Federal Work-Study Q&A for Students

Q: What is the Federal Work-Study program?

A: FEDERAL WORK-STUDY is a program that provides part-time jobs to undergraduate and graduate students. The work-study program allows students to earn the money needed to help pay for education-related expenses. Jobs are available both on and off-campus and include community service work.

Q: How do you apply?

A: To apply complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Hunter’s priority filing deadline is 3/15. Make sure to indicate on the application that you are interested in being considered for work-study.

Q: Can international students apply?

A: No, only U.S. citizens and permanent residents may apply for federal work-study.

Q: How will I be notified if I am awarded?

A: An award email will be sent to your Hunter email address. You can also check your award on your CUNYfirst Student Center page by scrolling down to ‘Finances’ and choosing the ‘View Financial Aid’ link.

Q: Do I have to accept the award on CUNYfirst?

A: Yes, you must accept the award by going to your CUNYfirst Student Center page scrolling down to ‘Finances’ and choosing the ‘Accept/Decline Awards’ link.

Q: If I was not awarded a work-study grant, can I still be considered for an award?

A: Yes, send an email from your Hunter email address to fwsjobs@hunter.cuny.edu indicating your interest in the work-study program. Awards are made on a first come first served basis, the remaining need in your CUNY financial aid budget and the availability of funding. Please include your EMPLID in the email.

Q: How do I notify the Office of Financial Aid that I would like to begin working during the summer?

A: Complete the CUNY Supplement Form listed on your CUNYfirst ‘To Do List.’

Q: Can I begin working during the summer if I am not enrolled?
A: Yes, but only if you were enrolled the prior spring semester and are enrolled for the current fall semester for at least six credits.

Q: How many hours can I work per week during the summer if I am not enrolled?

A: You can work twenty-five hours per week if you are not enrolled, and twenty hours per week if you are enrolled.

Q: Can I begin working if I have not submitted a hiring packet?

A: No, you must submit the completed hiring packet before you can begin working.

Q: When can I apply for a job?

A: Emails containing information about applying for a job are sent to continuing students only for summer placement in June. Fall placement emails are sent to all students who have accepted the work-study award on CUNYfirst and are registered for at least six credits in August. Emails are only sent to Hunter College email addresses.