What happens if I withdraw from my courses, take a semester off, or am enrolled less-than half time?

Additional Resources

Exit Counseling: https://www.studentloans.gov

Federal Loan History: www.nslds.ed.gov

Student Aid Information & Loan Repayment Information: www.studentaid.gov

Life Skills: Free Financial Literacy Program
http://www.wcupa.edu/_services/fin_aid/lifeskills.aspx

Perkins Exit Counseling: www.mycampusloan.com

Schock Financial Aid Office
30 Kershner Student Service Center
25 University Ave,
West Chester, PA 19383
**Impact on Aid**

Be aware that withdrawing for the term can impact student’s financial aid:

- Dependent on the timing of the withdraw, aid may be returned.
- The exact amount of financial aid students are able to keep is based on their exact withdraw date.
- If aid is returned, a balance may be owed to the university.

**Eligibility for aid upon returning to the University will depend upon:**

- Resolving any unpaid balances.
- Completing exit counseling for direct loans.
- Requirements are met for financial aid, including academic progress and enrollment requirements.

**Academic Progress**

Students are required to maintain academic progress to receive aid. Federal and State requirements are different:

- For **Federal Aid** students must complete 67% of credits attempted. This includes all credits that a student is enrolled for past the drop/add period.

- To remain academically eligible for a PA state grant (**PHEAA**) full-time students must complete 12 new credits per semester or 6 new credits per semester if they are part-time. This includes all credits that students are enrolled for past the add/drop period.

- If state grant funding is received from another state besides PA, students should follow up with their state grant agency to check on academic progress requirements.

**Loan Repayment**

When students drop below half-time enrollment or withdraw from the University the following will happen:

- Exit counseling will need to be completed for all federal loans.
  - Exit Counseling has to be done even if students are still enrolled in one course and/or are planning to enroll at least half time in the future.

- The grace period for repayment will begin.
  - Direct loans have a grace period of 6 months before payments are due.
  - Perkins Loans have a grace period of 9 months before payments are due.

- **Avoiding Default**
  - If students are having difficulty repaying loans, they should reach out to their loan servicer to discuss options. Students can look up their loan servicer information at www.nslds.ed.gov.