

## **HOW ELIGIBILITY FOR NEED-BASED AID IS DETERMINED AND HOW NEED-BASED AID IS AWARDED**

### **Definition of Financial Need**

Students are packaged for financial aid (given financial aid from several of the programs for which a student is eligible) based on the student's financial need. Financial need is determined by a student's Expected Family Contribution (EFC) (computed from information provided on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid) as compared to SBCC's Cost of Attendance (COA). Those who have a positive number remaining after the EFC is subtracted from the Cost of Attendance may qualify for some need based aid sources.

To meet with federal regulations, SBCC defines the neediest students as those whose EFC = \$0.

### **Resources Included in Award Packaging**

Financial aid packages are awarded as follows in this order:

1. The BOGW is awarded to those students who qualify for the program. SBCC awards the amount listed in SBCC's Cost of Attendance (based on 14 units) for every eligible student even if the student is taking units which differ from the average enrollment information used to calculate the Cost of Attendance. To qualify to receive a BOGW, a student must have at least \$1 of financial need once the EFC is subtracted from COA.
2. The Pell Grant is awarded to students who meet the federal criteria as determined by EFC levels. The amounts of the award vary as the federal government determines.
3. The SEOG is first awarded to Pell Grant eligible students with EFC = \$0 to help ensure that the neediest students receive financial assistance. If there are SEOG funds available after all students with EFC = \$0 have been awarded, then awards are given to students according to federal guidelines using \$100 increments in EFCs. For an SBCC student, the minimum SEOG award is \$120 per semester (\$240 per academic year) and the maximum SEOG award is \$240 per semester (\$480 per academic year). SEOG funds are prioritized for the fall and spring semesters at SBCC. However, if there are available funds after spring awards, then summer SEOG grants are offered.
4. Federal work-study is awarded next. SBCC offers a maximum of \$2700 per semester (\$5400 per academic year) and a minimum of \$1000 per academic year if the student has financial need.
5. Student Loans are awarded last. Students are offered their maximum loans based on dependency status (dependent or independent) and by level in college (first year or second year). Those who have completed less than 30 units at SBCC are first year students and those who have completed 30 units or more at SBCC are second year students. Transcripts from other colleges are not considered to determine grade level for loan eligibility. Students are offered subsidized or unsubsidized loans in amounts based on need, dependency status and year in college. For information on students loans, please refer to [http://www.sbcc.edu/financialaid/loans\\_for\\_students.php](http://www.sbcc.edu/financialaid/loans_for_students.php).

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These are the only programs that SBCC includes as part of a student's financial aid package initially.

### **Resources Not Included in Initial Award Packaging**

Santa Barbara City College may be informed from campus or external agencies regarding other financial aid programs requiring an adjustment to a student's aid package. These may include Cal Grant, Chafee Grant, Foundation Scholarship or Off Campus Scholarship. These aid sources when added may require that other aid originally offered be adjusted (i.e federal work study and student loan).