



## Financial Aid Information for Educator Preparation Institute (EPI) Students

Fully admitted EPI students may be eligible for federal financial aid, including the Pell Grant and Stafford Loans! (*Full EPI admission requires a passing score on the subject area exam or an “eligible” Statement Of Eligibility from the Florida Department of Education.*)

Applying for federal financial aid starts with submitting a 2016-2017 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). When completing your FAFSA, select Gulf Coast State College (school code **001490**) and be sure to answer the following question as indicated:

Question: “30. What degree or certificate will you be working on when you begin the 2016-2017 school year?”

Answer: “Teaching credential (nondegree program)”

The Financial Aid office will receive your FAFSA around one to two business days after you submit. If further information is necessary then you’ll receive an email in your official GCSC email inbox (...@my.gulfcoast.edu). Requirements will also be posted on your Lighthouse account. Please visit <https://www.gulfcoast.edu/tuition-aid/financial-aid/documents-forms/misc/viewing-financial-aid-eligibility-requirements.pdf> for information on how to access your financial aid requirements in Lighthouse.

If you are interested in borrowing a federal student loan then please also complete the three steps detailed online at <http://www.gulfcoast.edu/tuition-aid/financial-aid/loans> in the “Federal Direct Loan Procedures” section.

Some forms of federal financial aid like Direct Loans require students to register for least six credit hours a semester. Don’t hesitate to contact the Financial Aid office in order to discuss your program of study so you can ensure that you meet enrollment requirements each semester.

GCSC has a payment plan too, which requires at least a 20% down payment. If you are interested in this option then please contact the Financial Aid office at (850) 872-3845 or [FA@gulfcoast.edu](mailto:FA@gulfcoast.edu).

Congratulations and we look forward to serving you!

- GCSC Financial Aid  
09/24/2016