

# FEDERAL STUDENT AID

## Cost of Attendance (COA) Policy

Policy Revised: 6.19.23 Policy Effective Fall 2023

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### POLICY OVERVIEW

Northwest College has established the following to define and calculate a student's Cost of Attendance (COA) for the administration of Federal Student Aid. This policy establishes the criteria the College uses in determining its annual COA calculations.

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### WHAT IS A COA?

Federal Student Aid (and some institutional and state aid programs, along with athletic associations) requires the determination of a COA for each student award recipient for each academic year or semester enrolled. (and other aid, as applicable) may be accumulated and aid accumulation is terminated.

- x Transportation Expenses
- x Miscellaneous Personal Expenses (half time enrollment or greater)
- x Federal Student Loan Fees (if applicable and excludes private loan fees)

<sup>1</sup>Select academic programs contain additional "add-on" cost allowances to account for abnormally expensive course fees (Aeronautics) or required program-related equipment (Allied Health, Art, Equine, Graphic Design, Medical Assistant, Music, Nursing, Photography, and Welding). All students enrolled in these select academic programs receive the benefit of these "add-on" costs incorporated into their COA calculations.

Adjustments may be made on a case-by-case basis by FDVH EDVLV WKURXJK WKH & ROOHH [Request for Special Consideration](#) - XG process for qualifying students regarding

- x Tuition expenses at an elementary or secondary school
- x Childcare/dependent care costs not covered by the dependent care allowance.
- x 6HYHUH GLVDELOLW\ RI VWXGHQW VWXGHQW TV SDUHQW VWXGHQW TV VSRXVH
- x Study Abroad expenses

The College does not include in its Cost of Attendance calculation

- x The cost of professional licensure, certification, or a first professional credential as NWC students do not incur licensure, certification, or first professional credential costs prior to academic program graduation.
- x The cost of the rental or purchase of a computer

**Standardized COA Categories of Student Characteristics :**

- x Student Residency
  - o In-State
  - o Western Undergraduate Exchange/WUE
  - o Out-of-State
- x Student Enrollment Status<sup>2</sup>
  - o Full-Time (12.0+ credits),
  - o Three Quarter Time (9.0-11.5 credits)
  - o Half-Time (6.0-8.5 credits)
  - o Less than Half Time (0.5-5.5 credits)

<sup>2</sup>Fall & Spring Semesters – COA enrollment status categories for full-time are standardized across all Wyoming Community Colleges at 15.0 credits, the expectation whereby a full-time student enrolls in 15.0 credits per semester. (C)-18.612 792 r)-13.994 (u)14 410.71 TW\* n BT /T0.991 (e) 1Tf 108.02 419.35 Td 0 0 612 792bxpd TW\* n BT /T0.918.994 (f)-2h803 (o)4.0

