Policy Statement

Title: Refunds  Number: P5.23

Approved by:  Effective Date: 04/1983
Board Action  Last Review Date: 12/2021

Last Revision Date: 12/2021

Persons/Departments Affected:
Students, Bursar’s Office/Student Accounts, Residence Life, Student Affairs, Dining Services

Responsible Department:
Bursar’s Office/Student Accounts

Policy:

I. If for any reason a student finds it necessary to reduce his or her net credit load through termination or dropping credits, tuition, tuition-related fees, housing costs, and dining plan charges will be refunded to the appropriate party (i.e., agency, lending institution, and/or the student) consistent with federal and state regulations and this policy.

A. Refunds of tuition and tuition-related fees will be calculated according to the following schedule:

1. Up to and including the first day of classes – all tuition and tuition-related fees will be credited to the student’s account.

2. Second day through the end of the third week of the semester (or the 20% point, whichever is earlier) – the Institution will retain 30% of tuition and tuition-related fees.

3. After the third week of the semester (or the 20% point, whichever is earlier) – the Institution will retain 100% of tuition and tuition-related fees.

B. Students may drop a class without financial penalty on the day of the first class meeting. In the case of an evening class, a student may drop the course the following day without penalty. All other course drops will follow the above-referenced schedule.
C. Tuition and tuition-related fee adjustments will be calculated based upon the starting dates for each individual class. For nontraditional courses, the 20% point is the date by which 20% of instructional hours have elapsed.

D. In order to be treated in accordance with this refund policy, the student must have completed the formal termination or drop procedures as outlined in **Policy IV 4.31 – Terminations, Drops and Withdrawals**.

E. Students terminated from course(s) and assigned an “F” or “T” grade due to academic dishonesty, academic misconduct, or behavioral misconduct will not be eligible for any fee adjustments during the first three weeks or 20% of the term.

F. A student who pays on-campus housing fees and then decides to withdraw as a Penn College student will receive a refund as specified in the housing contract.

G. A student who pays for a dining plan and then decides to withdraw as a Penn College student will receive a refund as specified in the dining plan enrollment form.

H. Refunds for textbooks and course materials, tools and supplies, purchased at the College Store will be processed in accordance with guidelines established by the College Store.

II. Refunds

A. After fee adjustments have been recorded, any credit balance in the student’s account will be distributed according to the following schedule:

1. Financial aid awards, including Federal Direct loans will be adjusted to comply with state and federal regulations.

2. Monies paid through third-party contractual agreements will be refunded to the granting agency.

B. Remaining balances, if any, will be issued electronically.

III. Appeals

A. Students who believe they are entitled to an exception to this policy must appeal to the chief student affairs officer in writing. The student must do this; parents, guardians or other family members may not appeal on the behalf of the student except in unusual circumstances where the student is unable to represent himself/herself.
B. Any exceptions granted may reduce fees on a prorated basis.

IV. Outstanding Balances
Should a student’s account show an amount due to Pennsylvania College of Technology after all adjustments have been made, the student will remain responsible for payment in order to satisfy his or her financial obligation. The College reserves the right to use outside collection agencies for outstanding financial obligations not paid. If an account is turned over to a collection agency, the student will be responsible for all collection costs and attorney fees, in addition to the principal and late fees.

Revision History:
Date 12/2021  Update for current nomenclature and clarified College Store refunds
Date: 09/2016  Updated language for federal direct loans
Date: 12/2012  Updated language and added collection agency clarification
Date: 03/2008  Update to reflect mandatory electronic transactions for Refunds