

## Undergraduate FA Awarding Policy Change Memo for Campus Partners

### Overview

Beginning with the Fall 2016 term the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid (OSFA) will be implementing changes to our undergraduate financial aid awarding policy. The new policy will allow for a student's financial aid award to be increased or decreased throughout the term based on changes in enrollment. This change will better align UA's process with the majority of other large public institutions across the country and benefit UA Online students who frequently add units after the start of the term.

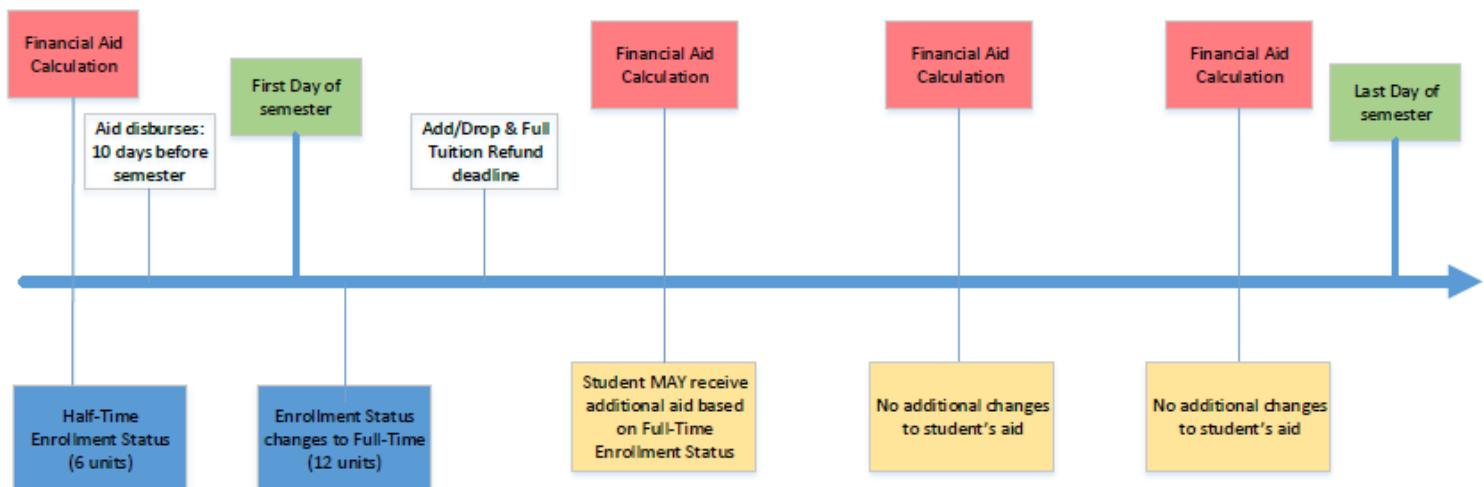
Previously, students' financial aid was awarded based on their initial enrollment status (full time, half time, or less than half time). Aid was awarded at the beginning of the term and did not change even if units were added or dropped.

Starting in Fall 2016 there will be multiple financial aid recalculation dates throughout Fall and Spring and we are calling this new model "Recalculation Dates". Financial Aid Recalculation Dates will benefit undergraduate students who add units later in the term, particularly students participating in 5-week or 7.5week sessions (online or in person). Students who drop units (below full time status) before the last day to drop without a W will also have their financial aid award re-evaluated. This change will also mean that a student who is not enrolled full time at the first disbursement will be awarded at the half time or less than half time level.

Recalculation Dates, Example A:

- Student A registers for 6 units for the fall term and receives financial aid based on half time status.
- After receiving their initial financial aid award, Student A decides to add 6 more units.
- Financial Aid will be re-evaluated at full time status and the student may be able to receive additional funding.

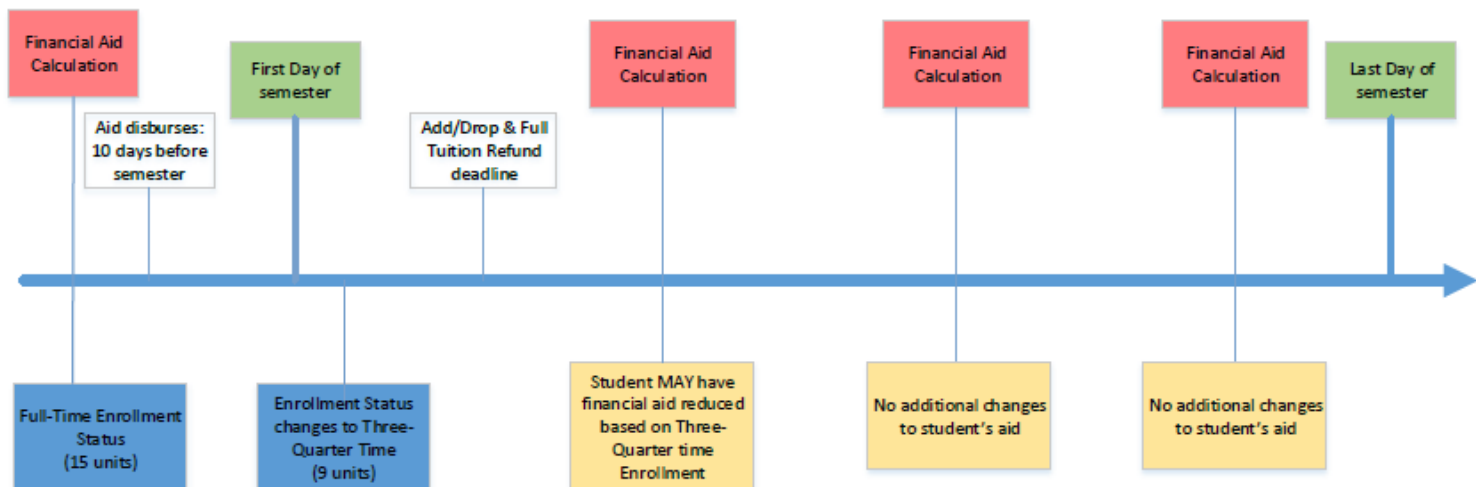
### Student A Adding Units with Recalculation Dates



## Recalculation Dates, Example B:

- Student B registers for 15 units for the fall term and receives financial aid based on full time status.
- After receiving their initial financial aid award, Student B drops 6 units.
- Financial Aid will be re-evaluated at half time status and the student may have financial aid reduced and be required to pay back funds.

### Student B Dropping Units with Recalculation Dates



#### Implementation:

Prior to and throughout the semester at key dates, OSFA will evaluate undergraduate students' changes in enrollment and adjust their financial aid awards, accordingly. OSFA will notify the student via email with a new award letter if an adjustment is required.

This change to our undergraduate financial aid awarding policy will benefit many students. However, during this transition period please be aware that

- This process is a change to the financial aid awarding model that our current undergraduate students have experienced. OSFA anticipates an increased volume in student phone, email and in-person contacts which may result in unintended service delays.
- Some students who drop courses will see a reduction in their financial aid awards and may be required to pay back funds.

Our office will be offering presentations beginning in July 2016 for any campus partners who would like to know more about this process and how they can help answer student questions. We will email continuing UA students information about how their aid will be based on their enrollment and could be adjusted throughout the semester if their enrollment changes.

If you have questions regarding this new undergraduate awarding policy or would like to request a presentation, please email Rebekah Salcedo at [rsalcedo@email.arizona.edu](mailto:rsalcedo@email.arizona.edu).

We appreciate your assistance in helping us communicate with students.