

# New Loan Requirements Effective for the 2026-2027 Academic Year

On July 4, 2025, the *One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA)* was signed into law, resulting in changes to federal student aid programs.

**Loans will now be calculated based on annual enrollment.**

**Beginning the Fall 2026 semester:**

- **Loan awards will be pro-rated for less than full-time enrollment.**
- Enrollment status and eligibility will be established at the time of disbursement.
- Future disbursements will be adjusted when a student drops a course(s) and the drop makes the annual enrollment less than full-time.

**Other Changes:**

*The maximum amount of loan eligibility for one semester will be half of the yearly maximum loan limits – and only if the student is enrolled full time and meets all other requirements/criteria.*

*Students will no longer be eligible to receive the full yearly maximum loan amounts for only one semester of enrollment in an academic year.*

**Example:** A student is enrolled in 12 hours at the time of Fall loan disbursement (and receives a full semester loan disbursement) but later drops a course, so only completes 9 hours.

- If the student is enrolled in 12 hours at the time of Spring disbursement, their Spring loan amount will be prorated down to account for the dropped hours in Fall. This reflects the fact that the student’s **annual** enrollment has dropped below full time (24 hours) down to less than full time.  
  
(9 completed + 12 enrolled = 21 **annual** hours)
- However, if the student is enrolled in 15 hours at the time of the Spring disbursement, they can receive the full second half of the annual loan limit because the **annual** enrollment is still full-time.  
  
(9 completed + 15 enrolled = 24 **annual** hours)

Fall/Spring Loans	Fall/Spring/Summer Only Loans	Summer Loans
-Fall award will be adjusted based on hours enrolled at time of disbursement. - <b>Spring will be awarded at full time, but will be adjusted/reduced once spring enrollment and fall completion hours are known.</b>	-One-semester loans will be awarded in two disbursements. - <b>The loan will be adjusted based on semester enrollment at the time of each disbursement.</b>	-For students who previously attended Fall and/or Spring semesters, <b>summer awards will be adjusted based on Summer enrollment hours as well as enrollment/completion of the previously attended semesters.</b>