

Spring 2026

HOW DROPPING AND WITHDRAWING FROM CLASSES AFFECT FINANCIAL AID ELIGIBILITY

Dropping of Classes

The term “Drop” refers to classes that you drop as of the day you register for classes up to the 21st day of classes.

If you drop a class before the first day of the semester, that class will not appear on your academic record and will not be counted toward your financial aid eligibility.

Dropping Classes before February 2nd, (before the Financial Aid Certification Date)

If you drop a class before February 2nd, the class will not be counted toward your enrollment status (full-time, part-time, three-quarter-time, half-time) for financial aid eligibility. For example, if you have four classes that represent 12 credits/units (full-time), and you drop one class on February 1st, your enrollment status would be reduced to three-quarter time (9 credits) for financial aid (Federal Pell, NYS TAP).

Dropping Classes after February 1st (WD Grade)

If you drop a class (WD Grade) between February 2nd to Feb 16th, the class would be counted toward your enrollment status for your financial aid eligibility. For example, if you have four classes, the equivalent of 12 credits or units for spring 2026, and you drop one class on February 13th, you would remain full-time for financial aid (Federal Pell, SEOG, Federal Direct Loans and, NYS TAP). However, your TAP award would be prorated (reduced) for the spring Semester, and you would use the equivalent of 6 TAP points for the semester.

If you drop or withdraw from **all** your classes (WD, W Grades) after February 1st, your Federal Pell award or other Federal Aid will be prorated based on the number of days you attended your classes. Your eligibility for TAP and other NYS awards may be adversely affected for subsequent semesters. **To be eligible for Federal financial aid (Pell, SEOG Direct Loans, FWS), your Federal financial aid information (FAFSA) should be correct, and all problems should be resolved before you drop or withdraw from all your classes, or by your last date of attendance.**

You must attend your classes to be eligible for financial aid.

Withdrawal (W Grade)

Withdrawal (W Grade) is assigned to classes that you withdraw from after the 21st day of a semester (February 16th for spring 2026). The W Grade will not affect your enrollment status or eligibility for financial aid for the semester that you withdraw but may be included in the calculation of your Federal academic progress evaluation and may affect your eligibility for future federal financial aid, TAP or other NYS aid. Please note that WN Grades (non-attendance) are not payable, ineligible for Financial Aid.

Note: If your Federal funds (Pell, SEOG) are disbursed/paid after the end of the semester, you can only be paid for courses completed. W Grades will not be included in the calculation of your enrollment status (full-time, part-time, three-quarter-time, less than half-time).

If you withdraw from **all** your classes (W Grades except 'WN' Grade), your federal financial aid (Pell, SEOG, Direct Loans) will be prorated based on the number of days that you attended your classes for the semester.

Note that partial withdrawal of classes will not result in a Return of Title IV aid to the federal government; only completely withdrawing from the semester applies to the aforementioned regulatory guidelines.

Administrative/Academic Withdrawal (WA Grade)

The WA Grade is assigned if you do not meet CUNY's immunization requirements for the required courses (courses that meet on campus and hybrid courses) by the required deadline. The WA Grade will be included in the calculation of your enrollment status for financial aid purposes only.

Winter Session 2026

If you drop or withdraw (W, WN, WD, WU Grade) from a class during the winter session, the class may not be included in the calculation of your enrollment status (full-time, part time, half-time, less than half-time) for Federal financial aid (Pell, SEOG, Direct Loans) payment purposes.

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