Financial Aid and Student Employment Questions

April 27, 2020

Will I receive a partial refund for room and board for the remainder of the term?

Yes. Students will be entitled to a credit on their account for the unused portion of the room and board fees (allocable to the paid family contribution) for the spring term. If there is balance due on the account the credit will be applied first to the amount due. Graduating seniors will be eligible for a refund if the credit creates a balance due to the student. Continuing students will be receiving the credit towards their next academic term. Institutionally-funded financial aid will not be refunded to students.

If the College transitions to remote teaching and learning will my Pell Grant be affected?

No. The College has transitioned to remote teaching and learning, and you are enrolled in your courses. As long as you are enrolled and working towards your degree, Pell and SEOG funding will not be impacted.

How will switching to remote teaching and learning impact my campus employment? [update]

The Office of Career Development and Field Work Term is pleased to announce that all students with work allocations who applied for continued work have been matched with remote positions. If you have questions or need assistance related to your remote job, please contact <u>campusjobs@bennington.edu</u>.

My off-campus Federal Work Study job is suspended. What are my options?

To limit the risk of community spread, the College suspended the off-campus Federal Work Study program and notified students in the program of the suspension on March 10. Students should email campusjobs@bennington.edu if they have concerns about their timesheets reflecting work completed to date.

How do I enter my time? [update]

Students or supervisors who are having trouble entering hours on TimesheetX should contact <u>helpdesk@bennington.edu</u>.

How will I get my check? [updated]

Students who have been working this spring may <u>access ADP</u> to set up direct deposit or update their mailing address in order to receive wages from this past pay period. Any questions related to paychecks, payrolls, I9s/W4s, or related issues can be directed to payroll@bennington.edu.

Are student wages eligible for unemployment benefits? [updated]

Student wages are not typically considered eligible for unemployment benefits. However, an individual may still <u>apply for unemployment benefits</u> in the state where they worked. Decisions about unemployment benefits are determined by the state; the College will respond to all unemployment inquiries received from the state. Note that it is our understanding that due to the current COVID-19 health crisis, eligibility criteria for unemployment benefits could change.

What are Department of Education requirements for student wage pay for unworked hours? [update]

The Department of Education has clarified that institutions may choose to provide student wage pay for unworked hours, but this is not a legal requirement. The vast majority of schools have determined not to pay out unworked time in an effort to retain limited work-study budgets for students needing continued work. Bennington is following regional and national norms on this question.