

Federal Regulations:

Federal financial aid regulations require schools to provide a method for students to purchase books no later than the end of the first week of class IF the student is eligible for a financial aid disbursement ten days before the first day of class. BCC meets this federal regulation by authorizing bookstore vouchers at the Viking Shop Bookstore for the first check run of each semester. Students are not obligated to purchase their books from the bookstore, but BCC will not disburse financial aid until the third week of the semester so you will be responsible for purchasing your books before the actual disbursement date if you choose not to utilize the bookstore authorization.

What this means:

Financial aid can only be sent if the class is scheduled to begin the following week. For example, if you are enrolled in 6 units that begin before September 5th you would be considered half time at the August 31st disbursement and you would be disbursed 50% of your half time award. If all of your classes are scheduled to start after September 4th you would not be sent any financial aid on August 31st; your financial aid will be sent according to your class start date (see below chart). You will only receive 50% of your scheduled award for fall on August 31st if you are registered in at least 12 units that ALL begin before September 4th.

Financial Aid Eligibility	
Full time	12 or more units
3/4 time	9-11.5 units
Half time	6-8.5 units
< 1/2 time	.5-5.5 units

How this affects you:

In the past you may have received a larger disbursement at the beginning of the semester than you will in fall 2012. You may have received up to \$1388 in previous years and now it is possible that you may not receive any aid on the first disbursement date. As the enrollment start date of your classes nears, you will receive additional financial aid to cover essentials, such as purchasing books. Below is the disbursement chart.

Fall 2012		
Deadline Date	Disbursement Date	Enrollment that will be included
2-Aug	31-Aug	Classes that begin prior to September 5
14-Sep	28-Sep	Classes that begin prior to October 2
28-Sep	12-Oct	Classes that begin prior to October 16
12-Oct	26-Oct	Classes that begin on or after October 16
Spring 2012		
14-Dec	25-Jan	Classes that begin prior to January 29
1-Feb	15-Feb	Classes that begin prior to February 19
1-Mar	14-Mar	Classes that begin prior to March 18

Other things to keep in mind:

Please keep in mind that if fees are taken from your check (for bookstore authorization use or instructional material fees) you may not receive any financial aid check on August 31st even if you are registered in a class. For examples please see the backside of this letter.