



Federal Work-Study Hiring Procedures

Updated 10/31/22

This document is designed to provide department supervisors information required to hire a student on the federal work-study program, which includes federal community service work-study. In order to hire a federal work-study student, you need to know four things:

1. Do you have federal work-study funds in your departmental budget?

Federal work-study and federal work-study community service funds are received from the federal government and budgeted to departments through the UCA budget process. You will be able to see these funds as a line item on your budget. If federal work-study funds do not already exist in your budget or you would like to request additional funds, please speak with your departmental director, Chair, Dean or Vice President.

Example

Query Results

Account	Account Title	FY21/PD14 Accounted Budget	FY21/PD14 Year to Date	FY21/PD14 Encumbrances	FY21/PD14 Reservations	FY21/PD14 Commitments	FY21/PD14 Available Balance
650200	Work Study Student Help	6000.00	537.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,462.50

2. Is the student you want to hire eligible to work for you on federal work-study?

The Office of Student Financial Aid determines if the student is eligible to work and earn federal work-study funds. In order to determine eligibility, the student must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and submit all requested supporting documents to the Financial Aid Office. The FAFSA must be completed each academic year to determine eligibility for that year.

Because it is based on “need” some students are eligible for federal work study and some are not. For those that are eligible, the amount they are eligible to work and earn varies depending upon their calculated “need”. If you are trying to fill a federal work study position, you will need to know if the student you would like to hire is eligible. You have options to make that determination:

- You may ask the student to confirm their federal work-study eligibility by logging on to their myUCA Financial Aid Account. If eligibility has not already been determined, the student may also contact the Financial Aid Office and ask to speak with a counselor. Students working on federal work-study must be enrolled in the term in which they are working.
- You may email or phone the financial aid office to inquire.

3. What is the hiring process?

Job Descriptions: (Citation FSA HB March 2021)

Job descriptions for all FWS positions should be a part of the control procedures included in your school’s policies and procedures manual. A written job description will help you ensure that the position is one that qualifies under the FWS program regulations. In addition, a written job description provides students



Federal Work-Study Hiring Procedures

Updated 10/31/22

with the information they need to determine whether they qualify for the job, whether the job is related to their educational or career objectives, and whether the job is of interest to them. Moreover, by considering the rates of pay applicable to the position, the qualifications for each pay level, and the qualifications of a student applicant, a financial aid administrator can determine the hours a student will need to work in order to earn the funds specified in the student's FWS award. Finally, a written job description establishes a record to which all parties can refer. In addition, a written job description can help avoid disagreements and adjudication and provide a reference in such cases.

If a student is employed with an agency or organization that provides community services, the school should, as with any other FWS position, have a job description that includes the job duties and responsibilities. Schools should use the job description to verify that the job meets the definition of community services in the FWS regulations (see the discussion under *Community Service Jobs* later in this chapter). In addition, for students performing reading tutoring or family literacy activities, the job description should support those jobs.

Each FWS position should have a job description that includes the:

- name of the position;
- classification of the position (e.g., reading tutor 1, reading tutor 2, laboratory assistant, library technician 1 or 2, etc.);
- name and address of the student's employer (the school, public agency, nonprofit organization, etc.);
- department or office in which the student will be employed;
- location where the student will perform his/her duties;
- name of the student's supervisor;
- purpose or role of the position within the organization;
- duties and responsibilities associated with the position and how they relate to the purpose or role;
- rates of pay for the position (cross-referenced to the wage rates appearing in the school's policies and procedures manual);
- general qualifications for the position and the specific qualifications for the various levels or rates of pay associated with the position;
- the length of the student's employment (beginning and ending dates);
- procedures for determining a student's rate of pay when a position has multiple rates; and
- evaluation procedures and schedules.

Recruiting:

Departments are expected to advertise their vacant positions through UCA Human Resources Applicant Tracking portal on myUCA as you would any other position. This allows students looking for a job to identify the departments that have openings. For more information regarding the HR Applicant Tracking go to: <https://uca.edu/hr/files/2022/06/student-instructions-3-1-22-1.pdf>



Federal Work-Study Hiring Procedures

Updated 10/31/22

- As you create the posting, you will notice there is a question where the student applicant is asked if they qualify for federal work study funds. This will help you identify the correct source of funding when processing the hiring paperwork.
- Departments can also list certain questions on the application within PeopleAdmin to help ascertain necessary qualifications for student employees.
- Your department will be notified around June 30 of your student employment allocation for the next fiscal year.

Hiring Cycle and Paper Flow:

Once you identify a student to hire, you will need to follow procedures available on that will give you details on how to complete the Student Work Authorization Form:

<https://uca.edu/hr/files/2022/04/New-Student-workflow-12-2021.pdf>

Student Work Authorization Form:

Once you complete the student hiring form, your student employee should not begin work until you receive an email from HR stating they are cleared to begin work in your office. The subject of the email will be either "Completed Student Hiring Form" or "SW Hiring Process is Complete."

<https://uca.edu/hr/files/2020/12/Final-Approval-for-Students-in-PeopleAdmin.pdf>

For those student employees who are hired with federal work study funds, a report is currently being created that will allow you to keep track of how much money your student employee has remaining. Once a student uses all of their allocated federal work study funds, your department may choose to rehire them with institutional funds. A student hiring form must be completed for this change.

4. How is the student paid?

Wage per hour:

It is up to the department supervisor as to the hourly rate of pay. All students must be paid at least minimum wage, currently \$11.00 as of January 1, 2021.

Time Sheets:

Students are required to submit time sheets each pay period by using Self-Service at <http://my.uca.edu>. Each department is then required to have at least one time sheet approver.

After the student enters the time sheet information the approver must validate the hours submitted. You can approve student time entry through my.UCA Self-Service. Self-Service is an Internet based program that is very user friendly. The following link is a set of instructions for Timekeepers to help you get started:

<https://uca.edu/hr/payroll/> located underneath the Instructions and Training Section.

If you have any additional questions concerning the processing of time sheet you may contact the Human Resources department at (501) 450-3181.



Federal Work-Study Hiring Procedures

Updated 10/31/22

When to Enter Hours Worked

Hours worked should be entered on a daily basis. This ensures time is kept accurately and timely.

Recording Hours Worked On Time Sheets:

Students must complete their time sheet each day they work using my.UCA Self-Service. They should sign in and out in the correct day.

Time is recorded by the quarter hour with every 15 minute interval being counted as follows:

- 1 to 7 minutes =:00 (top of current hour)
- 8 to 22 minutes =:15
- 23 to 37 minutes =:30
- 38 to 52 minutes =:45
- 53 to 59 minutes =:00 (top of next hour)

Example: A student working from 1:00 - 4:15 should record for the day, a total of 3.25 hours. If total time worked is 6 hours and 20 minutes, it should be recorded as 6.25. If the total time worked is 8 hours and 31 minutes, it should be recorded as 8.50. If the total time worked is 6 hours and 45 minutes, it should be recorded as 6.75. The increments for the quarter hour system are .25, .50, .75, and 1.00. If you have any questions about completing the time sheet contact the payroll office.

It is the supervisor's responsibility to ensure students are not working during class, to monitor and review time sheets for accuracy, completion and timely submission to the Payroll office and for not allowing students to working more than 40 hours within UCAs pay week. (Saturday – Friday)

*Please note that the 20 hour rule (while enrolled) for International Students is still in place. This is a federal law and not complying may result in the student losing their visa status.

Before time sheets are submitted to the Payroll Office they should be reviewed for the following:

- Department Listed on time sheet is correct
- AM/PM is correct for each hour entered
- Shift has not been changed (should always be 1)
- Hours are entered on the correct Federal line. All hours should be listed in the Federal work-study Funds unless your department has been approved for Community Federal work-study.

Payroll Deadlines

Electronic time sheets must be submitted to the departments' timekeeper by the end of day on the 1st and 16th of each month.

Pay Check Schedule

There are two pay cycles for student employees

- The 1st – 15th of the month. Paid on the last business day of the month. For example, hours worked from 1/01/20xx to 1/15/20xx are paid on 1/31/20xx
- The 16th – last business day of the month. Paid on the 15th of the following month. For example, hours worked from 1/16/20xx to 1/31/20xx are paid on 2/15/20xx.



Federal Work-Study Hiring Procedures

Updated 10/31/22

Record Keeping:

Supervisors must keep certain records on file in their office for auditing purposes. Records kept on file must include a copy of the following: Student Application for Campus Employment, all Student Work Authorization Forms, the departments Work-study Job Description, guidelines set up for the student worker that he/she fully understand and a copy of all signed paper time sheets. All documents should be kept at least three years.

It is advised that the supervisor keep a monthly ledger of the hours worked and the dollar amount used by each student. This can help prevent over working the student's authorized amount.

Federal Work Study Payroll Report:

The hiring supervisor will receive a report by email called the Federal Work Study Payroll Report. The report will list all of the student workers assigned to your department under the Federal Work Study Program. The report will include your departmental budget, charges and remaining budget for your department. In addition, you will see the students assigned to your department and the amount they are authorized to earn and the amount earned through the last payroll period.

The purpose of this report is to be used as a tool to help you monitor your departmental FWS budget and to ensure your student workers do not exceed the amounts they are authorized to earn for each pay period. You can expect to receive the report shortly after the end of each pay period.

Canceling or Ending a Student's Employment:

To terminate the employment of a student before then end of the semester for any reason such as they stopped working and/or the student will not be returning for a semester in which you had previously hired you must submit the termination through Docusign.

Student worker assignments are automatically ended

- On the end date noted on the student work authorization form.
- At the end of the Fall semester unless department enters dollar amount into Spring line on the student worker authorization form.
- At the end of Spring and Summer semester.

**If your student will continue working from Spring semester into Summer semester (Summer to Fall) then a new student worker authorization is required through Docusign.

Change in Student Authorization

- Increase in semester award: For Federal work-study, the hiring department may request an increase in a semester award by sending an email to the Financial Aid Office and Human Resources. If an increase may be made, an email will be sent from the Financial Aid Office to the Department and Human Resources indicating the approval.
- Increase/Decrease in wage rate per hour: For both Federal and Institutional Work-study, the department must submit the update through Docusign. For details go to: <https://uca.edu/hr/student-workers/>

The following people can assist you with questions concerning a student's eligibility for Federal work-study (650200) and Federal Community Service Work (650205).



Federal Work-Study Hiring Procedures

Updated 10/31/22

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For Student Employees:

- Student employees may only hold one on-campus position unless they are needed to fill a special role. These exceptions can be approved by your area's Vice President. The Vice President's written approval should be attached to the hiring documents.
- Student employees may not work more than 20 hours in a week during the Fall and Spring semesters.

REMEMBER THESE TWO MOST CRITICAL ISSUES:

1. Do not allow a student to begin working until Human Resources notifies you the student is authorized.
2. Monitor your budget. Do not allow the student to work more than their authorization.