The University of Cincinnati’s Cincinnati Pride Grant (CPG)
Most Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is the Cincinnati Pride Grant?
The Cincinnati Pride Grant, in combination with federal, state and institutional aid, equals the full cost of tuition and a book allowance for those graduates of Cincinnati Public Schools who might not otherwise be able to afford a college education. The grant recognizes UC’s longstanding partnership with the Cincinnati Public School System and reaffirms its commitment to CPS’s students.

Who is eligible for the Cincinnati Pride Grant?
Students who meet all of the following qualifications:

• Graduated from a Cincinnati Public School (CPS) in or after 2002
• Have not attended another post-secondary institution, or must be a direct-transfer from Cincinnati State (enrollment at UC must begin the academic year following Cincinnati State course completion)
• Eligible for the Federal Pell Grant as determined by the FAFSA.
• Offered admission into a degree program at UC (main campus or one of the branch campuses).

*other restrictions may apply

What high schools are a part of the Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS) district for CPG-eligibility?

• Aiken
• Cincinnati Digital Academy
• Clark Montessori
• Gilbert A. Dater
• Hughes S.T.E.M.
• James N. Gamble Montessori
• Oyler
• Riverview East Academy
• Robert A. Taft IT
• School for Creative and Performing Arts (SCPA)
• Shroder Paideia
• Virtual
• Walnut Hills
• Western Hills
• Withrow
• Woodward

What if I attend/graduate from a public school in the Cincinnati geographical area, but it is not in the Cincinnati Public School district?
To be eligible for the Cincinnati Pride Grant, students must be graduates of the schools listed above.

What if I did not spend all of my high school years at a CPS High School, but I graduated from one, am I eligible for the Pride Grant?
Students must attend a CPS high school for at least 1 full academic year immediately preceding graduation to be eligible to receive the CPG.

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What if I attended a CPS High School for a few years, but end up graduating from a non-CPS High School, am I eligible for the Pride Grant?
No, students must be both attendees and graduates of one of the schools listed above.

Is race or ethnicity a factor in determining Cincinnati Pride Grant eligibility?
No, race or ethnicity is not a factor in determining Cincinnati Pride Grant eligibility. Students who meet all of the following qualifications will be eligible for the Cincinnati Pride Grant:
- Graduated from a Cincinnati Public School (CPS) in or after 2002
- Have not attended another post-secondary institution, or must be a direct-transfer from Cincinnati State (enrollment at UC must begin the academic year following Cincinnati State course completion)
- Eligible for the Federal Pell Grant as determined by the FAFSA.
- Offered admission into a degree program at the University of Cincinnati (main campus or one of the branch campuses).

*other restrictions may apply

Is there a GPA requirement to be considered for the CPG as an incoming student?
No, there is not. Eligibility is determined by the previously mentioned factors. However, students must maintain a minimum GPA once they enroll at UC in order to have their CPG renewed from one academic year to the next.

If I complete my UC admissions application later than the priority scholarship deadline of December 1st, does that make me ineligible for the Cincinnati Pride Grant?
No, that does not. Students can still apply for admission after December 1st, and end up receiving the Pride Grant.

Is there a deadline to apply for the Cincinnati Pride Grant?
No. As long as you have completed a FAFSA, and you are Pell-eligible during the Academic Year in which you were accepted into your degree-seeking program at UC, then you are eligible. However, students must be mindful of the risks of missing the scheduled CPG Orientations during early August and early January. Only CPG-eligible students are notified of the CPG Orientation dates.

What if I graduated from high school “X” number of years ago, and I would like to enroll at UC, am I eligible for the Pride Grant?
Please refer to initial eligibility criteria above.

What if I participate in Cincinnati State’s “3 and a Book” Summer Program, earning college credit after I graduate from my CPS high school, before starting at UC, would that make me ineligible for the Pride Grant?
No. As long as your enrollment at UC begins within the required timeframe (see above criteria), then you would still be Pride Grant-eligible.

What if I was selected for federal verification after I completed my FAFSA, and was no longer Pell-eligible after I completed the verification process, am I still eligible for the CPG that I was offered?
No. If students have any outstanding FAFSA application requirements, and they are rendered Pell Grant-ineligible upon completion of that process, then they will not be eligible to receive the CPG for that academic year.

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How much is the Cincinnati Pride Grant worth/what does the Cincinnati Pride Grant cover?
Along with federal & state grants, and institutional aid the Cincinnati Pride Grant is designed to cover the full cost of tuition and the associated tuition-related fees only, while providing a provide a book allowance of $1200 each school year. The CPG is not designed to cover anything other than tuition & fees, including student health insurance, room & board, parking passes, bus passes, etc.

Does the Cincinnati Pride Grant cover the cost of health insurance and room & board?
No. CPG is not designed to cover health insurance, room & board, or anything other than tuition, tuition-related fees, and a book allowance.

How do I apply for the Cincinnati Pride Grant?
Students will need to complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and be admitted as a degree-seeking student to the University of Cincinnati. Interested students should contact our Scholarship and New Student Financial Aid Center at 513-556-2420, or financeaid@uc.edu to learn about next steps.

How will I be notified that I am eligible to receive the Cincinnati Pride Grant?
CPG-eligible students will see an “Estimated Cincinnati Pride Grant” amount on their financial aid award offers, and are notified via email about the next steps, including a mandatory orientation session that is required in order to receive the CPG (this is in addition to the customary New Student Orientation).

When am I notified about the CPG Orientation?
Students that have been offered an Estimated CPG amount will receive notifications regarding the CPG Orientation sessions during the summer prior to the start of classes at UC. CPG Orientations typically occur during late July/early August, at the Blue Ash campus, and the Uptown (Main) Campus.

What happens during the CPG Orientation?
Students receive detailed CPG & UC policy/guideline information, and sign a CPG Acceptance Form.

What does the Acceptance Form entail?
It outlines everything including: student acknowledgement of UC/Student Financial Aid Office/Cincinnati Pride Grant policies, GPA requirements, and academic support services that are available for student usage.

If I was initially offered the CPG, but I will also be receiving Tuition Remission, will I still be able to receive the Pride Grant?
The CPG is designed to cover the tuition costs that your other UC-awarded funding cannot cover. Students would only be able to still receive the Pride Grant along with Tuition Remission if a portion of their tuition charges have not been accounted for. However, most CPG-eligible students that receive Tuition Remission have other grants that would cancel out any possible CPG being awarded.

When/how do I receive the book allowance?
All accepted aid is applied to students’ bills 10 days prior to the start of classes (provided that they are obligation-free). If students have signed up for direct deposit, they will receive the refund a few days before classes begin, which would be a few days after the funds are initially applied to the bill.

If students have charges other than tuition on their bill, then the additional amount designated as the book allowance that is included in the overall CPG applied to the bill is absorbed into those additional charges.

**The book allowance is NOT a separate stipend automatically guaranteed to students in the program.**

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How do I renew the Cincinnati Pride Grant?
Cincinnati Pride Grants are automatically renewed for up to four years/eight semesters (or five years/ten semesters if in a five-year program), provided the recipients adhere to all of the following guidelines:

- Maintain Federal Pell Grant eligibility each year (as determined by completed a FAFSA every year)
- Maintain at least 2.0 G.P.A.
- Register for & complete at least 12 credit hours each term (12=full-time status)
- Maintain at least 2.0 G.P.A.
- Maintain federal guidelines for maintaining satisfactory academic progress
- Maintain continuous, full-time enrollment for all fall and spring semesters until graduation
- Remain in good academic standing within their College/Program, as defined by the program
- Attend at least one CPG Workshop offered by the Learning Assistance Center, and use at least 4 hours of the Learning Center’s services, per semester

How long can I receive the Cincinnati Pride Grant?
The equivalent of 4 years, or 8 semesters for most students (or 5 years, 10 semesters if you are enrolled in an academic program that requires 5 years of enrollment in order to complete the program).

Can the Cincinnati Pride Grant be extended for additional terms?
Students who are in 5 year programs may have CPG extended for up to 2 semesters beyond the standard 4-year eligibility timeframe.
Students who began UC in CAT (Center for Access & Transition, which is no longer in service) may have additional semesters of CPG added, depending on how many terms they were in CAT. The number of terms extended depends on the number of terms in one of the programs or colleges listed above. The CPG is not extended simply because a student changed majors, added minors, or started UC in Exploratory Studies.

Can the Cincinnati Pride Grant be applied to a co-op term?
No, CPG will not be applied to a co-op term. Students on co-op can elect to receive their Pell grants when they are enrolled in full time classes. Students cannot receive CPG if they have exhausted their Pell eligibility during co-op terms.

Can I receive the Cincinnati Pride Grant during the summer term?
Yes, but students can only use CPG two semesters per academic year. So this would only be applicable if it is the first or second term of full-time, in-class enrollment for that given academic year.

Will the Cincinnati Pride Grant be affected by other University of Cincinnati scholarships?
Yes, UC scholarships are counted in the Pride Grant formula as institutional aid. Any additional scholarships received after the initial award could result in the CPG being reduced. Any scholarship/grant awarded by a UC-affiliated office, department, or organization is considered “UC-funding.” Some UC scholarships may be received in addition to CPG if the student is living in UC on-campus housing.

Will the Cincinnati Pride Grant be affected by other scholarships not awarded by the University of Cincinnati?
No, scholarships not awarded by the University of Cincinnati will be awarded in addition to the Cincinnati Pride Grant. However, all scholarships & grants are subject to adjusting via the university policy on maximum scholarships & overall cost-of-attendance budgets. *Some restrictions may apply.

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Can I use the Cincinnati Pride Grant to pay for study abroad?
*Some restrictions may apply. Each student going abroad has their overall account evaluated on a case-by-case basis. In the event that the student is deemed to be eligible, the CPG will be calculated as if you were enrolled in classes at UC.

Can I use the Cincinnati Pride Grant at UC Blue Ash or UC Clermont?
Yes. CPG can be used at UC Blue Ash or UC Clermont. It can be used at all UC branch campuses.

Will the amount of my Cincinnati Pride Grant be increased when I transfer from UC Blue Ash or UC Clermont to the UC Clifton Campus?
Yes. The CPG formula will be recalculated to reflect the change in the cost in tuition, according to your new program.

Can I use the Cincinnati Pride Grant at another college or university other than UC?
No. The Cincinnati Pride Grant can only be used while attending the University of Cincinnati.

Am I eligible for the Cincinnati Pride Grant as a transfer student?
Transfer students from Cincinnati State ARE eligible, provided you are a direct transfer from Cincinnati State (you must be enrolled at UC no later than the academic year following your last term of completion at Cincinnati State), and you must meet the other CPG-eligibility requirements. Transfer students from other institutions are NOT eligible. Only incoming freshman CPS-students and students transferring directly from Cincinnati State are eligible.

Am I eligible for the Cincinnati Pride Grant if I did not attend college but I did go to trade school?
No. Once you attend another institution after high school (other than Cincinnati State), you will be considered a CPG-ineligible transfer student.

If I am enrolled at UC, but decide to take classes at another institution in order to transfer the credits back to UC, will I still be able to receive the CPG?
No. Once you are enrolled as a UC student, you cannot obtain any kind of college credit from any other post-secondary institution.

What if I have reached the lifetime limit in Pell Grant usage, can I still receive the CPG?
No. Students must be Pell-eligible to receive the CPG. If students are Pell-ineligible, then they are CPG-ineligible.

Can I use Cincinnati Pride Grant for graduate school?
No. CPG is only for undergraduate students. The CPG is contingent on Pell-Grant eligibility, which is only available to undergraduate students obtaining their first bachelor’s degree. Once students have obtained a bachelor’s degree, they are no longer Pell-eligible, and thus no longer CPG-eligible.

Am I eligible for the Cincinnati Pride Grant if I graduated from a CPS school several years ago but did not attend college anywhere?
Yes, as long as you graduated after 2002 and later, and meet all other CPG requirements. Students must have ZERO college credits between high school graduation and beginning at UC, and must be Pell-eligible during the academic year that they choose to enroll at UC.

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I wasn’t eligible for the Cincinnati Pride Grant as a freshman because I wasn’t eligible for the Federal Pell grant. Now that I am an upperclassman and Pell eligible, am I eligible for the Cincinnati Pride Grant?

No, you must be Pell-eligible/CPG-eligible as an incoming freshman in order to receive CPG.

My Cincinnati Pride Grant was placed on “hold” / “Pride Warning” because my G.P.A. dropped below 2.0 or I passed/completed fewer than 12 credit hours. How do I get the Cincinnati Pride Grant back?

You must meet with the CPG Advising Staff within the Learning Assistance Center (LAC) to discuss your CPG eligibility if you are placed on Pride Warning. Each student has their situation evaluated on a case-by-case basis, and may have to adhere to an academic success plan prior to having the CPG restored.

How does semester conversion affect my Cincinnati Pride Grant eligibility?

Semester conversion should not affect your CPG eligibility. Three quarters are equal to two semesters. If there are any issues we will evaluate them on a case-by-case basis.

What is Pride Warning?

Students who earn less than a 2.0 G.P.A. or pass less than 12 credit hours may be placed on Pride Warning. Students on Pride Warning will have their CPG place on “hold” the following term, which could result in an outstanding balance and/or late payment fees. They may also need to purchase their books on their own as the amount that serves as the book allowance will be on “hold” as well. Students in this situation will need to meet with CPG Staff in the Learning Assistance Center (LAC) to discuss their CPG eligibility. Students on Pride Warning may be required to devise an academic success plan that may include academic coaching, peer mentoring, study skills courses, and tutoring sessions to have their CPG reinstated. Pride Warning students may also be required to pass 12 credit hours with a 2.0 before their CPG is reinstated. The reinstatement terms are at the discretion of CPG Staff in the LAC, and will differ from student to student.

Students that need to meet with the LAC must schedule an appointment directly through their office, not Student Financial Aid.

If I fail one of the three components of Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), will I be able to receive the CPG?

No. Federal guidelines prohibit students from receiving any kind of federal aid while failing one of the three SAP components. The Pell Grant is a form of federal aid, and when students are Pell-ineligible, they are Cincinnati Pride Grant-ineligible. Students must be passing SAP in order to receive the CPG.

How do I determine how much my Cincinnati Pride Grant will be?

You can determine how much your CPG will be by using the CPG formula. The CPG formula is: (Tuition & Fees + Book Allowance) – (Federal Grants + State Grants + Institutional Aid) = Cincinnati Pride Grant (that will appear on award).

*Student Health Insurance, Room & Board charges, Metro passes, Parking Passes & etc. are not accounted for in calculating the Cincinnati Pride Grant amount awarded to students, as these non-tuition-related costs are not covered.

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