



Student Financial Aid

DRUG CONVICTION INFORMATION FOR 2017-2018

Students completing the 2017-18 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) are required to respond to Question 23 regarding drug-related **convictions (possessing or selling illegal drugs) for an offense that occurred while receiving federal student aid** (such as grants, loans, or work-study). Your response determines whether or not you are eligible for federal student financial aid for the 2017-18 award year.

Note: Just because you have had a drug conviction, you are not necessarily ineligible for aid. You may contact the U.S. Department of Education at 1-800-4FED-AID (1-800-433-3243) with questions as to how to regain your financial aid eligibility sooner by completing an acceptable drug rehabilitation program (defined below) or by passing two unannounced drug tests administered by an acceptable drug rehabilitation program.

Refer to your responses to Question 23 and the “2017-2018 Student Aid Eligibility Worksheet for Question 23” (filled out online at the time of completing your 2017-18 FAFSA at www.fafsa.gov or provided with your paper Student Aid Report or SAR) for indication as to which of the following applies to you:

You left Question 23 blank

You must provide a response to Question 23. Your failure to provide an answer to this question makes you ineligible to receive federal financial aid. Either indicate that you have never been convicted of possessing or selling illegal drugs while you were receiving federal student aid or use the “Student Aid Eligibility Worksheet for Question 23” to determine your status if you have.

In any case, you can get assistance with Question 23 by calling 1-800-433-3243 or by going to www.fafsa.gov where you also can respond to the question. You may use your SAR to provide the necessary answer if doing so by paper.

You had a result of “2” on the “Student Aid Eligibility Worksheet for Question 23”

Due to a drug-related conviction, you are ineligible for federal student aid for part of the 2017-18 award year. This means that your aid ineligibility period ends on or after July 1, 2017 but before June 30, 2018.

You must notify the UW Colleges Student Financial Aid Office when your financial aid ineligibility period expires. Submit a signed statement certifying such, including the date you regain aid eligibility. This date should be denoted on your “Student Aid Eligibility Worksheet for Question 23.” Remember, you can become eligible earlier if you complete an acceptable drug rehabilitation program or pass two unannounced drug tests administered by an acceptable drug rehabilitation program.

You had a result of “3” on the “Student Aid Eligibility Worksheet for Question 23”

Due to a drug-related conviction, you are ineligible for federal student aid for the entire 2017-18 award year unless you complete an acceptable drug rehabilitation program or pass two unannounced drug tests administered by an acceptable drug rehabilitation program.

If you do regain aid eligibility before June 30, 2018, you must notify the UW Colleges Student Financial Aid Office. Submit a signed statement certifying expiration of your financial aid ineligibility. You must include your aid eligibility date in your signed statement.

In accordance with U.S. Department of Education policy, an **acceptable drug rehab program** is one which includes at least 2 unannounced drug tests, and: be qualified to receive funds from a federal, state, or local government or from a federally- or state-licensed insurance company; or be administered or recognized by a federal, state, or local government agency or court, or a federally- or state-licensed hospital, health clinic, or medical doctor. Contact the U.S. Department of Education at 1-800-433-3243 with questions.

The Federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration has a search feature which can assist in finding a treatment program. It is the student's responsibility to ensure the program includes at least 2 unannounced drug tests.

<https://www.findtreatment.samhsa.gov/>