

Q. How many credit hours must I take in order to borrow a Federal Direct Student Loan?

A. You must enroll in and attend six credit hours or more.

Q. Can I take out one loan for the entire length of my enrollment at ESCC?

A. No. Student loans are annual loans based on an academic year. The academic year begins with summer. You may borrow for summer/fall/spring or summer/fall or fall/spring or any one semester as long as you enroll in and attend at least six credit hours in each of those semesters.

Q. How much should I borrow?

A. We encourage students to only borrow what is necessary. **You must repay these funds.** After the loan is processed, you may request our office to cancel a portion or the entire loan, if you decide that you do not need it.

To estimate your tuition, multiply the number of anticipated credit hours by the current per credit hour charge (<http://www.edisonohio.edu/How-Much-Does-It-Cost/>); see the online catalog for additional course fees and visit the bookstore to estimate the cost of your books and supplies.

Q. What is the maximum that I may borrow in one Financial Aid year?

A. The current annual loan limits are as follows:

<p><u>Grade Level 1 – Independent Student</u> \$3,500 Subsidized Direct Loan (SDL) \$6,000 Unsubsidized Direct Loan with full SDL \$9,500 Unsubsidized Direct Loan if no SDL eligibility</p>	<p><u>Grade Level 2 – Independent Student</u> \$4,500 Subsidized Direct Loan (SDL) \$6,000 Unsubsidized Direct Loan with full SDL \$10,500 Unsubsidized Direct Loan if no SDL eligibility</p>
<p><u>Grade Level 1 – Dependent Student</u> \$3,500 Subsidized Direct Loan (SDL) \$2,000 Unsubsidized Direct Loan with full SDL \$5,500 Unsubsidized Direct Loan if no SDL eligibility Parent Loan (PLUS)</p>	<p><u>Grade Level 2 – Dependent Student</u> \$4,500 Subsidized Direct Loan (SDL) \$2,000 Unsubsidized Direct Loan with full SDL \$6,500 Unsubsidized Direct Loan if no SDL eligibility Parent Loan (PLUS)</p>
<p>Grade Level 1 = 0 – 29.99 completed or transferred in credit hours</p>	<p>Grade Level 2 = 30+ completed or transferred in credit hours</p>

Q. Is it guaranteed that I will always receive the loan amount I request as long as it is within the annual loan limit?

A. No. There are many variables in determining eligible loan amounts (i.e. cost of attendance, EFC, other aid received, etc.) The Office of Financial Aid will determine the actual amount of your loan based on your eligibility.

Q. What is the Direct Loan?

A. A Direct Loan can be comprised of both Subsidized and Unsubsidized loans. The student’s Subsidized loan eligibility may not exceed the loan limit for your grade level. If your Subsidized Loan amount is less than the loan limit, any remaining requested amount may be certified as an Unsubsidized Loan (if you requested Unsubsidized Loans).

Q. What is the difference between a Subsidized and Unsubsidized loan?

A. Subsidized Loan: The government pays the interest while the borrower is in school attending six or more credit hours and during any periods of deferment.

Unsubsidized Loan: The borrower is responsible for all interest. The *interest payments* may be deferred while the borrower is in school attending six or more credit hours, during their grace period, and during any periods of deferment. However, interest begins accruing at the time of loan disbursement.

Q. When will I receive my refund?

A. Loan refunds are mailed by the Business Office within 14 calendar days after your loan is disbursed to your student account.

Q. If I accumulate 30 credit hours after my loan is guaranteed, may I apply for an increase due to progression in grade level?

A. Yes. Once grades are determined (to insure 30 credit hours have been earned) you may reapply for your remaining eligible amount by submitting a new Loan Request Form.

Q. How many credits must I accumulate to be at grade level 3?

A. You may not be considered above grade level 2 as ESCC is a 2-year college.

Q. If I request an in-school deferment (postponement of repayment), will I remain in deferment regardless of the number of credit hours for which I am enrolled?

A. No. You must maintain six credit hours or more to remain in deferment. (Enrollment status reports are made periodically throughout the year.) If you drop below six credit hours, your grace period (the six-month period prior to repayment) will begin the day you drop below six credit hours. Please note that students only receive one (180 day) grace period in their educational career.

Example: You attended Fall Semester at six credit hours. You enroll Spring Semester at five credit hours. The date you will be considered at less than six credit hours will be the day following the last day of the Fall Semester.

Q. Can I maintain my six-credit hour enrollment status if I enroll but do not attend classes?

A. No. If you fail to attend at six credit hours or more you will be reported to the Department of Education and will be put into immediate repayment.

Q. When I transfer to another college, what do I need to do to keep my loan in deferment?

A. You must notify your servicer of the change in schools. Your servicer will provide you with further guidance.

Q. When I prepare to leave Edison State (or continue at less than six-credit-hour enrollment), what do I need to do regarding my loans?

A. You must participate in Exit Loan Counseling. You may do so online by visiting www.studentaid.gov.

Q. How do I view the status of my loan?

A. You may view your Edison State financial aid awards on MyESCC. To access your MyESCC account, visit www.edisonohio.edu. Your federal loan history may also be viewed on the National Student Loan Data System website at www.studentaid.gov.