

How can I get Federal Work Study Program (FWS) funds?

You must apply for Financial Aid by completing the FAFSA. Federal Work Study Program (FWS) is a federally-funded, need-based program.

I applied for Financial Aid using FAFSA and I did not get FWS. Why?

The money goes very fast, so apply early in January for the following academic year. Awards are need based, and are made to students who marked on the FAFSA that they are interested in work study. To the extent possible, awards are made on a first-come, first-serve basis.

What if someone does not use their FWS award, can it be given to someone else?

Awards are made with the understanding that some students may not attend or accept their awards, so even if some students do not use their awards, funds may not be available to re-award.

Are there advantages to participating in FWS?

YES! The dollars you earn to help meet your college expenses will not be counted as income for your financial aid eligibility determination next year. You will get on-the-job experience that will give you an edge in the job market after graduation. Also, working with accomplished professionals in your field of choice will provide you with valuable references for the future.

What types of on-campus jobs are available under FWS?

Anything from clerical work to computer programming. Some jobs are "pre-professional" in nature - good experience for learning the basics of a career. Some are related to recreational pursuits, some related to business, science, or other career fields.

Are all jobs on Campus?

NO, there are off-campus FWS/Community Service Jobs with Community Service Agencies, ie: Sarah's Refuge, Duplin County HeadStart, and tutors at area elementary schools.

Can I work two FWS jobs?

NO.

How many hours can I work?

Work hours are arranged between you and your employer. Usually it takes 10 - 12 hours a week to earn your award amount for a semester. **YOU SHOULD NOT WORK OVER YOUR AWARD AMOUNT, WHICH IS YOUR FWS EARNINGS LIMIT.** Work hours **CANNOT** interfere with your class hours. You cannot work during your scheduled class time. If you have a class that has been canceled for a day and you want to work you **MUST** give your employer and the JSCC Office of Financial Aid Federal Work Study office a copy of a letter from your professor noting the cancellation.

James Sprunt Community College

Federal Work-Study FAQs

How will I be paid and what are the FWS hourly salaries?

You will receive a monthly paycheck that will be picked up at the business office the last day of the month. The salary range for FWS positions is \$8.12 - \$10.15 per hour; depending on if your assigned job is on-campus or off-campus.

How much will I earn on each paycheck?

Take the number of hours you and your employing department set for you to work, times your hourly rate. This will give you your GROSS pay.

Is FWS money taxable?

YES, it is taxable income and you will receive a W-2 at the end of the year to file your taxes. Your W-2 will be available on Web Advisor in January. All questions concerning taxes being withheld from your paycheck must be directed to the IRS.

Should I show FWS earnings on my Financial Aid Application for the following year?

Yes, include earnings in the Adjusted Gross Income and indicate the work study earnings amount also the applicable question for Question 43-C on the FAFSA under Additional Financial Information (Student section).

Is a FWS job hard to get?

No! If you have trouble locating a job after reviewing the online job listing, contact the Office of Financial Aid and we will assist you in finding an open position.

Do I need to apply for FWS every year in order to receive it?

Yes, you must apply for Financial Aid every year and remember apply early, in January.

Can you use FWS money to pay tuition?

NO. Funds are not awarded in advance. You must work to earn the award and you won't receive your first paycheck until after the deadline for paying tuition.

Do you have FWS in the Summer?

Only if funds are available. Check with the Office of Financial Aid in March to see if Work Study is available for the Summer term.