

# COST OF ATTENDANCE

## & PACKAGING POLICY 2018-2019

Each year the South Mountain Community College Financial Aid Office establishes standard student budgets based on institutional costs and estimated costs of living. These budgets represent an estimate of the Cost of Attendance for SMCC Academic Programs. The amount of aid that a student receives cannot exceed the institution's Cost of Attendance (some exceptions may apply).

Two-semester budgets are based on 8 months of instructions represented by a 16-week Fall Semester and a 16-Week Spring Semester. Single semester budgets are based on 4 months of instruction represented by a 16-week Fall, 16-week Spring, or 5 week Summer Semester.

By comparing the Cost of Attendance to the student's Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) as determined by the FAFSA application, the Financial Aid Office is able to assess student need, and process financial aid awards in a fair manner for all financial aid applicants within the appropriate regulatory guidelines for each specific aid program.

The budget reflects typical expense patterns for students attending SMCC Academic Programs. Some students will spend more than the standard amounts, while others will spend less, depending on individual lifestyles and circumstances. Eligibility for financial aid, however, is based on the standard budget allowances – not on individual preferences and spending habits. A copy of a student budget may be obtained in person from the Financial Aid Office. Below is the standard packaging policy at SMCC.

Remember, to receive aid, students must be eligible to qualify for financial aid and be enrolled in and participating in an eligible degree or certificate program.

### **Packaging Policy**

Pell grant is awarded based on enrollment and EFC AND

SEOG (Supplemental Grant) is awarded to EFC=0 and 6 credit or more enrollment OR

LEAP (Leveraging Educational Assistance Program) is awarded to EFC=0 and 6 credit or more enrollment OR

Maricopa Grant is awarded to EFC=0 and 6 credits or more enrolled AND

Direct Loans (sub or unsub) based on EFC and need for 6 credit or more enrollment at freshman or sophomore level enrollment

Federal Work-study and Institutional Work-study (non-need based employment) is awarded on a student request basis as funds are limited.