

OVERVIEW: TEXAS COLLEGE WORK STUDY



MAY 2014

The 83rd Texas Legislature increased funding for the Texas Work Study Program by 6 percent, for a total of \$18 million for the 2014-2015 biennium. The Work Study Mentorship program will be allocated \$5 million for the biennium from this appropriation.

A student's work-study wage is not prescribed by a standard methodology. Institutions may award work-study funds up to a student's cost of attendance.

BACKGROUND

The Texas College Work-Study Program was created in 1989 by the 71st Texas Legislature to provide financially needy students enrolled at Texas public and private institutions with part-time jobs funded by the state and the employer (Texas Education Code, §56.071).

In 2005, the Texas Legislature added the Work-Study Student Mentorship Program that allows universities and community colleges to establish work-study student mentorship programs. The program allows students who are enrolled in their junior or senior year, and who meet the eligibility requirements of the Texas College Work-Study Program, to mentor students who are on academic probation at the institution.

Institutions also receive funds for the Federal Work-Study Program, which varies slightly from the Texas program.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for the Texas College Work-Study Program students must:

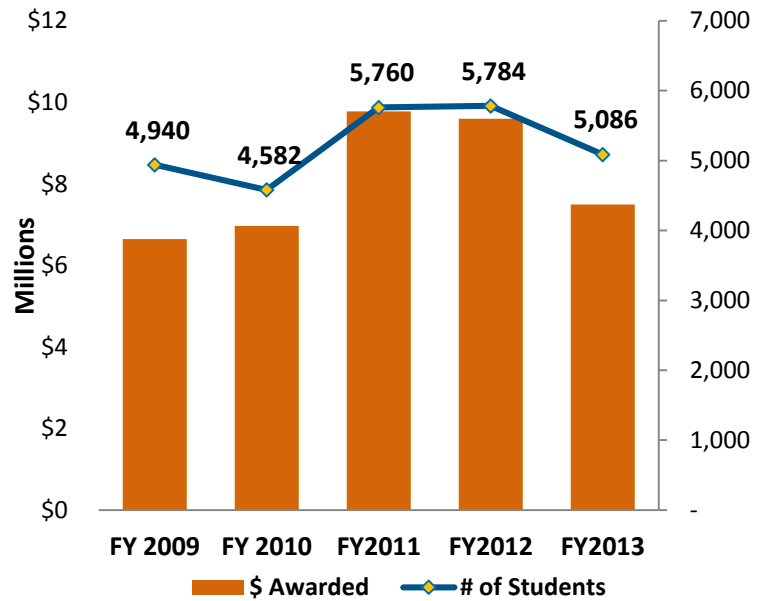
- ✓ Show financial need (cost of attendance less family contribution is greater than zero)
- ✓ Be a Texas resident
- ✓ Enroll for at least half-time or six semester credit hours
- ✓ Register for the Selective Service or be exempt from this requirement
- ✓ Not receive an athletic scholarship
- ✓ Not enroll in a seminary or other program leading to ordination or licensure to preach for a religious sect or to be a member of a religious order

AWARD AMOUNT

The student's work-study wage is not prescribed by a standard methodology. In FY 2013, approximately \$7.5 million (including the business match) was earned by more than 5,000 students through the Texas College Work-Study Program, including the Mentorship Program. Institutions may award work-study funds up to a student's cost of attendance. Therefore, the amount of funding awarded per student will vary across institutions.

Currently, most work-study jobs are on campus and not directly relevant to a student's career choice. The increase in funding for the Texas College Work-Study Program remains a priority for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. Specifically, the Coordinating Board encourages the development of a work-study program that supports institutional collaboration with businesses to offer students off-campus, career relevant jobs with the potential to lead to future employment.

Texas College Work-Study & Work-Study Mentorship Programs - Number of Recipients & Awards FY 2009-FY 2013



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