLEGES | \$5,121 | \$1,707 |

ALERT: Proration Requirements Removed

The proration requirements found in the program rules (TAC) were removed in November 2020. Institutions have the discretion to determine grant amounts, up to the semester maximum.

REQUIRED MATCHING (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.261)

Institutions are required to cover the cost of tuition and required fees that exceed the TEOG award amount using other non-loan funds from federal (excluding Pell grants), state, institutional, or outside sources. Funds used for this purpose are frequently referred to as "matching funds."

ALERT: A Required Fee, for the purpose of administering the TEOG Program, includes mandatory fees (required by statute), discretionary fees (authorized by statute, imposed by the governing board of an institution), or fees that an institution charges to a student as a condition of enrollment at the institution or in a specific course.

Note: Institutions are required to match funds for all TEOG recipients, regardless of whether the student is charged in-district or out-of-district tuition and fees.

OVER AWARDS (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.11)

If an award has been disbursed and a student receives other assistance that exceeds the student's financial need, the institution is **not** required to adjust the award unless the sum of the excess award disbursement is greater than \$300.

AWARD ADJUSTMENTS (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.11)

Institutions may be required to make award adjustments in the following circumstances:

- Student officially withdraws from enrollment.
 - o The institution must use the general refund policy to determine the amount of financial aid to be reduced.
 - o A refund is not owed to the program if a student drops or withdraws after the end of an institution's refund period.
- Student's disbursement exceeds their eligibility amount.
 - o The institution must recalculate eligibility amount.

Note: If funds are available after an award has been adjusted, they can be re-awarded to other eligible students at the institution. If the funds cannot be re-awarded, they must be returned to the THECB based on the <u>Timely Distribution of Funds</u> requirements.

PROCESSING FUNDS

Each biennium (the two-year state budget period), funds not requested in the first year will be carried forward by the THECB on behalf of the institution for use in the second year. Any funds not requested in the second year of the biennium become available for redistribution as determined by the THECB.

REQUESTING AND RETURNING PROGRAM FUNDS

To complete an online form to request or return state grant funds, an administrator must create an account through <u>CBPass</u>. Once the account is created, the administrator can request access in CBPass to the Grant Payment Portal (GPP) application.



CBPASS GRANT PAYMENT PORTAL INSTRUCTIONS

REGISTRATION PROCESS

Administrators must start the process of setting up a CBPASS account and requesting access to the GPP by following the steps below:

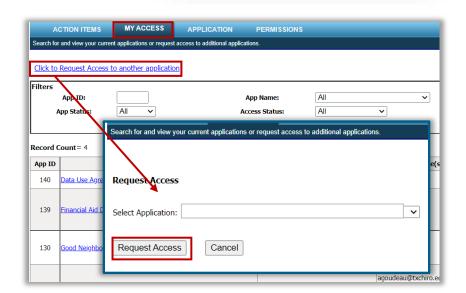
Step 1: Create CBPASS Profile.

- To access CBPass, navigate to the following website: https://www1.highered.texas.gov/CBPass/default.cfm.
- Click the create one now! link under the Sign In button to initiate a new account.
- Follow the steps in the CBPASS Quick Start Guide.
- Make sure that when you create your profile, you affiliate to your correct school and FICE Code.

CBPass Login Sign in with your CBPass Account *Username: *Password: Sign In Forgot your Username or Password? don't have an account? create one now!

Step 2: Request GPP Access.

- Log into the CBPass portal.
- Click on My Access.
- Navigate to the Click to Request Access to another application hyperlink.
- Choose *Grant Payments* in the application drop-down listing.
- Click on the Request Access button.



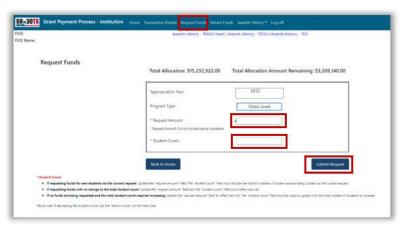
ALERT: Once an application has been requested, the THECB will email the institution's Director of Financial Aid to request approval. Once approved, the THECB will email the user confirming account access, and the user can log into CBPass to launch the Grant Payments application.

REQUESTING FUNDS

Institutions can *begin submitting* requests for funding on **August 1, 2022**. The THECB will *begin processing* funds *after* **September 1, 2022**. Institutions have *through* **August 1, 2023**, to request program funds.

To request funds:

- Log into the <u>CBPass/Grant Payment Portal</u>.
- Select **Request Funds** on the menu located on the top banner.
- Enter the Amount of funds being requested (do not include special characters).
- Enter the **Student Count** (this includes both initial and renewal students).
- Hit Submit Request.
- A pop-up message will confirm a successful submission.

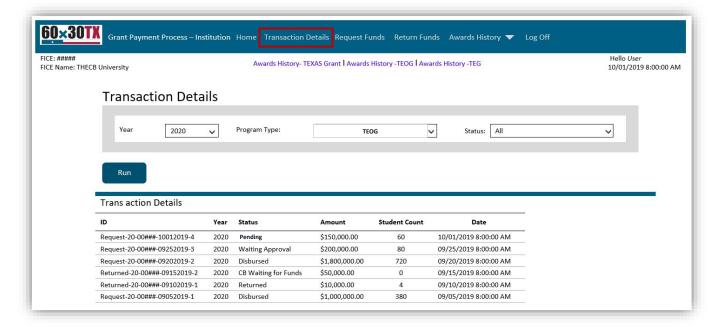


Note: Instructions are bulleted at the bottom on the webpage to clarify request options and adjustments

ALERT: Only include a student one time in the **Student Count** during the applicable award year. For example, if a student has two disbursements (fall and spring), the institution will only submit the student once to THECB, not for each disbursement.

CANCELING A REQUEST

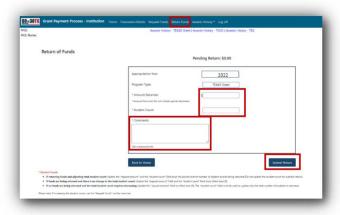
Check the **Transaction Details** tab to see the status of your request in GPP. If the status is **Waiting Approval** or **Pending**, call Financial Aid Services at 844-792-2640 to cancel the transaction. If the status is **Disbursed**, the receiving institution will need to complete a refund for amount that is not needed once the funds are received at the institution.



RETURNING FUNDS

To complete a return of funds form:

- Log into the <u>CBPass/Grant Payment Portal</u>.
- Select **Return Funds** on the menu located on the top banner.
- Enter the **Amount** of funds being returned (do not include special characters).
- Enter the **Student Count** (this includes both initial and renewal students), if applicable.
- Enter **Comments** to explain the reason for the return
- Hit **Submit** request.
- A confirmation will be displayed at the top of the screen to confirm a successful submission.



Note: Institutions that submit a return of funds form through the GPP should coordinate the refunds with their Business Office and use the <u>Electronic Funds Transfer</u> process. Funds returned to the THECB must align with the online form and should not include cents.

STUDENT COUNT CHANGES

The Student Count can be increased or decreased at any point by the institution during the current award year.

• To increase the Student Count:

- o Enter the number of students being added (the difference) under the Request Funds tab.
- o Enter \$0 for the amount of funds being requested.

Example: The Student Count reported in GPP is **100** students, but the institution has actually paid **120** students grant funds for the award year. To add the additional 20 students into the GPP, enter **20** in the Student Count on the Request Funds tab and **\$0** for the amount of funds being requested. This will increase the total Student Count from 100 to 120.

• To decrease the Student Count:

- o Enter the number of students being reduced (the difference) under the Return Funds tab.
- o Enter \$0 for the amount of funds being returned and a comment to clarify changes to the Student Count.

Example: The Student Count reported in GPP is 100 students, but the institution has only paid 80 students grant funds for the award year. To reduce the total reported in the GPP, enter 20 in the Student Count on the Request Funds tab and \$0 for the amount of funds being refunded. This will decrease the total Student Count from 100 to 80.

TIMELY DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.2)

Institutions **must** follow these requirements when processing program funds:

- Institutions have 3 business days after receiving the funds to apply the funds to a student's account.
- Institutions have 6 business days after receiving the funds to return undisbursed funds.
- Institutions have 45 calendar days from the date a student becomes ineligible to return disbursed funds.
- Institutions have **120** calendar days to return funds after a student has notified the institution of a decision to cancel the award.

LATE DISBURSEMENTS (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.11)

Funds that are disbursed after the end of a student's period of enrollment must only be used to pay the student's outstanding balance for the period of enrollment or to make a payment on an outstanding loan received during that period of enrollment. The institution must document the reason for a student's late disbursement. All late disbursements must be processed before the end of the state's fiscal year, unless granted an extension by the THECB. Under no circumstances should funds be released directly to the student in this situation.

AUTHORITY TO TRANSFER FUNDS (TAC, Title 19, Section 22.11)

Institutions participating in a combination of Texas College Work-Study (TCWS) or the Work-Study Student Mentorship Program (WSMP) and TEOG may transfer up to **25%** of the institution's total annual program allocation or **\$60,000** (whichever is less) between programs within the relevant fiscal year. This threshold applies to the program from which the funds are transferred.

Transfer requests are submitted by the institution to the THECB using an <u>Authority to Transfer form</u>. The form will not be available until Fall 2022. The Financial Aid Services staff will respond to the institution to provide next steps for the process. Institutions requesting a transfer of funds must submit a request by **July 1, 2023**.

ALERT: The allowable amounts for the Authority to Transfer Funds process have changed from 10% to 25% and from \$20,000 to \$60,000 as a result of legislation in the 87th Legislative Session.

Note: The THECB approved an amendment to TAC, Title 19, Section 22.11 during their quarterly meeting held on April 28, 2022.

APPENDIX 1: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Can Pell Grant be considered federal non-loan matching funds if the TEOG award amount is not enough to cover the cost of tuition and required fees?

No. Institutions must use any non-loan programs from federal, state, institutional, or outside sources, but Pell Grant is excluded as a matching source based on statute and program rule (for example, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) or Texas Public Educational Grant (TPEG) could be used).

2. Can a student enrolled only in Continuing Education Units (CEUs) be eligible for a TEOG award?

No. To be eligible for TEOG funds, a student must be enrolled in courses that lead to an associate degree or certificate program.

3. Do institutions count dual credit hours or early college credit hours when determining TEOG renewal eligibility?

Yes. Dual credit hours or early college credit hours are counted when determining eligibility for a renewal award if they are accepted by the receiving institution and are applied toward the student's current program of study. Dual credit hours or early college credit hours are not counted when determining eligibility for an initial award as an entering undergraduate.

4. How long does an institution have to return TEOG Grant funds after determining a student is ineligible?

An institution must return funds to the THECB within 45 calendar days of a student becoming ineligible for the funding, except when the funds can be disbursed to a different eligible student (for whom funds have not yet been requested) within the 45-day period.

Note: If funds are disbursed after the end of a student's period of enrollment, the funds must be used to pay the student's outstanding balance at the institution or to make a payment on an outstanding student loan for that period. Under no circumstances are funds to be released to the student.

5. Can an institution continue to prorate awards now that the Texas Administrative Code provisions were removed?

Yes. Institutions can continue prorating awards, but it is **no longer required**. Institutions have the discretion to determine grant amounts (up to the semester maximum) if the student meets all eligibility criteria.

APPENDIX 2: QUICK REFERENCES

| CONTACT FINANCIAL AID SERVICES | | |
|--|--|--|
| By phone: (844) 792-2640 | | |
| Contact us by completing an online inquiry form and select "Financial Aid Question" as the Contact Reason. | | |
| PROGRAM RULES AND STATUTES | | |
| Texas Program Statutes | <u>Texas Education Code</u> <u>TEC, Title 3, Chapter 56, Subchapter P [PDF]</u> | |
| Texas Program Rules | <u>Texas Administrative Code</u> TAC, Title 19, Chapter 22, Subchapter A [PDF] TAC, Title 19, Chapter 22, Subchapter M [PDF] | |
| WEBSITES, PORTALS, AND GUIDES | | |
| General program information for institutions | Student Financial Aid Programs Information Webpage | |
| General college enrollment and financial aid information for students | College for All Texans | |
| Request and return funds, modify student count, and search student award history | CBPass Grant Payment Portal CBPass Quick Start Guide [PDF] | |
| Secure file transfer and processing portal | MOVEit DMZ MOVEit DMZ User Access Guide [PDF] | |
| FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS | | |
| Form for adding, updating, or removing a user's access for state financial aid web portals | User Access Form [PDF] | |
| Instructions for returning funds electronically | Electronic Funds Transfer Information [PDF] | |