

*****HOPE SCHOLARSHIP Retention & Eligibility Standards*****

Award Details & Application Process

- Complete the FAFSA or Renewal FAFSA each year prior to the September 1 priority date.
- Base award for full-time students is \$2000 per semester. Amount for part-time students (6 hour minimum) is pro-rated.

Satisfactory Academic Progress

- Eligibility reviewed at the end of the semester that the recipient completes 24 attempted hours (i.e., 24, 48, 72, 96, 120 benchmark hours). Only includes hours attempted after high school graduation. The HOPE Scholarship is terminated after earning baccalaureate degree OR student has attempted 120 semester hours at any postsecondary institution – whichever occurs first. Students enrolled in a program of study greater than 120 hours in length may receive the award up to 136 attempted semester hours OR the number of semester hours required to earn degree-whichever is LESS. Lee University program length is 120 hours.
- The cumulative grade point average (GPA) must be as follows for HOPE: (REMINDER: This calculation of the HOPE GPA is mandated by the state of Tennessee and may be different from your Lee GPA).
 - 24 & 48 attempted hours - 2.75 cum GPA
 - 72 & beyond attempted hours - 3.00 cum GPA OR
 - 2.75-2.99 cum GPA and a 3.0 term GPA – this is called the ‘Provisional Track’ and you must be enrolled full-time in succeeding terms and your eligibility is reviewed at the end of each semester regardless of benchmark.

***Students must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress as described above AND Continuous Enrollment as described below.*

Continuous Enrollment Standards

- At census date (defined as the 10th day of registration for Fall and Spring semester as published in the university catalog), the enrollment level (full-time, etc.) will be locked in. A full-time recipient may not drop to part-time without prior approval. Full-time students who drop below full-time within the semester without prior approval will automatically lose their scholarship forever.
- Please note, due to many sessions during the Summer term there is not a census date, however a change in number of hours enrolled once enrollment has been confirmed can result in a permanent loss of eligibility.
- Students who withdraw from the university without prior approval will permanently lose eligibility.
- Please visit the Financial Aid Office prior to any change in enrollment status.

Change of Enrollment Status Process

- Approval to withdraw or drop below full-time will be for unusual or extraordinary medical or personal reasons. Students must make an appeal to the Institutional Review Panel (IRP) and provide supporting documentation. This appeal should be submitted in writing to the Financial Aid Office.
- The approval form can be found on Lee's website at www.leeuniversity.edu
- If IRP denies the appeal, the student may re-appeal to TSAC