

Don't lose HOPE!

A guide to keeping your HOPE Lottery Scholarship

What do I have to do to keep my lottery scholarship?

1. Submit a FAFSA every year, as soon after Jan. 1 as possible.

As soon as you or your parents have filed a federal tax return, complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Don't wait!

2. Continually enroll taking and passing at least six credit-hours a semester.

- Taking a break or switching enrollment status from full time to part time will cost you your scholarship unless you can prove extenuating circumstances. If you have to withdraw, call the Office of Student Financial Aid at (931) 221-7907.
- If you have to change your enrollment status, submit the **Lottery Scholarship Appeal Form** to the Office of Student Financial Aid. Select "Online Forms" from the menu at www.apsu.edu/FinancialAid. You will have to provide documentation of your circumstances.
- If your enrollment status changes, you may permanently lose your lottery scholarship. You may be able to maintain the number of credit-hours needed to keep the lottery scholarship by enrolling in a class at the Austin Peay Center @ Fort Campbell.

3. Keep up your grades!

- Every time you register for a class, you add to your total number of "attempted credit-hours." At the end of semesters in which your total reaches 24, 48, 72, 96 and 120 attempted credit-hours, your GPA will be reviewed. If your GPA is below the minimum, you'll lose your scholarship. You also will lose your scholarship for attendance grades of FA, FN or withdrawal grades.

NOTE: We don't include grades you earned through repeat courses or developmental courses in your GPA calculation. Those grades **will** factor into your GPA for the Lottery Scholarship. Be sure to count those grades when calculating your GPA.

When your "attempted credit-hours" total... You must have at least...

24 or 48	a 2.75 cumulative GPA
72, 96 or 120	a 3.0 cumulative GPA OR a 3.0 semester GPA and a cumulative GPA of 2.75-2.99

- There is no appeal process for students who lose their lottery scholarships for failing to maintain the minimum GPA. So, if you're struggling, take advantage of the Academic Support Center. Call (931) 221-6550 to request tutoring.

If my GPA is too low, how can I get my scholarship back?

1. Reach the minimum GPA in time for your next review.

You can do this only one time. For example, let's say you lost your scholarship because you had a 2.0 GPA when you reached 24 attempted credit-hours. You'd

need to have a 2.75 GPA when you reached 48 attempted credit-hours to regain your scholarship.

2. Repeat a course in which you performed poorly.

If there's one grade killing your GPA, this is your chance for a do-over. The new grade will replace the poor grade. If you meet the minimum GPA the next time you're due for a GPA review, you'll regain your scholarship. You can do this one time, for one class.

- To do this, be sure to submit a FAFSA for the year AND provide the **Lottery Scholarship Course Repeat/Exclusion Consent Form** to the Office of Student Financial Aid once you've retaken the class. This form is available under "Online Forms" at www.apsu.edu/FinancialAid.

Why is my lottery GPA different from my university GPA?

1. Your Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship (TELS) GPA will include all courses, including developmental and repeated courses, even though they are not counted in your APSU GPA. If you took college-level courses while still in high school, these grades are counted in your APSU GPA, but will not count in your TELS GPA or TELS attempted hours.
- You may review your TELS GPA at <https://apbrlu6.apsu.edu/cp/home/loginf> under student records.

How can I appeal the loss of my scholarship?

1. **Submit the Lottery Scholarship Appeal form to the Office of Student Financial Aid.**
 - Remember, you cannot appeal losses stemming from an inadequate GPA. You will find the **Lottery Scholarship Appeal Form** at www.apsu.edu/FinancialAid under "Online Forms."
2. **Submit requests to appeal APSU decisions to TSAC.**

You can appeal an APSU decision concerning your lottery scholarship to the Tennessee Student Assistance Corp. (TSAC) at www.tn.gov/CollegePays.

How long will I be eligible for lottery scholarships?

Your scholarship will be terminated when one of the following occurs:

- You complete your bachelor's degree
- Five years have passed since you initially enrolled

Questions? Contact us!

Office of Student Financial Aid (931) 221-7907 www.apsu.edu/FinancialAid
Tennessee Student Assistance Corp. (800) 342-1663 www.tn.gov/CollegePays



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