

**Procedure Title:** Awarding of Athletic Financial Assistance to Student Athletes  
**Procedure Number:** 07-2017-0004  
**Board Policy Reference:** IV.A.

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**Accountable Administrator:** Vice President, Student Affairs  
**Position responsible for updating:** Director of Athletics, Outreach & Student Life  
**Original Date:** 11/14/17  
**Date Approved by College Planning Council:** 10/23/19  
**Authorizing Signature:** *Original signature on file*  
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**Purpose:**

BMCC processes financial assistance to students in the form of waivers, scholarships, student employment, grants, loans, and third party agency payments as listed on the Awarding of Financial Assistance to Students Administrative Procedure (07-2003-0001).

This procedure is to provide clarity in the awarding of athletic financial assistance based on demonstrated need or total Cost of Attendance of the student athlete in accordance with the Northwest Athletic Conference (NWAC) , National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA), as well as State, and Federal (Title IV) financial aid regulations.

**Definitions:**

**Financial Assistance:** Includes Foundation, TRiO, and pass-through scholarships, federal and state grants, federal and private loans, and tuition and/or fee waivers.

**Athletic Financial Assistance:** Includes tuition waiver and/or student employment (non-federal work study)

**Need:** The difference between the cost of attendance (COA) and the expected family contribution (EFC) as determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

**Over-award:** Is created when the student’s financial aid package exceeds the student’s need as determined by the EFC.

**Letter of Intent:** An athletic participation document used to indicate a student athlete’s commitment to participating in the designated sport and BMCC’s commitment to providing athletic financial assistance. Letters of intent are a one-year binding contract for the NWAC, BMCC, and the student athlete as long as the student maintains eligibility.

**Extra Benefits:** Any special arrangement by BMCC, an employee of BMCC, or representative of BMCC Athletic interests extended to a student athlete (including a relative or friend of the student athlete) that is considered a benefit but is not made available to all BMCC students.

## Guidelines:

- Letters of Intent (NWAC and NIRA) are initiated by the designated Head Coach during the student athlete recruitment process with final approval made by the Director of Athletics as follows:
  - Student athlete tuition waivers may be extended to cover up to 15 credits per term.
  - The designated number of tuition waivers awarded per sport/team is in accordance with NWAC and NIRA regulations.
  - Student athletes not eligible for work-study may also be offered student employment (non-federal work-study) through their respective athletic program with the maximum offer of \$2,000
  
- Letters of intent are reviewed and submitted by the Director of Athletics with the understanding that the athletic financial assistance in the said letter of intent may be substituted by the BMCC's financial aid office upon determination that the student athlete is eligible for other forms of State or Federal aid which could exceed the student athlete's financial need.
  - BMCC's financial aid office will provide a notice to the student athlete of their financial aid award
  - The Athletic Department will be notified by the BMCC financial aid office if a substitution of state/federal aid has resulted in an adjustment to the athletic financial assistance indicated in the student's letter of intent.
  
- Continued athletic financial assistance eligibility requires that the student athlete pass at least 12 credits per term and have a grade point average of 2.0 per term. The student athlete must also be in good student conduct standing with BMCC each term.
  - A student athlete may regain athletic financial assistance eligibility if they pass 12 credits and a 2.0 GPA in subsequent terms and/or have resolved any student conduct violations.

The order of awarding athletic financial assistance to student athletes will be performed according to the above referenced eligibility criteria and BMCC administrative procedure. (07-2003-0001).

## Conditions:

- 1) In accordance with NWAC regulations, no extra benefits are allowed to student athletes unless the benefit is available to all students at BMCC.
  
- 2) Student athletes will be strongly encouraged to complete the FAFSA or a FAFSA alternate in order to determine need
  
- 3) Financial Aid award letters will be adjusted when necessary to avoid an over-award or exceeding the total Cost of Attendance in order to meet state, federal, and athletic conference regulations.

*See Letter of Intent form (link)*

*Refer to Administrative Procedure SS 07-2003-0001).*