

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID
2009-2010



CONSUMIER

★ INFORMATION ★

GUIDE

PEARL RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Serving Forrest, Hancock, Jefferson Davis, Lamar, Marion, And Pearl River Counties

MONEY MATTERS



■ FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS ARE DESIGNED TO ASSIST students who are seeking a certificate or degree from the institution they are attending in meeting the costs of their education. Pearl River Community College offers a variety of programs from federal, state, institutional, and private sources. It is important that students understand the policies regarding the assistance awarded to them and that they are aware of the financial aid and academic requirements for maintaining eligibility. This information is found on page 8 of this guide. Financial aid professionals are available to assist students who have questions or who need additional information during regular office hours, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. The telephone number for the office of Financial Aid at the main campus in Poplarville is 601-403-1029. The Forrest County Center can be reached at 601-554-5555, and the Hancock Center can be reached at 228-467-2761 or 228-467-2762.

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■ Pearl River Community College offers equal education and employment opportunities. The College does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin, veteran status, or disability. For inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies or to request accommodations, special assistance, or alternate format publication, please contact Tonia Moody, ADA/Civil Rights Coordinator, at 101 Highway 11 North, P.O. Box 5118, Poplarville, MS 39470 or telephone 601-403-1060.

PRCC Financial Aid Office Personnel

Valerie Horne
Financial Aid Director

**Donna L.
O'Quinn, M.Ed.**
Assistant Director

Michelle Owens
Data Management

**Reynada
Bergeron**
*Work Study &
Scholarship Advisor*

Cindy Wells
Financial Aid Advisor

The Pearl River Community College Financial Aid Office is located in the north wing of the Ted J. Alexander Administration Building on the Poplarville campus.

Admissions Procedures

■ PRCC's Office of Admissions is located in the Administration Building on the Poplarville campus. Admissions applications and other forms are available 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. on weekdays. This office receives and processes all applications, high school transcripts, transfer college transcripts, GED certificates, and other documents related to admission. Information may be requested from or documents may be mailed to:

OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS PEARL RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

P.O. Box 5559
101 Highway 11 North
Poplarville, MS 39470

■ PRCC School Code:

002430

Should Be Included On
Federal Application (FAFSA)

Accessible at:
www.fafsa.ed.gov

HOW TO APPLY FOR FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

■ Complete all requirements for admission to Pearl River Community College. All financial aid applicants must be regularly admitted to PRCC and must be seeking a certificate or degree from this institution to receive any form of federal financial assistance. The Admissions Office on any of the three campuses have the forms and information required for admission to the institution. (IMPORTANT NOTE: Transfer students must submit transcripts for all previously attended institutions, including colleges or universities where they may have registered for classes but withdrew prior to completing coursework.)

■ The "Free Application for Federal Student Aid" or FAFSA, should be completed online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Students need to allow 7-10 business days for delivery of their electronic Student Aid Report, or SAR, to the Office of Financial Aid at PRCC from the U.S. Department of Education following submission of the FAFSA. This report is required for determination of eligibility for all federal aid programs, including grants, work-study, and student loans. Financial aid is awarded on an academic year basis (August to August), and students must reapply for federal, state, and institutional, if applicable, financial aid each year.

FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

FEDERAL PELL GRANT

■ Based on financial need and enrollment status (not required to be half-time). Awards range from \$400 to \$4713 (maximum awards determined annually by Congress).

FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY GRANT (FSEOG)

■ Eligibility is based on financial need, other aid awarded, and availability of funds. Priority is given to full-time students.

LEVERAGING EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PARTNERSHIP

■ Must be a resident of Mississippi. Eligibility is based on financial need, other aid awarded, and availability of funds. (MUST BE ENROLLED AS FULL-TIME).

FEDERAL WORK-STUDY PROGRAM (FWS)

■ Eligibility is based on financial need, other aid awarded, and availability of funds. Eligible students are employed in offices and departments on campus and are paid on a monthly basis. Students are allowed to work **ONLY** during the first two years of enrollment (four semesters) and the summer terms before and after the freshman year. After receiving Work-Study awards, students are expected to maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0 each semester, in order to remain eligible. **A separate application is required from the financial aid office to apply for this program.**

SUBSIDIZED STAFFORD LOAN

Processing of loans begins 30 days following the beginning of each semester

■ Awarded on the basis of financial need. Interest on the loan is paid by the federal government while in school and during a 6-month "grace" period, until repayment begins. Subsidized Stafford Loans are available from commercial banks and lending institutions that participate in the program. Enrollment on at least a half-time basis (six semester hours) and compliance with satisfactory academic progress standards is required for certification of eligibility and for disbursement of loan funds. **A loan application available from the financial aid office is required to apply for this loan.**

UNSUBSIDIZED STAFFORD LOAN

Processing of loans begins 30 days following the beginning of each semester

■ Not based on financial need. Student is responsible for interest on the loan from time of disbursement until paid in full. Unsubsidized Stafford Loans are available from commercial banks and lending institutions that participate in the program. Enrollment on at least a half-time basis (six semester hours) and compliance with satisfactory academic progress standards is required for certification of eligibility and for disbursement of loan funds. **A loan application from the financial aid office is required to apply for this loan.**

PARENT LOAN (PLUS)

■ Certification of eligibility is based on cost of attendance and on all other financial aid received. The interest rate on loans first disbursed on or after July 1, 2006, is fixed at 8.5% and repayment usually begins within 60 days after full disbursement of funds. A parent must complete a PLUS Loan Application in the Office of Financial Aid at PRCC, but may also pre-certify with a Lender to expedite the loan process.

ACADEMIC COMPETITIVENESS GRANT

■ This grant was first implemented in the 2006-07 academic year. Eligibility requirements for this grant are as follows:

- United States citizen.
- Federal Pell Grant recipient.
- First-year student must have completed high school after Jan. 1, 2007.
- Second-year student must have completed high school after Jan. 1, 2006.
- Second-year student must have at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average.
- Both completed a rigorous secondary school program as submitted by the state department of education in Mississippi (or state from which student completed high school).
- Not previously enrolled in program of undergraduate education.
- Student must be working on an Associate of Arts degree from PRCC.

■ **The RIGOROUS SECONDARY SCHOOL PROGRAM acceptable for Mississippi high school graduates is as follows:**

The State Scholars Initiative requirements: This program, currently offered in Mississippi and 21 other states and patterned after the recommendations of the National Commission on Excellence in Education, requires at least:

- Four years of English.
- Three years of mathematics (including Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry).
- Three years of lab science (biology, chemistry, physics).
- Three-and-one-half years of social studies.
- Two years of a language other than English.

A set of courses similar to the State Scholars Initiative requirements. This program of study requires **passing grades** in the following:

- Four years of English.
- Three years of mathematics (including Algebra I and a higher level course such as Algebra II, Geometry or Data Analysis and Statistics).
- Three years of lab science (including at least two courses from biology, chemistry, physics).
- Three years of social studies.
- One year of a foreign.

Advanced placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) courses and test scores. This program requires a minimum of two Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) courses in high school and a minimum passing score on the exams for those classes. Students must score 3 or higher on AP exams and 4 or higher on the IB exams.

Mississippi Dual Enrollment Program of Study. This program of study requires a student to complete two dual enrollment/dual credit courses (3 semester hours per course) in the core academic subjects of English, mathematics, science, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, arts, history, and geography with a grade of C or higher.

ACG Award Amounts:

- First-year students are eligible for up to \$750 per year.
- Second-year students are eligible for up to \$1,300 (pending completion and passing of at least 24 hours from first year). These students are required to have at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average from the previous year of enrollment.

VERIFICATION

■ Each year the U.S. Department of Education selects approximately 30% of all financial aid applicants for a process called **verification** where additional documentation is required to complete their financial aid files. In addition, the Office of Financial Aid is required by law to review all files where issues of conflicting data exist. Applicants selected for review should provide all requested documentation in a timely manner to expedite the awarding process. Students selected for review may be required to submit copies of parent and student federal income tax returns, verification of untaxed income, proof of marital status, proof of number in household or college, or other documentation of financial condition.



***Pearl River
Community
College***

***ALWAYS
Mississippi's
First...***

***ALWAYS
Mississippi's
Best...***



Admission To PRCC

■ Admission to PRCC can be accomplished by the following:

- Complete an admissions application and return it to the Office of Admissions, Pearl River Community College, P.O. Box 5559, 101 Highway 11 North, Poplarville, MS 39470.

- Have a copy of your high school transcript sent directly to PRCC from the last high school you attended. If you previously attended college, a copy of the official transcript must be sent to PRCC. **An official transcript must be sent from every college attended.**

- Academic or technical students must send an official copy of ACT scores to the PRCC Admissions Office. Residual test scores furnished by other colleges will not be accepted. There is no minimum score required for admission, however, test scores will be used in counseling and placement.

- Vocational students must furnish C-PAT scores. Contact a vocational counselor for a testing schedule for the C-PAT.

For more information, call the PRCC Office of Admissions at (601)403-1214.

■ PRCC School Code:

002430

Should Be Included On Federal Application (FAFSA)
Accessible online at www.fafsa.ed.gov

UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES

■ If a student or student's family has extenuating circumstances that may affect his or her eligibility for financial aid, they should contact the Office of Financial Aid. Eligibility for federal student aid can be re-evaluated if special circumstances can be documented within department guidelines.

DUAL ENROLLMENT

■ Federal regulations prohibit receiving Federal Aid at more than one Institution of Higher Learning for a dual enrollment period. Federal Aid can only be received at one institution where the student is seeking a degree or certificate.

How Is Financial Aid Awarded?

1. After completion of the Federal Financial Aid Form (FAFSA) and other requested forms, financial need is determined.
 2. An "award package" will then be offered to you by the Office of Financial Aid based on your need, type of assistance requested, and upon the availability of funds.
 3. An award letter will be mailed to you, indicating the type(s) and amount of financial assistance you are being awarded.
 4. Students with financial aid awards larger than their fees and bookstore charges can expect to receive a refund during the semester.
- Students with all applications completed and on file in the PRCC Financial Aid Office by the priority date, **APRIL 17**, will receive first consideration for programs with limited funds (Work-Study, FSEOG, and LEAP). Applications received after **APRIL 17** will be awarded based on date of application and availability of funds.

Payment Of Fees

■ Pearl River Community College requires that one-third of the total fees be paid at the beginning of each semester. The remaining financial balance is required to be paid on a monthly basis and **MUST** be paid prior to the beginning of final exams. Financial Aid (except Work-Study) is applied to the fees assessed by the college. If the financial aid award does not equal the required one-third amount, the student must pay the unmet balance at registration. Work-Study recipients earn minimum hourly wages and are paid on a monthly basis.

REQUIRED ENROLLMENT STATUS-FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID RECIPIENTS

PROGRAM	REQUIRED ENROLLMENT
● FEDERAL PELL GRANT	One (1) Semester Hour
● FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY GRANT (SEOG)	Six (6) Semester Hours
● LEVERAGING EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PARTNERSHIP (LEAP)	Twelve (12) Semester Hours
● FEDERAL WORK-STUDY (FWS)	Twelve (12) Semester Hours
● FEDERAL FAMILY EDUCATION LOANS	Six (6) Semester Hours

Financial Aid Disbursement Procedures

■ **GRANT (Pell, FSEOG, LEAP)** refunds will be posted each semester by the Office of Financial Aid and by Business Services.

■ **DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP** refunds (if applicable) are issued during the eighth complete week of each semester. Subsequent refunds are made throughout the remainder of the semester.

■ **STUDENT LOAN** processing begins 30 days after the beginning of each semester. (Exception: First-time freshmen to PRCC must submit mid-term grades before loans are certified and processed.) Following the certification and processing by PRCC, loans are scheduled to be disbursed to PRCC from the Lender, typically beginning the sixth week of classes. Refunds are then processed on a weekly basis, thereafter, by Business Services when financial aid, posted to the student's account, creates a credit balance that the student is eligible to receive.

IMPORTANT!

- STUDENTS MUST BE ENROLLED FOR AT LEAST SIX SEMESTER HOURS AT THE TIME LOAN CHECKS ARE DISBURSED.
- INSTITUTIONAL CHARGES ARE DEDUCTED FROM STUDENT LOAN CHECKS BEFORE REFUNDS ARE ISSUED.

INSTITUTIONAL REFUND POLICY

- Students who officially withdraw or cut-out of all classes during a semester will have their financial accounts reviewed to determine if adjustments to institutional fees should be made. The institutional refund policy is applied to all students, without regard to academic classification or eligibility of Title IV student assistance.
- Appeals for refunds due to extenuating circumstances may be made in writing to the Business Manager, Pearl River Community College, P.O. Box 5060, 101 Highway 11 North, Poplarville, MS 39470. Any refund will be mailed to the student at the address of his/her record.

REFUND POLICIES

TUITION		
Fall & Spring Semesters	Percentage Refund	Summer Terms
1st Week	100%	100%
End of 2nd Week	75%	50%
End of 3rd Week	50%	0
End of 4th Week	25%	0
NO REFUND AFTER 4TH WEEK		
ROOM & BOARD		
Fall & Spring Semesters Withdrawn by:	Percentage Refund	
Before Classes Begin	100%	
1st Week	90%	
2nd & 3rd Week	80%	
4th Week	70%	
After 4th Week	0	
NO REFUNDS FOR ROOM AND BOARD AFTER 4TH WEEK		

SUMMER SEMESTER: NO ROOM AND BOARD REFUNDS

RETURN OF TITLE IV REFUND POLICY:

■ Students officially withdrawing from PRCC during institutional and/or federal refund periods who receive federal financial aid are required in accordance with federal regulations to return “unearned” portions of federal funds to the financial programs from which aid was disbursed. Students who do not complete a period of enrollment may not “earn” all of their financial aid based on their date of withdrawal from the institution. The method of returning funds to federal programs is calculated using the federally mandated financial aid refund policy (Return of Title IV Refund Policy), in conjunction with the institutional refund policy with regard to tuition and fees. The student should be advised that this calculation may result in the student’s owing a balance back to PRCC for funds that the institution has been required to return to federal agencies on behalf of the student, or in a repayment owed back to the U.S. Department of Education that the student must pay.

WITHDRAWAL FROM

PEARL RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE:

■ A student who wishes to withdraw from PRCC must obtain a withdrawal slip from the Counseling Center where a counselor will explain the procedures for full withdrawal from the college. The grade in each class from which a student withdraws will be determined by the instructor of the respective class.

**Unofficial
Withdrawal
From PRCC**

■ If a student begins attendance at PRCC, then stops attending classes, does not officially withdraw, and then fails to earn a passing grade in at least one course offered over an entire enrollment period, PRCC must assume, for Title IV purposes, that the student has “unofficially withdrawn” from the institution unless the student can provide documentation of his or her attendance. This documentation must come from an instructor and it must verify the student’s attendance through the 60% point of the semester as required by federal regulations and by the Office of Financial Aid. If the student cannot submit the required documentation to the Office of Financial Aid by the date specified for each period of enrollment, PRCC will be required to perform a Return of Title IV Funds calculation and up to one-half of the student’s federal aid may have to be returned to the respective agencies from which it was awarded for that period of enrollment.

Opportunities At The River

■ PRCC offers a host of opportunities for students who wish to be involved in campus activities. Pearl River has an outstanding athletic program, fielding teams in football, men's and women's basketball, baseball, softball, golf, and tennis. Whether it be on the gridiron, hardcourt, or diamond, *The River* stands aside for no one. But athletics is not the only area of excellence. Pearl River's *Spirit of the River* marching band, *String of Pearls* dance team, *RiverRoad* show choir, *The Voices* ensemble, and *The Pearl River Singers* are all among the best in the state.

Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy

■ Students receiving **ANY** form of Title IV Financial Assistance (Pell Grant, State Grant, Supplemental Grant, College Work-Study or Student Loan) **MUST** demonstrate satisfactory progress towards completion of their degree or certificate program.

QUALITATIVE & QUANTITATIVE MEASURE SATISFACTORY PROGRESS

■ Satisfactory progress will be measured according to the following scale:

NUMBER OF HOURS ATTEMPTED	0-24	25-36	37 & Above
REQUIRED CUMULATIVE GPA	1.5	1.75	2.0 & Above

INCREMENTAL MEASURE

■ Full-time students receiving Title IV assistance must pass a minimum of six semester hours during any semester in which assistance is received. Students enrolled on a part-time basis must pass 50 percent of the semester hours attempted. Failure to do so results in suspension of eligibility for financial assistance.

TIME FRAME

■ **FINANCIAL AID ELIGIBILITY IS CANCELED** after a student has attempted 90 semester hours of course work at Pearl River Community College, regardless of whether federal financial assistance was received for all semester hours attempted.

■ **FINANCIAL AID PROBATION** — A student is placed on probation if the minimum required cumulative grade point average is not met following one semester of attendance. During a probationary semester, the student is eligible for assistance.

■ **FINANCIAL AID SUSPENSION** — A student is placed on suspension if the minimum required cumulative grade point average is not met for two consecutive semesters or if the incremental measure requirement is not met for a term in which financial assistance is received. Eligibility is re-established when minimum standards on the satisfactory progress scale are met.

■ **CUMULATIVE RECORD** — A student's entire instructional record at PRCC will be evaluated to determine eligibility for financial aid regardless of the student's prior financial aid history at the institution. In addition, all attempted hours, including transfer hours, and hours accumulated at PRCC toward any program of study, are considered when reviewing satisfactory academic progress with regard to financial aid eligibility.

■ **REMEDIAL COURSES** — Remedial courses are included in the calculation of the Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy.

■ **REPEATED COURSES** — Repeated courses are counted in the determination of the number of semester hours attempted, but do not affect overall GPA.

■ **WITHDRAWALS** — All withdrawals (W, WP, and WF) will be counted as hours attempted; however, W and WP grades will not affect GPA.

■ **HOURS ATTEMPTED** — The number of hours attempted will be considered the number of hours in which a student is enrolled at the close of late registration.

■ **REINSTATEMENT** — Students may re-establish their eligibility for financial aid after being placed on suspension by attending PRCC at their own expense for one semester and meeting minimum PRCC satisfactory academic progress requirements.

■ **APPEAL** — Students who wish to appeal a financial aid suspension should obtain an appeal form online through the PRCC website at www.prc.edu. Click on Student Information, then PRCC Financial Aid, then Loss of Financial Aid Appeal Form. Print, complete, and submit the form, along with the required documentation, to the Office of Financial Aid. Students must allow 7-10 working days for the processing of all appeals. Appeals submitted for review during periods of registration, or periods of high office traffic will take longer to review and process.

■ **ANY** unusual circumstances with regard to the Satisfactory Academic Progress policy is subject to review by the Financial Aid Appeals Committee and/or Director of Financial Aid, such as; a student who has attended numerous institutions of higher learning and has accumulated a large number of hours and/or who has already obtained a Bachelor's degree or beyond.

Students who have already borrowed \$23,000 in subsidized and/or unsubsidized loans (or combination of) will not be certified for any Stafford Loan(s) at Pearl River Community College and may not be eligible to receive any Title IV aid assistance. These students may wish to seek outside sources of grants and alternative loans.

SCHOLARSHIPS

■ Pearl River Community College provides a variety of scholarship opportunities for students from institutional and private sources. Recipients must be enrolled on a full-time basis and in some instances, are required to maintain specific academic standards.

- **ACADEMIC** Eligibility is based on composite ACT score, scholastic average in high school, or high school leadership activities.
- **SERVICE** Awarded to students involved in athletic and service endeavors while in college.
- **FOUNDATION** Made available through gifts from individuals, corporations, and organizations. Please refer to the last six pages of this book for a description of the Foundation Scholarships. Applications are available from PRCC Financial Aid Office or high school counselors. **The deadline to apply for Development Foundation scholarships is March 27, 2009.**

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

■ The academic scholarships at Pearl River Community College are designed to recognize and award outstanding high school graduates that attend PRCC.

- **PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP (Scholarship Value up to \$2750):** 29-36 ACT Score.
- **VICE PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP (Scholarship Value up to \$850):** 26-28 ACT Score.
- **VALEDICTORIAN/SALUTATORIAN SCHOLARSHIP (Scholarship Value up to \$2750):** Students must apply separately for housing with \$75 non-refundable deposit.
- **PRCC CAREER-TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIP (Scholarship Value up to \$850):** This competitive scholarship is awarded to a student with a "B" average in high school who has completed a two-year Career-Technical program at a high school which has an articulated training agreement with PRCC. To qualify for this scholarship, a student must be accepted into any Career-Technical program at PRCC within one calendar year following high school graduation. Also, once accepted into the program at least 75 percent of the student's scheduled courses must be in the program's core curriculum.
- **HONORS SCHOLARSHIP (Scholarship Value up to \$425):** 21-25 ACT Score.
- **PRCC CAREER-TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIP (Scholarship Value up to \$425):** This competitive scholarship is awarded to a student with a "C" average in high school who has completed a two-year Career-Technical program at a high school which has an articulated training agreement with PRCC. To qualify for this scholarship, a student must be accepted into any Career-Technical program at PRCC within one calendar year following high school graduation. Also, once accepted into the program at least 75 percent of the student's scheduled courses must be in the program's core curriculum.
- **SCHOLASTIC EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP (Scholarship Value up to \$250):** These competitive scholarships are based on a cumulative high school GPA (9th, 10th, 11th, and first half of 12th grade) of 90 or above and a composite ACT score of 18 to 20.
- **LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP (Scholarship Value up to \$250):** These competitive scholarships are offered to high school graduates who have been officers in student organizations while in their senior year. Letters of recommendation from faculty sponsors of student organizations are required. The student must have a cumulative high school GPA of 90 or above and a minimum ACT score of 17 to apply for this scholarship.

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP POLICIES

- Must be a legal resident of Mississippi to qualify for any academic or career/technical scholarship.
- Scholarship eligibility is limited to a maximum of four semesters (excluding summer term). Students forfeit any semester(s) of eligibility during that time period if not enrolled at PRCC on a full-time basis. Eligibility for an academic scholarship is canceled if the scholarship recipient attends another college, prior to enrollment at PRCC (does not apply to dual enrollment while in high school).
- A student is permitted to receive only one Academic or Career/Technical Scholarship at PRCC, contingent upon his or her chosen program of study and the value of the respective scholarship. Multiple Institutional Academic scholarships cannot be stacked.
- For scholarship purposes, ACT must be taken prior to enrollment at PRCC.
- **Recipients are required to maintain a 3.0 GPA** each semester at PRCC. **One probationary semester** will be allowed, provided the GPA is 2.0 or above. Eligibility for an academic scholarship is permanently suspended if the GPA is below 2.0 for any semester or if the student does not pass at least 12 hours.
- An academic scholarship is cancelled for any semester in which a recipient is not enrolled on a full-time basis at the end of the third week of the semester.
- Academic scholarships are applied to direct institutional fees only (tuition, room and board, educational supplies). Students do not receive cash refunds from scholarships. Recipients with a

PRCC

Mississippi's First & Best!

■ Founded as an agricultural high school in 1908 and receiving full junior college status in 1921, PRCC is Mississippi's first junior/community college. Pearl River takes pride in that distinction, as well as in its reputation for excellence in the classroom, in athletics, and in community service. Tradition runs strong, but *The River's* vision is to the future. PRCC continually strives to maintain its place as one of the nation's leaders in community college education. Life at Pearl River is exciting, challenging, and rewarding. At *The River*, the vision of excellence runs deep and is always pursued.

Excellence In Education

■ PRCC is committed to providing high quality educational opportunities to all qualified applicants. Pearl River does not discriminate against or exclude any prospective student from participating in any educational program or activity of the college on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, marital status, or disability. All applicants who have met admission requirements will be considered for acceptance to the college. General admission to PRCC does not guarantee admission to a specific program offered by the college. Additional requirements for specific programs should be studied to determine eligibility for acceptance in that particular program.

credit balance after assessment of institutional charges are able to utilize the credit amount at the bookstore for necessary educational supplies (textbooks, workbooks, etc.) for the student only.

■ Applications are available from district high school counselors, the Recruitment and Orientation Office at Pearl River, or on line at the PRCC website (www.prcc.edu).

■ The specific dollar value of academic scholarships and career-technical are based on the current value of "Regular" full-time tuition assessed to students.

SERVICE SCHOLARSHIPS

■ Service Scholarships at Pearl River Community College provide financial assistance for students who participate in a variety of campus activities and organizations.

1. **BAND** — Marching band (including color guard), concert band, and jazz band scholarships, are available. Contact band directors for audition information and amounts.
2. **STRING OF PEARLS** — Dance team scholarships are available. Contact the String of Pearls director for audition information and amounts.
3. **THEATER** — Theater scholarships are available. Contact the theater instructor for audition information and amounts.
4. **CHEERLEADER** — Scholarship is the value of regular tuition plus \$50 per semester.
5. **MASCOT** — Scholarship is the value of regular tuition per semester.
6. **RIVERROAD (SHOWCHOIR)** — Scholarship is the value of one-half of regular tuition per semester.
7. **CONCERT CHOIR** — Scholarship is the value of one-half of regular tuition.
8. **VOICES** — Scholarship is the value of one-half of regular tuition per semester.
9. **ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP** — Contact the Head Coach of each respective area of athletics at PRCC regarding scholarship availability.
10. **JOURNALISM** — Contact the PRCC public relations director regarding availability and amounts.
11. **VISUAL ART** — Contact PRCC Fine Arts Department.
12. **RECRUITMENT TEAM/RIVER NAVIGATORS** — Contact the Office of Recruitment and Orientation. Scholarships are based on availability of funds.
13. **STUDENT GOVERNMENT** — Awarded to the elected Student Government Officers. The scholarship for the President is equal to one-half the value of regular tuition, and one-half of room and board per semester. Scholarships for the Vice-President and Secretary/Treasurer are equal to one-half of regular tuition. (**Freshman and Sophomore class officers are not included in this scholarship award.**)
14. **HOUSING (RESIDENT ASSISTANT)** — Scholarship includes one-half of room and board.
15. **THE MAGIC RIVER EDITOR** — Value of half regular tuition for 2 semesters. Contact Ms. Julia Ferguson.

SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP POLICIES

- Recipients are required to enroll and maintain full-time status during the semester.
- Recipients are required to maintain the Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy outlined by the college and/or other state/federal SAP policies.
- Scholarships can be received for a maximum of six semesters.
- Scholarships apply to direct institutional fees ONLY (tuition, room and board, educational supplies). Students do not receive cash refunds from service scholarships.
- Scholarship recipients with a credit balance after assessment of institutional fees are able to utilize that credit at the Bookstore for necessary educational supplies (workbooks, etc.) to be used by the scholarship recipient only.

How To Apply For Service Scholarships

- Contact the appropriate office at Pearl River Community College to apply for specific scholarships.

JUNIOR MISS SCHOLARSHIP

- Pearl River Community College supports the Junior Miss Pageants that are presented in the PRCC six county service district. A scholarship equal to the value of regular tuition is awarded to each pageant winner. The scholarship is available for a maximum of four semesters and recipients are required to maintain the standards established for academic scholarship recipients.

SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT

■ Persons 65 or older may be eligible for a tuition waiver to enroll in courses for **credit** on a space available basis. Applications are available in the Office of Financial Aid. Applicants must submit their birth certificate or driver's license **and** their Social Security Card for the discount to be considered.

STATE GRANTS

■ The state of Mississippi offers two grants for residents who meet eligibility criteria established for each program.

MISSISSIPPI TUITION ASSISTANCE GRANT (MTAG)

■ Must have minimum 2.5 high school GPA, based on 4.0 scale or satisfactorily completed the General Education Development Test (GED)

AND

■ Minimum Composite score of 15 on ACT (national test)

AND

■ Must not have "Full" Pell Grant eligibility.

AND

■ Must be a current legal resident of Mississippi (no less than one year).

■ The **MTAG AWARD** is a maximum of \$500 per academic year at a two-year college, with a maximum limit of four semesters.

A minimum 2.5 GPA, based on full-time enrollment, is required each semester, to maintain eligibility.

MISSISSIPPI EMINENT SCHOLARS GRANT (MESG)

■ Recognized as a semifinalist or finalist by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation and has a minimum GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale in high school.

OR

■ A minimum composite ACT score of 29 and 3.5 GPA, on a 4.0 scale in high school

AND

■ Must be enrolled as a "first time in college student".

AND

■ Must be current legal resident of Mississippi (minimum of one year).

■ The **MESG AWARD** is for tuition and mandatory fees, with a maximum limit for four semesters of eligibility at a two-year college.

A minimum 3.5 GPA, based on full time enrollment, is required each semester, to maintain eligibility.

MTAG/MESG APPLICATIONS

■ To apply for MTAG/MESG Awards: Access the Mississippi Office of Financial Aid at www.mississippi.edu/financialaid/.

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THE OTHER STATE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES WHILE ON THEIR WEBSITE!



DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS
SEPTEMBER 15, 2009

■ **FYI:** STUDENTS/PARENTS, you may want to check out the Hope Tax Credit. To find out if you qualify when you file your taxes, contact the Internal Revenue Service or ask a local tax service or your accountant.

REMEMBER...

- The application for financial aid must be initiated by the student.
- Applications are processed throughout the year.
- You must reapply for financial aid each year.
- Furnish information requested by the Office of Financial Aid as soon as possible.
- You must maintain satisfactory academic progress to receive financial aid.
- If you receive a work-study award, earnings will be paid monthly.
- You **MUST** apply for a Pell Grant to be considered for other aid.
- You **MUST** apply for a Pell Grant to be considered for Work-Study.

For More Information,
Write or Call:

**OFFICE OF
FINANCIAL AID**

Pearl River

Community College

101 Hwy. 11 N / P.O. Box 5120
POPLARVILLE, MS 39470



TELEPHONE

(601) 403-1029

Poplarville Campus

(228) 467-2761

(228) 467-2762

Hancock County Campus

(601) 554-5555

Forrest County Center

- Information contained in this publication is subject to change without prior notice.

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