

your key to **UNDERSTANDING FINANCIAL AID**

2009-2010

Central College offers a substantial academic scholarship and grant program designed to recognize qualified students. In addition Central is committed to providing need-based financial assistance to enhance the academic component of the aid offer so that no qualified student should be denied access to a Central College education because of a lack of financial resources.

The award offered to you is the most fair and equitable package we feel we can provide based on your academic and financial qualifications and available funding sources. **If your academic record or family financial situation has changed significantly from the information on which your award was based, please submit written documentation and a request for review to the financial aid committee.**

Accepting Your Award

You may accept or reject any or all of the awards contained in your financial aid package. Incoming students must actively confirm that they wish to accept or decline assistance that was offered.

Current student awards are considered passive acceptance awards, meaning that Central will assume that you wish to accept all of the gift, work and federal Stafford and Perkins loan assistance offered.

If you are a current student and wish to decline any of the assistance offered or apply for a Federal Direct PLUS Loan or private alternative loan you must notify the financial aid office.

Charges

Enclosed with your award, you will find a sheet indicating the basic costs for the 2009-2010 academic year for a student living on the Pella campus.

If you will be studying at one of Central's other locations, the associated costs vary by program. Please contact the business office or international studies office for specific cost information.

Additional costs include variable expenses for books, transportation, insurance and personal items.

Students enrolled in 12 or more credit hours per semester are considered full time. Tuition charges and financial aid will be adjusted for students enrolled in fewer than 12 credit hours at the end of the drop-add period. Students must be at least half-time (6 semester hours) to qualify for most aid programs. Adjustments will be made in accordance with federal, state and institutional policies which are available in the financial aid office.

Crediting of Awarded Aid

Scholarships, grants and loan funds awarded by Central will be divided between the semesters for which you are awarded. Each portion will be credited to your account at registration. Work-study earnings will be paid by check, not deducted from your student account bill.

Payment by semester is normally due in August and January.

Central College offers a convenient payment plan if you prefer to spread the cost of attending Central over a nine- or 10-month period. You may also consider additional financing options.

Many families find that a combination of the monthly payment plan and partial loan financing works best.

If you are currently enrolled at Central or have paid an advance deposit, you may open a SAFE account with the college. Funds deposited in this account earn interest weekly, based on the U.S. Treasury Bill's 13-week rate plus 0.5 percent and are automatically transferred to your student account when your bill comes due.

Satisfactory Academic Progress

Federal regulations mandate that we determine whether you are maintaining satisfactory academic progress each academic year, before you can be awarded federally funded (Title IV) financial aid.

Central College reviews academic progress at the end of each semester. Central's guidelines are in the current college catalog. These conditions also apply to state aid and aid provided by Central College.

Refunds

If you withdraw from college before the end of a semester, your financial aid will be adjusted in accordance with federal refund policy requirements. Refunds will be made to the various aid programs in the order required by federal, state and institutional policy. A special refund policy is in place for students activated for military duty. Copies of these policies are available in the financial aid office.

For more information, please call or write:

Financial Aid Office

Central College

Campus Box 5800

812 University

Pella, IA 50219

641-628-5187

finaid@central.edu

www.central.edu

The financial aid information presented in this brochure and all other Central publications is based on our good-faith effort to comply with federal, state and institutional policies.

This information is subject to change based on modification of funding levels and legislative action.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR FINANCIAL AID

Central College Gifts

In awarding academic fellowships and scholarships, Central recognizes students who have compiled outstanding records of scholastic achievement. All Central-funded or administered gift aid is based on factors such as academic achievement, special talents, campus involvement and leadership, declared major or academic interest areas, donor criteria and, sometimes, financial need at the time awarded. Changes to any of those factors could result in a revision of your financial aid offer, including a change to the award name or amount in the current or future year.

Central renews the total value of Central-funded or administered awards for a total of four years of Central College gift aid eligibility; less if you graduate early. We try to maintain initial award names and amounts; however, students change majors that may be tied to the scholarship received, financial aid offers are extended several months before students begin classes resulting in some scholarship funding sources being overspent while others may have funding available, etc. If there is a change to the name of one or more Central gift awards, the student will be notified and the value should always be equal or higher as long as the student maintains satisfactory academic status and full-time enrollment.

Athletes

Central College, as a member of the NCAA Division III, does not award financial assistance on the basis of athletic ability.

Outside Sources of Gifts

Any financial assistance that you may receive from sources not listed on your aid award, such as a scholarship from a local or private organization, military benefits or vocational rehabilitation benefits, must be reported to the financial aid office.

When notifying us of an outside award, please list the name of the award or donor, the annual amount of the award, and whether the award is renewable. Financial aid awarded through the college in response to your financial need is subject to change if, upon receipt of other aid, your total aid exceeds your demonstrated financial need.

We will attempt to adjust your award in a manner that is favorable to you while maintaining compliance with federal and state regulations. In no case should your total gift assistance be less than the amount of gift assistance originally awarded. Please make all efforts to notify us of this assistance prior to the processing of loan promissory notes.

Loans

Loans provide you with an opportunity to defer part of the cost of your education by borrowing now at a low rate of interest and repaying later. Before deciding whether to accept or pursue a loan, you should carefully review your options.

We urge you not to apply for more loan funds than you actually need, as these funds must be repaid later.

You should keep all loan information in a secure place. You will need this information when you begin repayment.

Federal Perkins Loans

Federal Perkins Loans require completion of a master promissory note. No interest or repayment is required while you are enrolled in school at least half-time.

After you have completed school, selected areas of service could qualify your loan for deferment per your promissory note. Simple interest of 5 percent begins to accrue nine months after you are no longer enrolled in college at least half-time.

Repayment begins at a minimum rate of \$120 per quarter in the ninth month after you leave school. Partial loan cancellation may be granted if you go into certain areas of teaching, early intervention services, a law enforcement or corrections office, child or family service agency, Head Start, Peace Corps, or, under certain circumstances, military service.

Federal Direct Stafford/ Ford Loans

If your award includes a Federal Direct Stafford/Ford Loan (subsidized or unsubsidized), you must have an active master promissory note on file. The master promissory note works on the same principle as a line-of-credit loan. Once you have an active master promissory note on file in the financial aid office, the amount borrowed may be adjusted as your eligibility changes and this note may be used for multiple years at Central.

If you do not have an active master promissory note on file, you may complete one online at: dlenote.ed.gov/empn/completenew.jsp.

You will always be notified of any change in your eligibility and you may choose to decline a loan at any time by notifying us in writing. If you have an active master promissory note at Central, you will not need to complete a new master promissory note each year.



Current students will, however, need to notify us in writing if you wish to decline any of the Federal Direct Stafford/ Ford Loan that has been offered on your award.

The following figures represent the maximum Federal Direct Stafford/Ford Loan that can be borrowed by students. Freshmen will be eligible for up to \$5,500 a year, sophomores \$6,500 a year, and all other students \$7,500 a year. Independent students may borrow additional unsubsidized amounts based on their grade level.

Work Study

Work study allows eligible students to earn up to the amount shown on the financial aid award at a part-time job provided on or off campus.

If your financial aid award includes work and you are a new student, a job assignment will be made for you at the beginning of your enrollment period. Most incoming students are assigned to dining services. Notification of job assignments are generally in your campus mailbox when you arrive on campus.

You will also be provided with an information sheet that specifies the terms and conditions of employment. If you were awarded work, but did not receive an assignment, please contact the office of student employment during the first week of classes.

This award is an estimate of your year's earnings and is not a guarantee that you will actually earn this amount. You will be paid on a regular basis for the hours you work; therefore, the earnings are not deducted from your student bill. Work may be terminated if your cumulative G.P.A. falls below a 2.0.

Off-Campus Study

Students may generally study at a Central off-campus program for up to two semesters/terms while receiving their financial assistance. Employee tuition reduction and tuition exchange benefits do not apply to off-campus programs. Financial aid is limited to remaining loan or Pell Grant eligibility for summer programs.

Verifying Your Information

Federal regulations require designated applicants for need-based financial aid must complete a verification process. If you are selected by the Department of Education or we believe that we have conflicting information about your aid eligibility, the financial aid office staff is required by law to verify the accuracy of your aid application. We will notify you in writing that you have been selected for verification and you will need to submit a completed verification worksheet, copies of your 2008 federal tax return, and that of your parents or spouse, as applicable, along with any other documentation necessary to resolve conflicting data. Students may make corrections to their FAFSA information by going to www.fafsa.ed.gov or by supplying the requested information to the Central College financial aid office. We will then make any required corrections on your behalf.

Your financial aid award is subject to change if verification procedures result in a different calculation of financial need. Central College will notify you either electronically or by mail within one week of completing verification if your financial aid award has changed. You are required to supply the requested verification information by the end of the drop/add period for any semester for which you are applying for financial aid. Failure to supply the information prior to the deadline will result in federal and state need-based funds being held from crediting to your student account and an interest charge of 1.5 percent per month, 18 percent per annum, being charged to any balance due on your student account. Students may submit the data after the deadline to regain eligibility for aid withheld, however the interest charges will not be refunded unless the financial aid office failed to adequately attempt to notify the student of the verification requirements.

Reapplying for Financial Aid

Financial aid is awarded on a yearly basis and is renewable generally for a total of four years.

You must reapply each academic year and you must continue to make normal progress toward your degree as outlined in the college catalog.

Providing False Information

If you, or anyone acting on your behalf, intentionally falsifies information submitted for the purpose of determining your financial assistance, your aid will be canceled, you will be billed for assistance you received previously and your case will be referred to the appropriate judicial body.

Making intentionally false statements or misrepresenting facts on your financial aid materials may subject you to a fine, imprisonment, or both, under provisions of the U.S. Criminal Code.

Consumer Information

To learn more about student's right-to-know and consumer information, please visit the Central College Web site at www.central.edu/financialaid.

By accepting this award, you authorize Central to release to the appropriate agencies any information concerning your scholastic or financial status that may be related to your receipt of financial assistance.

Questions? Please call or write:

**Financial Aid Office
Central College
Campus Box 5800
812 University
Pella, IA 50219**

**641-628-5187
finaid@central.edu
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Financial Aid Resources	Source of Funds	Value	FATSA Required	Qualifications for Award				Maximum Semesters of Eligibility	Min. Sem. Credit Hours Required***	Repayment Required	Interest Deferred If Half-time or More	Interest Accrues In School	Interest Rate	Loan Fees Deducted
				Academic	Talent	Need	Other							
Central Fellowships	Central College	Up to full tuition	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	8	6	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Central Scholarships	Central College	Up to \$12,000	NO	YES	MAYBE	NO	NO	8	6	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Central Grants/Awards	Central College	Varies	MAYBE	YES	MAYBE	MAYBE	YES	8	6	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Pell Grant	Federal Government	\$976-\$5,350	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	12	1	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
ACG Grant	Federal Government	\$750-\$1,300	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	4	1	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Smart Grant	Federal Government	\$4,000	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	4	1	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
TEACH Grant (forgivable loan)	Federal Government	Up to \$4,000	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	12	6	MAYBE	MAYBE	MAYBE	6.8%	NO
Supplemental Educ. Opp. Grant	Federal/Central	\$500 - \$1,000	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	12	6	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Iowa Tuition Grant*	State of Iowa	Est'd on award	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	8	3	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
All Iowa Opportunity Scholarship*	State of Iowa	Up to \$6,420 (2008-09)	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	2	3	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
All Iowa Opportunity Foster Care Grant*	State of Iowa	Up to Cost	YES	YES	NO	PRIORITY BASIS	YES	8	3	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Iowa Grant*	State of Iowa	Up to \$900	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	8	3	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Iowa Nat' Guard Grant*	State of Iowa	\$6,420 (2008-09)	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	8	1	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized Stafford Loan	Federal Government	Up to \$5,500**	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	12	6	YES	6 Months after Enrollment Ends	NO	5.6%	0.5% after rebate
Unsubsidized Stafford Loan	Federal Government	Up to \$7,500	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	12	6	YES	NO	YES	6.8%	0.5% after rebate
Parent PLUS Loan	Federal Government	Up to Cost	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	12	6	YES	NO	YES	7.9%	2.5% after rebate
Perkins Loan	Federal/Central	Up to \$4,000	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	8	6	YES	9 Months after Enrollment Ends	NO	5%	None
Work Study (Employment)	Federal/Central	Varies	PRIORITY	MAYBE	NO	PRIORITY	NO	8	6	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

* In the event that available state funds are insufficient to pay the full amount of each approved grant, the Iowa College Student Aid Commission has the authority to administratively reduce the award.

** Freshmen will be eligible for up to \$3,500 a year, sophomores \$4,500 a year, and all other students \$5,500 a year.

*** Award amounts will be reduced or eliminated accordingly for students enrolled in less than full time (12 credit hours per semester).