

## WTC FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

Welcome to Withlacoochee Technical College. Financial assistance is meant to supplement the efforts of the student and/or the student's family. The financial aid programs provided by WTC make it feasible for students who would normally be deprived of a technical education because of lack of funds to obtain the education they desire.

The following sources of educational financial assistance may be available to WTC students:

- **Federal Pell Grant** – apply online at [www.FAFSA.gov](http://www.FAFSA.gov)
- **State Tuition Assistance Grant** – apply online at [www.FAFSA.gov](http://www.FAFSA.gov)
- **Community Based Scholarships** – apply through WTC Student Services Department
- **Veterans' Educational Benefits** – apply online at [www.GIBILL.va.gov](http://www.GIBILL.va.gov)

**NOTE:** WTC does not participate in student loans.

### HOW TO APPLY FOR FEDERAL STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

Complete and submit your free application at [www.FAFSA.gov](http://www.FAFSA.gov) for federal student aid.

Create an **FSA ID** which consists of a user-created **username** and **password**. This FSA ID allows users to electronically access personal information on Federal Student Aid Websites as well as electronically sign your FAFSA application. If you are providing parent information, your parent must also create a username and password (separate and different from student's FSA ID). *Keep this information in a secure place. You will need it to access any future FAFSA applications.*

Gather the following information before you apply:

- Your Social Security number and your parents' Social Security numbers, if you are providing parent information.
- Your Driver's License number, if you have one.
- Your Alien Registration number (green card) or permanent residence card if you are not a US citizen.

Sign your application using your FSA ID and Password and your parents' FSA ID and Password, if you are providing parent information. Your application will be processed and you will receive your Student Aid Report (SAR) by email or postal mail.

Wait 4 to 5 business days and contact the financial aid department to finalize your financial aid.

You can contact the **Federal Government** at **800-433-3243** for help with your application or contact **WTC's Financial Aid Office** at **352-726-2430 Ext. 4316 or 4332**.

#### TIPS TO COMPLETE YOUR APPLICATION

Before you complete your FAFSA application, you will need to have filed your tax return. You will need to wait up to two weeks for the IRS income information to be available for electronic IRS tax return filers, and up to eight weeks for paper IRS tax return filers.

The **IRS Data Retrieval Tool** on your application is the best and easiest way to provide accurate tax information. Use it to transfer your IRS income information into your FAFSA and, if you are married, your spouse's.

If you are unable or choose to not use the IRS Data Retrieval in FAFSA and your application is selected for verification, you will need to submit an IRS Tax Return Transcript to the school – not a photocopy of the income tax return. To obtain an IRS Tax Return Transcript, go to [www.irs.gov/Individuals/Get-Transcript](http://www.irs.gov/Individuals/Get-Transcript) and click on “Get Transcript Online” link, or call **1-800-908-9946**. You may also go to the local IRS Office located at 3300 SW 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Ocala, Florida 34474. Make sure to request the “IRS Tax **RETURN** Transcript”, not the “IRS Tax **ACCOUNT** Transcript”. You will need your Social Security Number, date of birth, and the address on file with the IRS.

If you are married and you and your spouse filed separate tax returns, or if you filed an amended tax return, you will not be able to use the Data Retrieval Tool. You must submit an IRS Tax Return Transcript for both you and your spouse.

If you get federal student aid based on incorrect information, you will have to pay it back. You may also have to pay fines and/or fees.

#### STUDENT AID ELIGIBILITY

- Have a High School Diploma or a GED® credential.
- Be working toward a certificate in an eligible program.
- Be a US Citizen or eligible non-citizen.
- Have a valid Social Security Number.
- Register with the Selective Services if required.
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress once in school.
- Certify that you are not in default on a federal student loan and do not owe money on a federal student grant.
- Certify that you will use federal student aid only for educational purposes.

Even if you are ineligible for federal aid, you should complete the FAFSA because you may still be eligible for non-federal aid from State and Private Institutions.

If you are convicted of a drug-related offense after you submit the FAFSA, you might lose eligibility for federal student aid, and you might be liable for returning any financial aid you received during the period of ineligibility.

WTC Mission Statement:

To provide the highest quality academic and technical education for current and emerging careers in a competitive workforce.

***TRAINING TODAY FOR TOMORROW'S WORKFORCE***

For more information, please contact the WTC Financial Aid Office at **352-726-2430 Ext. 4316 or 4332.**

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