Lottery Tidbits

1. **September 1 is the priority renewal deadline to reapply for TELS funds each year. Reapplication is done through the completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA may be completed online at www.fafsa.gov. Verification may be required, in which case ALL requested documents must be submitted before TELS funds can be disbursed to the student account.**
2. **The amount of the TELS award will be based on the hours in which you are enrolled as of the census date (14th calendar day of classes). Your enrollment status and award amount will be certified at that time, unless there are required documents lacking from your financial aid file or issues with attendance. However, it will be at least 14 – 18 business days, after certification, before your TELS funds are received by JSCC to be applied to your student account. Excess funds will be applied to JSCC Discover Debit Cards, if you opted in. All students with excess funds from Lottery will receive an email to their JSCC email account notifying them once funds have been disbursed.**
3. **Attendance is checked prior to certification and again prior to disbursement. If a student fails to begin enrollment in a course or stops attending a course prior to the census date may have their award reduced and/or cancelled and may owe funds back to JSCC.**
4. **Students must be degree seeking to receive TELS funds. However, if you are degree seeking but enrolled in certificate courses (such as EMT or Paramedic) then you will also be ineligible to receive payment for that semester. This semester will still count towards the continuous enrollment criteria and the student will be re-evaluated once they begin taking regular courses again.**
5. **Grades will be checked each semester to ensure that students are maintaining Satisfactory Progress as defined in our policy. This policy is available at http://www.jscc.edu/financial-aid/satisfactory-academic-progress.html**
6. **Student progress also will be verified at certain benchmark hours.**
    a. **24, 48 attempted hours – 2.75 TELS GPA**
    b. **72, 96 and 120 attempted hours – 3.0 TELS GPA or alternative criteria (at least 2.75 cumulative and 3.0 for term – may receive for another semester IF full time; these students will be monitored on a semester basis until benchmark TELS GPA of 3.0 cumulative has been reached)**
7. **Your JSCC and TELS GPAs may differ. If you have college work from high school, transfer work, have repeated multiple courses, or are a Nontraditional recipient, then your GPAs WILL differ. To find out your TELS GPA, you may come by the Financial Aid Office and ask or you may request a memo be mailed to you. GPAs cannot be released by phone or by email.**
8. **Prior approval to drop or withdraw is required if a student wishes to continue receiving TELS funds. This approval can only be obtained through completing the "JSCC TN Promise and TN Lottery Appeal/Leave of Absence Request" form, which is available at http://www.jscc.edu/financial-aid/types-of-aid/lottery.html . Keep in mind that requests for prior approval and appeals for reinstatement of eligibility MUST be based on documented medical or extreme personal reasons and must be reviewed by the Institutional Review Panel (IRP). The IRP may request verification from instructor(s) regarding student grades and/or standing prior to reviewing petitions.**
9. **In order to request a leave of absence, students must complete the "JSCC TN Promise and TN Lottery Appeal/Leave of Absence Request" form, which is available at http://www.jscc.edu/financial-aid/types-of-aid/lottery.html**

10. **If there is a grade change or completion of an incomplete grade, the Financial Aid Office must be notified within 30 days using the "Request for Reinstatement" form, which is available at http://www.jscc.edu/financial-aid/types-of-aid/lottery.html**
11. **There are two one-time options for TELS students:**
    a. **Repeat feature: This allows students to repeat one course and have the grade replace a prior grade for that course. This option may only be taken once and may be used while not receiving the TELS scholarship. To do this, please complete the "TELS Repeat" form, which is available at http://www.jscc.edu/financial-aid/types-of-aid/lottery.html**
    b. **Regain feature: Students who have lost their funding due to not maintaining the required TELS GPA may use this option to regain their scholarship. These students must have maintained continuous enrollment and have the required TELS GPA at their next benchmark (48, 72, 96 or 120 attempted hours). To use this option, complete the "TELS Regain" form, which is available at http://www.jscc.edu/financial-aid/types-of-aid/lottery.html . This option may only be used once.**
12. **Students who began receiving the lottery funds after fall 2009, now have a new terminating event of 120 attempted hours. This is in addition to the 5 year terminating event that all students have.**
13. **Non-traditional students are evaluated differently to determine initial eligibility. However, once they begin receiving the scholarship, they must follow all the same rules. The one exception is that they will still be evaluated each year to ensure that their Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) stays below the $36,000 mark required to maintain eligibility.**
14. **Students who began receiving lottery funds after fall 2009 may receive up to a full time award in the summer semester, even if they received full awards in the fall and spring semesters. Students still have to meet all other retention criteria (GPA and Satisfactory Academic Progress – SAP) and must be enrolled at least half time -6 hours- to receive any of the scholarship. Since summer is a trailer (ending) semester, first time freshman cannot begin receiving the award the summer after high school graduation.**