Financial Aid Recipients

Are you expecting a financial aid excess refund check for the spring 2020 semester? (See check distribution date and time below)

Important reminders about your financial aid refund obligations:

Your aid may be adjusted and you may need to repay some or all of your refund:

If you have a financial aid excess refund because your financial aid exceeds your total charges, please be aware that if you officially withdrew, stopped attending, or reduced the amount of credits you are taking, your financial aid may be reduced and you may be required to repay all or a portion of your excess financial aid refund. We urge you to check with the Financial Aid Office to learn how your aid will be affected. Be sure to read the Federal Financial Aid Refund Policy.

You may still owe a balance on your account for Health Insurance, parking tickets, exam fees, or other:

Even though you may have a financial aid excess refund, it is still possible for you to still have a balance on your account for the spring 2020 semester. If so, an obligation hold will be placed on your account until you resolve the balance issue.

Health Insurance:

If you are charged $1,595 for Student Health Insurance, you must either waive, if eligible, or pay this charge. You will continue to be billed for Health Insurance until you pay it, waive it, or sign an authorization or financial aid to pay it. Instructions on how to access information about this charge was included with all bills sent to you. Check your student email account or visit our web page at www.gcc.mass.edu/billing for additional information on purchasing the student health insurance or to determine if you are eligible to complete the online waiver in order to have this charge removed from your bill.

Paying for Health Insurance with Financial Aid funds:

If you need to purchase the health insurance and you are expecting your financial aid to pay the charge, per federal regulations, you must authorize it in writing. NOTE: If you haven’t completed the authorization prior to receiving your excess financial aid grants/loans refund check, you are responsible for paying the charge out of pocket.

To complete the authorization form, do the following:

1) Print the “Acknowledgment and Certifications” form.
2) Locate the section of the form that says: Use of Excess Financial Aid Funds to be Applied Toward Non-Institutional Costs Incurred (Health Insurance) (optional)
3) Sign and date that section.
4) Deliver the signed form to the Financial Aid Office. Or, visit the Financial Aid Office in person to sign the form.

If you’ve already completed the “Acknowledgments and Certifications” form, check with the Financial Aid office to verify that you have signed this section. If you need assistance completing the insurance authorization section, contact the Financial Aid Office at: (413) 775-1109.
Waiving Your Health Insurance Charge:

NOTE: If you are already covered under a health insurance plan that is comparable to the student insurance plan, you may be eligible to waive this charge. Your alternate coverage must have been effective by at least January 1. The final deadline to waive your health insurance charge is April 15. You will not be able to waive after that date. If you do not waive this charge, you will be responsible for paying it. The waiver form, policy brochure, eligibility requirements, coverage period, and supplemental information can be found on our website at: www.gcc.mass.edu/billing. Choose your option under the “Health insurance” menu.

If you need assistance completing the insurance waiver, contact the Student Billing Office at: (413) 775-1301.

Other charges that cannot be paid with financial aid funds:

Federal regulations prohibit financial aid funds to be used to pay certain charges such as parking fines or foreign language exam fees. Therefore, you must pay these types of charges out of pocket.

Pick-up your refund check

Students have the option to pick up their refund checks instead of waiting for the refunds to arrive in the mail. Refund checks will be available to all students for pick-up on Friday, March 20. When picking up your check, be sure to park in student designated parking spaces only.

Time: 10:30 AM-2:30 PM Location: C102

Anyone wishing to pick up their check MUST present a photo ID in order to receive his/her refund check. Have your I.D. ready when you arrive.

Any checks not picked up by 2:30 PM on March 20th will automatically be mailed and will not be available for pick-up.

If you are expecting a check and one is not available on this date, you must:

- Check with the Bursar’s Office (Student Billing) to be sure you do not have an outstanding financial obligation, if not,

- Check with the Financial Aid office to be sure you have met all financial aid requirements.