



EL PASO COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROCEDURE

For information, contact Institutional
Effectiveness: (915) 831-6740

FEA-1 Financial Aid Guidelines for Intercollegiate Athletics

APPROVED: September 5, 2003 **REVISED:** March 8, 2024
Year of last review: 2024
AUTHORIZING BOARD POLICY: FEA

Classification: Administrative

Responsible Vice President or Associate Vice President: Vice President of Student and Enrollment Services

Designated Contact: Director of Athletics & Executive Director of Student Financial Aid

OBJECTIVE: To establish the process for determining financial aid and scholarship eligibility for El Paso County Community College District (EPCCCD) Intercollegiate Athletics Program students.

PROCEDURE: Students participating in the EPCCCD Intercollegiate Athletics Program may qualify for athletic scholarships, other scholarships, or financial aid.

I. Athletic Scholarships

- A. **Types:** The EPCCCD has Athletic Aid/Scholarships in Baseball, Softball, and Cross Country. Athletic Aid money may cover some or all of the tuition, fees, room, board, and books.

Eligibility Criteria: Criteria for Athletic Aid at the EPCCCD include the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) rules, the Western Junior College Athletic Conference (WJCAC) rules, the EPCCCD rules of a GPA of 2.75 or better with an accumulation of 12 semester hours per each full-time semester, and athletic skill ability as determined by the coach of the sport. In addition, national and conference standards limit the number of scholarships per sport that any institution is allowed to award.
- B. **Deadlines:** The EPCCCD Intercollegiate Athletics Program follows the NJCAA guidelines for timelines regulating the dates when the “National Letter of Intent and Scholarship Agreement Form” may be signed.
- C. **Awarding:** The Athletic Aid/Scholarships are awarded by the EPCCCD coach of the sport with authorization also given by the EPCCCD Director of Athletics and the President of the College or the President’s designated representative. Athletic Aid/Scholarships are administered through the EPCCCD Financial Aid Office.
- D. **Addendum:** All student-athletes are required to sign the Conditions of Scholarship Addendum to NJCAA Scholarship Agreement for the corresponding academic year. The addendum is generated by the Office of the Director of Athletics and details the conditions of the scholarship.
- E. **Athletics Manual:** The EPCCCD Department of Intercollegiate Athletics Manual is maintained by and housed in the Office of the Director of Athletics as a comprehensive resource manual for all student-athletes.

II. Institutional and External Scholarships

- A. **Types:** There are a variety of scholarships available from various funding sources that recognize academic skills, fields of study, merit, participation in extra-curricular activities and community service, and financial need.
- B. **Eligibility Criteria:** Each scholarship has unique and specialized eligibility criteria established by the scholarship funding source. Information and applications are available in the EPCCCD Financial Aid Office and from the EPCCCD counselors.
- C. **Deadlines:** The various funding sources have varying deadlines for the scholarships.
- D. **Awarding:** The scholarships are awarded according to criteria established by the various funding sources.

III. Financial Aid

- A. Types: EPCCCD student-athletes may apply for financial assistance from several funding sources. The sources include the Federal Pell Grant, the Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant, the Texas Public Educational Grant, the State Student Incentive Grant, and the Federal College Work-Study Grant. In addition, money may be made available through emergency loans. Information on the various funding sources is available at Financial Aid Office, EPCCCD's College catalog, and the class schedules.
- B. Eligibility Criteria:
 - 1. To qualify for financial aid assistance, EPCCCD student-athletes must demonstrate a financial need.
 - 2. EPCCCD student-athletes must have either a high school diploma or a GED certificate. (If a student has neither document, then the "Ability-to-Benefit" test must be taken in order to be considered for financial aid.)
 - 3. Student-athletes must be enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a regular student working toward a degree or certificate in eligible programs.
 - 4. Student-athletes must be U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens.
 - 5. Student-athletes must have valid social security numbers.
 - 6. Student-athletes must register for the Selective Service, if required.
 - 7. Student-athletes must maintain satisfactory academic progress as required by the various funding sources of financial aid.
- C. Deadlines: The EPCCCD Financial Aid Office maintains a calendar of prior dates for applying for the various sources of financial aid.
- D. Awarding: The financial aid funding is awarded according to criteria established by the various funding sources.