

STATUS CHANGES

Since *Offers of Financial Assistance* are made on an individual basis, it is difficult to generalize regarding changes to those offers, i.e., "What happens if I drop/add units?" or "What happens if I move home?" etc. There are, however, some changes which are inherent in program regulations, and which will prevail, regardless of changes in cost or other aid received. Some of these are:

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS:

- Pell Grant and Cal Grant are prorated, in terms of the number of units for which a student is being charged. Specifically, if a student drops units within the refund period, the Grant will be prorated as follows:

drop to 12 units - grant remains the same

drop to 9, 10, 11 units - grant is reduced to 75% of full time amount

drop to 6, 7, or 8 units - grant is reduced to 50% of full time amount

If the student drops to any of these categories, or drops even more units, but it is done **AFTER** any refund period, no changes in financial aid result.

- **USDS, USDG, USD Merit Scholarships** and **Trust Loan** carry a minimum requirement of 12 units. If the student drops during **ANY** part of the refund period or receives a refund retroactively, the scholarship/grant and/or loan is reversed for the entire semester. These are **NOT** prorated. (This applies to students who drop units but are still enrolled. Students who withdraw should refer to the withdrawal policy statement available in the Office of Financial Aid.)
- **Perkins Loan, Stafford Loan, and FWS** may be offered to students carrying as little as half-time units (6.0 for undergrads), provided that the student still has eligibility after the reduction in charges.

Residence changes are highly individualized, especially at mid-year, and should be clarified on an individual basis. Students considering applying for Resident Assistant positions should submit their request in writing to the Office of Financial Aid to determine the potential effect on his/her financial aid.

GRADUATE STUDENTS:

Changes in units and residency affect each student individually. Basic general principles are:

- **USD Graduate Grant** may be offered to students carrying as few as 6 units, if the student has eligibility.
- **Graduate Grant/Fellowships/Assistantships** are generally not refundable to the student and must be coordinated with all types of assistance.
- **Perkins Loan, Stafford Loan, and FWS** may be offered to students carrying as little as half-time units (4.5 for graduates and 3.0 for doctoral students), provided that the student still has eligibility after the reduction in charges.