

# Financial Aid as a Transient Student

## What does it mean to be a “transient student?”

A transient student is one who attends another institution, either on a full- or part-time basis, while remaining a Baldwin Wallace University student. BW is the ‘home’ institution, while the other institution is defined as the ‘visited’ institution.

## How do I become a Transient Student?

You must first obtain permission from BW’s Registration & Records Office in order to be transient. For more information about this process, visit their website at [www.bw.edu/undergraduate-admission/guest/transient](http://www.bw.edu/undergraduate-admission/guest/transient). Registration & Records forms can be found here: [www.bw.edu/undergraduate-admission/former/](http://www.bw.edu/undergraduate-admission/former/)

## What is the Financial Aid Office policy for granting financial aid to transient students?

- You must be registered at least half-time (at least 6 hours for undergraduate students) on a Baldwin Wallace campus in order to have your eligibility for financial aid as a transient student considered. ***\*Exception: undergraduate students who are eligible for a Pell Grant do not need to be enrolled on a half-time basis at BW in order to receive federal/state financial aid as a transient student. Other exceptions may apply—contact the FAO to request an exception from your financial aid counselor.***
- Graduate students are discouraged from completing the Transient Consortium Agreement Form because they usually are already receiving the maximum amount of federal financial aid for which they are eligible.

## Why would I want to notify the Financial Aid Office (FAO) about my transient student status?

Federal and state grants (Pell Grants, Ohio College Opportunity Grant) are awarded to eligible students based on their enrollment status. It’s possible that, when combined with your BW enrollment, your transient enrollment entitles you to a larger grant from either of these grant programs. Federal Direct Student Loans require at least half-time enrollment (6 undergraduate credits), so some undergraduate students need to complete the transient paperwork for the FAO in order to receive federal student loans.

## What if I’m full-time when my transient coursework is considered by the FAO? Will I receive my BW scholarships?

No. Only federal and state financial aid may be available for transient coursework. BW Grants, scholarships, and other institutional aid are *not* available towards transient coursework.

## What does the FAO need from me to consider my eligibility for financial aid as a transient student?

- A photocopy of your BW **Transient Student Permit Form** (obtained from the BW Registration Office), completed with **all signatures and classes**.
- A photocopy, email, screenshot, etc. of your billing statement or statement of charges from the “visited” institution
- The Financial Aid Consortium Agreement ([www.bw.edu/financial-aid/forms](http://www.bw.edu/financial-aid/forms)), completed by you and signed by you and a financial aid official from the “visited” institution

## Will I need to do anything else?

Your BW financial aid counselor will review the transient documents you submitted. If you are approved, your counselor will let you know. If you are approved, you will need to submit a copy of your grades at the end of the “visited” institution’s term. **This is separate from the official transcript that must be sent to the BW Registration Office.** The FAO doesn’t need an official transcript: we only need to see that you took the coursework. You can submit a copy of your grades, a screenshot of your grades, or anything else that documents your completion in the class. Failure to do so will result in BW having to rescind all aid offered. This means that federal aid will be returned to the federal government, and we may not be able to get it back.

## How will my financial aid be transferred from BW to my visited institution?

BW will award aid for your transient term based on combined costs from BW and the visited institution. All aid will be applied to your student billing account at BW. You are responsible for the bill at your visited institution. If your student billing account at BW indicates a credit balance, you may request a credit balance refund from the BW Cashier’s Office (440-826-2217 or [cashier@bw.edu](mailto:cashier@bw.edu)) and use those funds to pay the visited institution. You are responsible for paying the bill at your visited institution. BW will not be responsible for any financial issues you may have at your visited institution.

**If you have questions regarding transient coursework**, you may want to contact the Registrar’s Office at 440-826-2126. Questions regarding financial aid for transient terms can be directed to the FAO at the contact information listed below.