

**How To Keep Your  
Hope Scholarship**



**GRADES**

- After every 24 credit hours you attempt, your GPA will be checked to make sure you have met the standards to keep your scholarship. The standards are:
  - 24 attempted credit hours – 2.75 GPA
  - 48 attempted credit hours – 2.75 GPA
  - 72 attempted credit hours – 3.00 GPA (*or a 2.75 GPA and 3.0 semester GPA*)
  - 96 attempted credit hours – 3.00 GPA (*or a 2.75 GPA and 3.0 semester GPA*)
  
- If after the 72 hour mark your GPA is between 2.75 and 2.99, keeping a 3.0 semester average will also allow you to keep or regain your scholarship as a *provisional student*. However, your grades are then checked every semester, and you must be full-time in the fall and spring.
  
- If you lose your scholarship because your GPA is too low, you CAN GET IT BACK simply by bringing your GPA up to meet the requirements when you reach a benchmark (48, 72, 96 attempted hours).  
**You can only do this one time.**
  
- If you fail a class or make a low grade that brings your GPA down, you can retake that one class and try to make a better grade to replace the bad grade. This is different from MTSU's policy, which allows you to retake any class over for a better grade. The Hope Scholarship will only recognize one such replacement, and you must file a Lottery Repeat form with Financial Aid after the course has been completed and the grade posted.
  
- There are certain, unique situations (such as medical reasons) where you can appeal losing your scholarship due to enrollment or grades. Consult Financial Aid if you think you have one of those situations. You will need to provide ample documentation for your appeal.
  
- Grades of "W" don't hurt your GPA, but they are an attempted class and count towards your 120 attempted hour limit for the Hope Scholarship.

## ENROLLMENT

- You can go either full-time or part-time each semester, but you have to at least be enrolled in 6 hours each fall and spring semester to receive funds. You may enroll in one hour to keep your eligibility, but you won't get money for it!
- If you are a provisional lottery student, you must be enrolled full-time every fall and spring semester. If you are not enrolled full-time, this will be considered a loss.
- If you are enrolled part-time for a semester, then your lottery award will be prorated. If you are enrolled full-time at the beginning of the semester, you only have 14 days to drop to part-time at which time your lottery award will be prorated. After the first 14 days of the semester, if you drop to part-time you LOSE YOUR SCHOLARSHIP FOREVER!!! You can drop to part-time before the 14<sup>th</sup> day and keep your scholarship, but you may owe some money back to the university.
- The Hope Scholarship can cover some summer school if you started college in or after fall 2009. You must take at least 6 hours to receive funds, and you may receive up to a full award if you are enrolled in 12 hours or more. These hours do count towards your 120 hour limit.
- Dual Enrollment credits do NOT count towards your attempted hours or Lottery GPA. They will be factored into your MTSU GPA, so it is important to keep up with what your Lottery GPA actually is.
- Students can choose to wait 16 months after high school graduation to start college and receive Lottery Scholarship money. However, enrollment in ANY other institution, even cosmetology school or a trade school, makes you ineligible.
- If you stop attending a class after the 14<sup>th</sup> day, this may result in an "FA" grade which counts as an "F" in your GPA. This could also result in the permanent loss of your scholarship.
- Lottery Scholarship Termination information:  
A student may receive the TELS scholarship until the first of the following terminating events:
  - You may receive TELS up to 5 years from the date of your initial enrollment; or
  - Until you receive a Bachelor's degree; or
  - Until have you attempted 120 TELS hours or have received the HOPE scholarship for 8 full-time equivalent semesters, whichever occurs later.

**The Hope Scholarship can save you thousands of dollars in loans, all for the cost of going to class and keeping a B average. Shoot for a 3.0 every semester, stay full-time, and always consult an advisor before dropping a class.**