Award Pendings and Bookstore Charges

are issues of concern for students. Most spring classes begin on Monday, January 16 so please take note of the following dates:

- Monday, December 12th is the first day to request an Award Pending
- Monday, December 19th is the first day students are allowed to charge books and supplies to their financial aid.

Drop for Non-Payment

Students who have files in progress but have not been awarded can be in danger of being dropped for non-payment. The drop for non-payment will be Monday, January 30th. To avoid this, students can either make payment arrangements with the Cashier’s office or they can submit a request for an Award Pending.

Spring Semester Work-Study Positions Available

Are you looking for a way to earn money and learn valuable skills? We have many work-study positions available!

We understand busy schedules and will work with you as you obtain your degree. Wondering if you’re eligible? Stop by the Go!Zone or call Linda at 719-549-3084. To apply, please visit PCC Career CONNECTIONS and log-in to:
www.pueblocc.edu/Financial_Aid/Work-Study/.

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

SAP Criteria:
In order to meet SAP requirements for terms in which assistance was received, financial aid recipients must:

- Maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above for all classes attempted; and
- Successfully complete a minimum of 67% of cumulative attempted credit hours; and
- Complete their academic program within 150% of the attempted hours of that program. (Students will be on an “Alert” status after attempting 110% of their program hours.)
Important Changes for the 2017-2018 FAFSA

Students who are planning on attending college next year will need to submit the 2017-18 FAFSA. For the 2017-18 FAFSA there are two important changes:

- **You will be able to submit a FAFSA earlier.** The 2017-2018 FAFSA link opened on Oct. 1, 2016 rather than opening on Jan. 1, 2017. The earlier submission date will be a permanent change.

- **You will provide older income & tax information.** You will be required to report income & tax information from an earlier tax year. On the 2017-18 FAFSA, students (and parents, as appropriate) will report their 2015 income information, rather than their 2016 income information. This change makes it easier to complete your FAFSA. Since you and your parents will have already filed your taxes, you can electronically import your tax information directly into the FAFSA using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool. Note: If your family’s financial situation changes since your 2015 taxes were filed, you will still need to provide 2015 tax information. Then, you can contact the financial aid office and let them know your situation has changed.

Withdrawning (W) or Failing (F) a Class

Please be aware how withdrawing (W) from a class or failing (F) a class may affect a student’s financial aid:

- The Department of Education requires students to complete at least 60% of their period of enrollment in order for their financial aid to be considered “earned.” If students withdraw or stop attending class before completing 60% of the semester, they may be asked to return a portion of their financial aid depending on their last date of attendance. If a student receives an F in a class, the last date of attendance is used as well to determine if the student owes money back.

- Simply ceasing attendance is not sufficient to dropping their classes. Students are encouraged to meet with a financial aid advisor before taking steps to drop or withdraw from their classes.

If a student has 0% completion within any semester, they will become ineligible for financial aid for the next semester they attend and will need to file a Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) appeal. If students withdraw (W) from a class, it won’t affect their GPA, but it will affect their completion rate.

Q: Could my financial aid award be adjusted if my family’s income has changed?

A: The short answer is “possibly.” The FAFSA uses income from the calendar year preceding the academic year. So, for the 2016-2017 FAFSA, it uses the 2015 income information. Sometimes families have a change in income from one year to the next due to situations such as job loss, reduction in salaries, divorce, separation, illness, death of a wage earner, retirement, large amounts of out-of-pocket medical expenses, etc. If you know your 2016 family income will be quite a bit different than the 2015 income reported on the FAFSA, contact the Financial Aid Office about the steps and documents needed to complete a re-evaluation.

Q: Do I have to pay taxes on the money I earn through Federal Work-Study?

A: Yes. Work-study income is taxable. You will receive a W2 form from the College at the end of the year. This form will indicate how much you earned. Note: Although you should list those earnings as income on the FAFSA, you may also report them as exclusions in the appropriate section of your FAFSA.