

# **Instructions for the “Institutional Application and Agreement for Participation in the Work Colleges Program” for the 2015-2016 Award Year**

## **Instructions for Current Participants**

### **Submission Deadline**

You must submit a completed “Institutional Application and Agreement for Participation in the Work Colleges Program” for the 2015-2016 Award Year to the Department by the March 9, 2015 deadline.

### **Review Requirements**

It is important that you read the “Institutional Application and Agreement for Participation in the Work Colleges Program” for the 2015-2016 Award Year thoroughly before completing and submitting it to the Department. Although your school currently participates in the program, please review all the requirements under the Work Colleges Program to ensure that your school is eligible. In addition, you must perform a careful review of the funds needed under the Work Colleges Program before requesting an allocation for the 2015-2016 Award Year.

### **Submit Application Electronically**

You **must** transmit your application and agreement electronically. To access the application, log in to the eCampus-Based (eCB) system (<https://cbfisap.ed.gov>), click on “Setup” at the top right of the screen; then select the “Work Colleges Application” link at the top of the page.

### **Signature Options**

**eSignature Recommended** – After the application has been submitted through the eCB system, it may then be signed by the CEO electronically through the eSignature Tab within eCB. Instructions for completing the eSignature process are available through the Help Tab.

**Manual Signature Still Available** – If you choose to submit the signature for the Work Colleges Application manually, you are required to print the submitted Work Colleges Application and Agreement form from the “Work Colleges Application” link at the top of the “Setup” page within eCB.

The original signature must be mailed or hand delivered to:

United States Department of Education  
Federal Student Aid  
Grants & Campus-Based Division  
Work Colleges Program  
830 First Street, NE, Rm 63C5  
Washington, DC 20202-5453

If the printed and signed application and agreement is to be hand delivered by a commercial courier, you must use the address provided above, except the zip code will be 20002 and the document must be delivered by 4:30 p.m. on March 9, 2015.

### **Instructions for New Applicants**

If your school is **not currently participating** in the Work Colleges Program, you are considered a **new** applicant. As a new applicant, you must also submit documentation in addition to your electronically transmitted application and agreement and the signed, printed copy of the form by the March 9, 2015 deadline. Your documentation and the printed application and agreement with original signature **must** be sent directly to the address above.

You must submit any documentation that will verify that your school meets the specific requirements for the Work Colleges Program as indicated in Section 448 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, and the applicable regulations. Although you must meet all of the general requirements, your documentation must specifically show that your school (1) is a public or private nonprofit, four-year, degree-granting institution with a commitment to community service, (2) has operated a comprehensive work-learning-service program for at least *two* years, (3) requires students, including at least one-half of all students who are enrolled on a full-time basis, to participate in a comprehensive work-learning-service program for at least five hours each week, or at least 80 hours during each period of enrollment, except summer school, unless the student is in an approved study abroad or externship program, and (4) provides students participating in the comprehensive work-learning-service program with the opportunity to contribute to their education and to the welfare of the community as a whole.

Your documentation must also demonstrate that the comprehensive work-learning-service program at your school (1) is an integral and stated part of the school's educational philosophy and program, (2) requires participation of all resident students for enrollment and graduation, (3) includes learning objectives, evaluation, and a record of work performance as part of each student's college record, (4) provides programmatic leadership by college personnel at levels comparable to traditional academic programs, (5) recognizes the educational role of work-learning-service supervisors, and (6) includes consequences for non-performance or failure in the work-learning-service program similar to the consequences for failure in the regular academic program.

Some examples of acceptable documentation are:

- School catalog
- Other school publications
- Work-learning-service program policies and procedures
- Financial aid procedures
- Academic policies and procedures
- Student work-learning-service records

- Course curriculums

If your school is determined to be eligible for participation in the Work Colleges Program, the school's eligibility will be added to the eCB system and an award will be issued. We will notify the school by e-mail that the award is reflected in the Statement of Account posted on the eCB Web site. If your school is determined to be ineligible for participation, you will receive a letter that will explain why your eligibility was denied.

### **Information on Participation in the Work Colleges Program**

The Work Colleges Program is one of the three Federal Work-Study Programs. The other two Federal Work-Study Programs are the Federal Work-Study (FWS) Program and the Job Location and Development (JLD) Program.

A school participating in the Work Colleges Program receives an allocation under the FWS Program and another allocation under the Work Colleges Program. The school must set up two accounting records, one for each of these programs even if the school decides to transfer a portion or all of its FWS allocation into the Work Colleges Program. This is true even though the allocation for the FWS Program and the Work Colleges allocation are in one G5 account. When a school at its option transfers a portion or all of its FWS allocation into the Work Colleges Program, the accounting records for each program must clearly show that transfer.

Any of the FWS allocation transferred into the Work Colleges Program as well as the Work Colleges Program allocation must always be matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis. Any of the FWS allocation not transferred into the Work Colleges Program must follow the various match rates required under the FWS Program. However, those FWS match rates do not apply to funds spent under the Work Colleges Program for either the FWS allocated funds transferred into the Work Colleges Program or the Work Colleges allocated funds.

As a Work College participating in the Work Colleges Program, the school among other things must require all resident students who reside on campus to participate in a comprehensive work-learning-service program. The school may only award and pay funds under the Work Colleges Program to those students who have a financial need. The Work Colleges Program award given to a student must not exceed the student's need. Resident students without a financial need and resident students whose need has been met must be paid with only institutional funds. This also applies to any non-resident students participating in the comprehensive work-learning-service program.

When a school receives an FWS allocation, even if it decides to transfer a portion or all of that allocation into the Work Colleges Program, the school (unless it receives a waiver) must spend at least seven percent of its total FWS allocation to pay students employed in community service activities. Further, in meeting this requirement at least one student must be employed as a reading tutor for children or performing family literacy activities. Although these set community service requirements do not apply to

the Work Colleges allocation, if the school transfers a portion or all of its FWS allocation into the Work Colleges Program, it must still meet the requirements above.

It is important to note that one of the purposes of the Work Colleges Program is to encourage students to participate in community service activities. Also, under the Work Colleges Program a school may use program funds to administer and develop community-based work-learning-service alternatives that expand opportunities for community service. In addition, a school may use those funds to promote the work-learning-service experience as a tool for community service-learning opportunities.

Students employed under the Work Colleges Program in community service as reading tutors for children or performing family literacy activities or as mathematics tutors for children must still be paid with funds that are matched by the institution on a dollar-for-dollar basis. The Federal share of 100 percent is only allowed for those types of employment under the FWS Program and not the Work Colleges Program. Again, all funds spent under the Work Colleges Program must always be on the matching basis of dollar-for-dollar.

It is important to note the following information regarding the percentages for other elements that are not compensation items or community service items under the Work Colleges Program versus the FWS Program:

- Under both the FWS Program and the Work Colleges Program, a school may carry forward and carry back funds up to 10 percent of its allocated funds under either program.
- Under both the FWS Program and the Work Colleges Program, a school may receive the regular administrative cost allowance based on total compensation paid to eligible students (five percent for the first \$2,750,000 spent under campus-based, etc). However, in this case you may not claim funds twice by also using the separate Work Colleges allowable administrative allowance to pay for the same costs.
- Under the FWS Program, a school may transfer up to 25 percent of its total FWS allocation for an award year to either or both the Federal Perkins Loan Program and the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) Program. The school may not transfer any of the Work Colleges allocation to the Federal Perkins Loan Program and the FSEOG Program.
- Under the JLD Program, a school may use the lesser of 10% or \$75,000 of its FWS allocation for the JLD Program. Under the Work Colleges Program, there is no limit set for JLD activities. Under the JLD Program, the Federal share can be as high as 80 percent when using the FWS allocation. When performing JLD activities under the Work Colleges Program the match is always on a dollar-for-dollar basis.

