RETURN OF FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID

According to mandates from the federal government, students who completely withdraw from the university may only keep the amount of financial aid that they have earned, as is calculated by percent of participation. Any awarded funds that exceed the calculated amount of earned financial aid must be returned by the university and/or the student to the federal government. Complete withdrawal can result in the student owing aid funds to the university, to the government, or to both.

To calculate the amount of aid the student has earned, the FAO will divide the number of calendar days the student attended classes by the total number of calendar days in the semester (scheduled breaks of 5 days or more will be deducted out of the equation). The resulting percentage is then multiplied by the total amount of federal funds that was disbursed for the semester. The result of this calculation determines the amount of aid earned by the student. Any amount exceeding the earned calculation amount must be returned to the federal government by either the university or the student. The FAO will notify and instruct any students who owe money because the university has returned the appropriate amount to the government for the student.

Title IV aid that must be returned to the federal government must be allocated in the following order:

1. Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loans
2. Subsidized Federal Stafford Loans
3. Federal Perkins Loans
4. Federal Graduate Plus (Student) Loans
5. Federal Parent (PLUS) Loans
6. Federal Pell Grant
7. Federal SEOG
8. TEACH Grant
9. Other federal loan or grant assistance
10. Other state or institutional financial aid programs

It is a wise practice to consult the FAO and academic advisors before completely withdrawing from the university. This will provide an opportunity for the student to understand the consequences of a complete withdrawal, receive valid estimates of potential monies owed, and become educated on the effect a complete withdrawal on a student’s Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). A complete withdrawal can result in ineligibility for financial assistance from
Texas A&M University-Texarkana in the future, due to a student not completing a specified number of credit hours for which aid was disbursed.