

Sequoias Community College District Financial Aid Office

Visalia, Hanford, Tulare

2025-2026 OVERPAYMENT POLICY

In some cases, a student is ineligible for financial aid received. This is called an Overpayment.

A. General Overpayments:

- 1. The student made an error on the financial aid application that decreases eligibility.
- 2. The student was paid at more than one school for the same term.
- 3. Students receiving the Pell Grant at College of the Sequoias will normally receive two payments per semester. Prior to the second payment, a **SNAPSHOT** of each student's class schedule will be taken on <u>October 20, 2025</u> for fall semester and <u>March 23, 2026</u> for spring semester. The Pell award will automatically be increased or decreased according to enrollment status at that point.

★DROPPING TO LESS THAN 6 UNITS MAY RESULT IN AN OVERPAYMENT.

The student's Pell Grant eligibility for the <u>semester</u> will be recalculated based on the number of units enrolled. If it is determined that the student already received more funds than s/he is eligible for, then s/he has been overpaid and will owe money back to the Pell Grant Program.

Example: If a full-time student received a Pell grant payment of **\$1849** and dropped to less than 6 units prior to October 20, 2025, the Pell award would decrease to **\$507** and the student would owe **\$1342** back to the Pell Grant Program.

The National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) will be notified and the student will not be eligible to receive additional payments at any postsecondary institution until payment arrangements are made. The student may contact the Financial Aid Office to repay the amount due.

- Federal aid overpayments not paid by **June 30, 2026** will be referred to the Collection Department of the U.S. Department of Education. The student may then make payment arrangements directly with the U.S. Department of Education to regain financial aid eligibility by calling **1-800-621-3115**.
- Any State aid overpayments shall be paid to College of the Sequoias who will return the funds to the appropriate State account.

B. Overpayments due to Nonattendance:

If a student never attends a class, s/he will be dropped from the class as a "No Show" (NS). Any federal funds that were paid to the student will be repaid to the Department of Education by College of the Sequoias. College of the Sequoias will then charge the debt to the student's account. Students may be eligible to continue receiving federal financial aid, however, owing money to College of the Sequoias may block enrollment in future terms and access to transcripts and grades.