Financial Aid Application Process and Expectations

1. Step One: File FAFSA
   - Fill out the FAFSA at www.FAFSA.gov starting January 1.
   - For priority consideration, apply by March 2.

2. Step Two: Check Status
   - FAFSA information is added to MyGateway in late March.
   - You must complete your file in order to have your eligibility established.

3. Step Three: MyGateway
   - Your eligibility & award status can be viewed in MyGateway.
   - You are expected to check MyGateway regularly for important updates.

Timeline:
- File your FAFSA by March 2
- Complete your file by June 30
- Start of Classes

Financial Status:
- $$ $$$$ $$$$$ $$$$$$ $$$$$$$
- Mom? Dad?
- ?? ?? ??
Financial Aid Academic Eligibility Standards at Cypress College

STANDARD #1: GRADE POINT AVERAGE (G.P.A.)
All Federal financial aid recipients must maintain a minimum 2.00 GPA or higher each semester and overall to avoid financial aid warning and/or disqualification. Your grade report and financial aid status are available in MyGateway.

STANDARD #2: PACE OF PROGRESSION & MAXIMUM TIMEFRAME
You must always complete at least 67% of the units you attempt each semester and overall to maintain your eligibility (this is defined as your “Pace of Progression”). Students not meeting GPA and/or “Pace of Progression” requirements are placed on one-semester of financial aid warning and/or financial aid disqualification.

How to calculate your Pace of Progression:
Do you meet Pace of Progression standards?

\[
\text{Total # of units completed} \div \text{Total # of units attempted} = \frac{\text{Units you must complete}}{\text{Units you attempt}}
\]

Must be greater than .67 or 67% each semester and cumulative to meet the pace of progression requirement.
* No rounding

All students who reach 90 units attempted (including all institutions attended) are disqualified from financial aid. Since the AA degree requires 60 units, the Financial Aid Office permits you to take remedial courses or change your major once prior to reaching 90 units attempted. The units you accumulate matter! They will be reviewed each semester and when you transfer. At Cypress, you are expected to complete your Associate’s degree within 6 full-time semesters or 90 units to avoid disqualification. All students are expected to complete their Bachelor’s degree within 12 full-time semesters to avoid disqualification.
Understanding Your Financial Aid Status in MyGateway

**Good**
- 2.0+ GPA
- Units completed ≥ 67%
- Units attempted
- Less than 90 units attempted in academic career

Students in good standing typically graduate and transfer on time. Maintaining good standing is essential if you plan on receiving financial aid when you transfer.

**Warning**
- Below 2.0 GPA
- Units completed < 67%
- Units attempted

Students on financial aid warning (FAWARN) are provided one semester to improve their academic performance before being disqualified. Also, students with an approved petition must meet specific conditions to maintain their eligibility (PRO1).

**Disqualified**
- Below 2.0 GPA
- Units completed < 67%
- Units attempted
- More than 90 units attempted in academic career

Disqualified (DISQ) students are provided specific instructions regarding the petitions process, timelines, and procedures via email and MyGateway.

- All financial aid applicants are expected to comply with the Satisfactory Academic Progress policy you sign when completing your file with the Financial Aid Office.
- Your academic performance is reviewed at the end of each semester.
- All units attempted and completed from all institutions attended are calculated for financial aid purposes (regardless of previous institutions attended).
- You are notified of your current financial aid status via email after your grades post in MyGateway.