



FLETCHER TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Policy # 2.300

Financial Aid Fraud

Authority: Enrollment Services

Effective Date: 09/17/2019

Last Revision: 09/17/2019

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to establish what constitutes financial aid fraud and also how the College will report fraud.

POLICY STATEMENT:

As stewards of Title IV funds, Fletcher Technical Community College is obligated to assure that processes are developed to protect against fraud by either applicants or staff. All financial aid staff are responsible for detecting and reporting fraud. If, in the financial aid administrator's judgment, the applicant and their family have provided a fraudulent application or documentation, it must be reported immediately to a supervisor.

In the context of the financial aid office, fraud is the willful misrepresentation or falsification of information for the purpose of securing financial aid that the individual is not eligible for or not eligible to the extent received. Title IV fraud can take many forms, including but not limited to the following:

1. Falsified documents or forged signatures on an application, verification documents, or loan promissory notes
2. False statements of income
3. False statements of citizenship
4. Use of false or fictitious names or aliases, addresses, or SSNs, including the deliberate use of multiple SSNs
5. False claims of independent status
6. Patterns of misreported information from one year to the next

Response to Financial Aid Fraud

If a financial aid officer suspects or determines intentional misrepresentation of facts, false statements, or alteration of documents which resulted or could result in the awarding or disbursement of funds for which the student is not eligible, the information shall be reported to the Director of Financial Aid for further review and possible disciplinary action. If the Director determines or suspects fraud, all information will be forwarded to the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS), Louisiana Legislative Auditor (LLA), the Office of Inspector General of the Department of Education, and/or the local law enforcement agency. Note: The regulations require only that the College refer the suspected case for investigation, not that we reach a firm conclusion about the propriety of the conduct.

POLICY/PROCEDURE:

The Financial Aid Office must identify and resolve discrepancies in the information received from different sources with respect to a student's application for Title IV aid. These items include, but are not limited to:

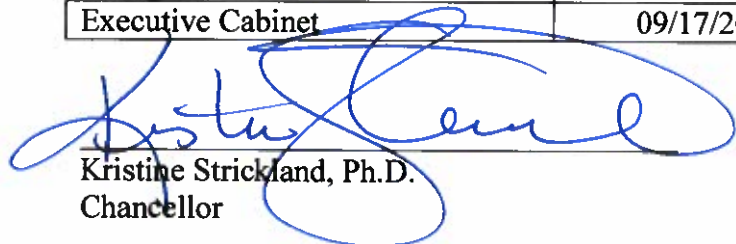
- Student aid applications
- Need analysis documents (e.g., Institutional Student Information Records (ISIRs) and Student Aid Reports (SARs))
- Federal income tax returns
- Documents and information related to a student's citizenship
- School credentials (e.g., high school diploma)
- Documentation of the student's Social Security Number (SSN)
- Compliance with the Selective Service registration requirement and other factors related to students' eligibility for Title IV funds

Inspector General's Hotline: 1-800-MIS-USED
<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oig/hotline.html>
Office of Inspector General
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-1510

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APPROVAL:

Reviewing Council/Entity	Approval Date
College Council	09/16/2019
Executive Cabinet	09/17/2019


Kristine Strickland, Ph.D.
Chancellor

4/29/21
Date