

# Understanding Financial Aid

## Part-time vs. Full-time Enrollment

Navigating the world of financial aid can be complex, especially when considering whether to enroll as a part-time or full-time student. This handout aims to provide clarity on the differences between financial aid options for part-time and full-time students, helping you make informed decisions about your education.

Different Types of Financial Aid		
Loans	Grants and Scholarships	Work-Study Programs
Federal and private loans are often available to both part-time and full-time students, but eligibility and terms may vary.	These are typically available to both part-time and full-time students and do not need to be repaid.	These programs provide part-time employment opportunities for students to help cover educational expenses.

	Part-Time Enrollment (1-11 credits)	Full-Time Enrollment (12+ credits)
Financial Aid Eligibility:	Part-time students may still be eligible for various forms of financial aid, including grants, scholarships, and loans, but the amount may be prorated based on enrollment status.	Full-time students typically have access to a wider range of financial aid options, and aid packages may cover a larger portion of your educational expenses.
Flexibility:	Part-time enrollment allows students to balance work, family, and other commitments while pursuing their education.	Full-time enrollment allows students to complete their degree requirements more quickly, potentially reducing overall educational costs.
Impact on Aid:	Some types of financial aid, such as Pell Grants and federal student loans, may be reduced for part-time students compared to full-time students.  <b>Important note:</b> The loan amounts will not be automatically reduced. It is recommended to budget your expenses and limit the amount of loans.	Some scholarships and grants may require full-time enrollment as a condition of eligibility.

## Things to consider when choosing your Enrollment Status:

- **Financial Need:** Evaluate your financial situation and consider whether part-time or full-time enrollment is more feasible given your resources and obligations.
- **Academic Goals:** Consider your academic goals and how your enrollment status may impact your ability to achieve them within your desired timeline.
  - ◆ If you have questions on how your Enrollment Status may impact your academic goals, schedule an appointment with your advisor. You can make an appointment with your advisor through Navigate:
    - ◇ Download the Navigate app on your mobile device OR Go to My Applications in [my.chemeketa.edu](https://my.chemeketa.edu) to use the web app on your desktop computer.
    - ◇ If you do not have an assigned advisor or counselor, click Schedule an Appointment, select a service area (Academic Advising or Counseling Services) and answer questions about your preferred service, date, time, and location.
- **Employment and Time Commitments:** Assess your work and personal commitments to determine whether part-time or full-time enrollment aligns better with your schedule and responsibilities.

## Financial Aid Representatives are here to help!

- **Expert Guidance:** Financial aid representatives can provide personalized guidance and help you understand the financial implications of part-time vs. full-time enrollment.
- **Maximizing Aid:** Financial aid representatives can help you explore all available financial aid options and strategies for maximizing aid based on your enrollment status.

Connect with Chemeketa's Financial Aid Representatives by calling 503.399.5018, emailing [financialaid@chemeketa.edu](mailto:financialaid@chemeketa.edu), or visiting their office in Building 2, Room 200.