

Financial Aid Eligibility Requirements

To be considered for federal, state, and institutional financial aid, students must meet applicable eligibility requirements established by the U.S. Department of Education, state agencies, and the Cleveland Institute of Art.

In general, students must:

- Be admitted to and enrolled in an eligible degree-seeking program.
- Complete the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** each academic year.
- Be a U.S. citizen, eligible noncitizen, or otherwise meet federal eligibility requirements.
- Possess a high school diploma, GED, or other recognized equivalent credential.
- Maintain **Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)** toward completion of their degree.
- Not be in default on a federal student loan or owe an overpayment on a federal student aid program.
- Comply with any federal student aid requirements related to citizenship, registration, and documentation.
- Submit all requested forms and supporting documentation by applicable deadlines.
- Remain enrolled in coursework that applies toward their academic program.

Eligibility requirements may vary depending on the specific financial aid program. Receipt of financial aid in one academic year does not guarantee eligibility in future years. Students are encouraged to review their eligibility annually and promptly respond to requests from the Office of Financial Aid for additional information or documentation.