

# Pell Grant Experiment



Houston Community College was selected by the U.S Department of Education to participate in two Pell Grant Experiments that will enable some previously ineligible students to receive financial aid assistance.

The purpose of the Pell Grant Experiment is to determine the impact of expansions to the Pell Grant eligibility criteria for students enrolling in occupational training. In addition, to provide policy officials with information on the effects of expanding Pell Grant access on educational attainment, student debt, employment, and earnings.

## Experiment 1

Temporarily expands Pell Grant eligibility to some students with a bachelor's degree to receive not more than one full scheduled Pell Grant award, over no more than two years, for enrollment in a vocational/career program of one year or less.

## Experiment 2

Temporarily expands Pell Grant eligibility to some students who are enrolled in an approved vocational program of minimum eight weeks in length and 150 clock hours of instructional time.

## Eligible Programs

- Accelerated Teacher Certification (*Experiment 1 only*)
- Air Conditioning & Refrigeration
- Commercial Truck Driving-12 Week Program
- Welding

## Important Information

- The Pell Grant Experiment participants will be randomly selected. ***Not everyone who applies will receive a Pell Grant.***
- Pell Grants will be randomly assigned once the student completes the participation process.
- A follow up survey must be completed at the end of the program.

## Participation Process

**Step 1** Complete HCC Continuing Education Admission application at [www.hccs.edu](http://www.hccs.edu)

**Step 2** Apply for a Federal Student Aid FSA ID at <https://fsaid.ed.gov>

If you are an independent, only you will need a FSA ID. If you are a dependent, you and one of your parents/guardians will also need to apply for a FSA ID.

**Step 3** Complete the FAFSA application at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

To complete the FAFSA application, your current 1040 income tax information is required.

In order for Financial Aid to view your application, please enter the HCC School Code: 010422

**Step 4** Set up a meeting with your CE Certificate program representative.

Bring a copy of your Student Aid Report (SAR) to the Orientation.

**Step 5** Send an e-mail with your name, student ID and CE program to the Financial Aid Department at [finaid.ce@hccs.edu](mailto:finaid.ce@hccs.edu)

**Step 6** Eligibility status requirements will be determined in approximately 7-10 business days after all required application documentation is received.

Do not register for classes unless Pell Grant Experiment is approved.

An award notification will be sent via email.

**Step 7** Once award notification is received, coordinate start date with CE Staff or Program Manager in order to register for classes.

Funds are awarded to eligible applicants on a first-come, first-served basis while funds are available. For more information visit: [hccs.edu/ce](http://hccs.edu/ce), call **713.718.8905** or email [finaid.ce@hccs.edu](mailto:finaid.ce@hccs.edu).



# Pell Grant Experiment Student Participation Agreement

## Student Contact Information

(Please Print)

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First: \_\_\_\_\_ MI: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apartment/Unit #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Student ID #: \_\_\_\_\_ Program of Study: \_\_\_\_\_

## Parent Contact Information

*If you are under 18 years of age, please provide parental information.*

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First: \_\_\_\_\_ MI: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apartment/Unit #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## Consent

I understand and agree to the following as indicated by my initials after each statement that applies to me:

1. This is an experiment being conducted by the U.S. Department of Education and contracted with Social Policy Research (SPR) to administer, gather, and track participant information. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Even though I may meet the minimum criteria, I may not be randomly selected by the Department of Education as a Pell Grant recipient. \_\_\_\_\_
3. If selected, I must meet all other federal eligibility criteria (i.e.; meet satisfactory academic progress requirements; not in default; not in overpayment; any other requirement by Federal Student Aid). \_\_\_\_\_
4. I am unemployed or underemployed. \_\_\_\_\_
5. I will be a part of the data-related follow-up whether or not I am selected to be part of the experiment. \_\_\_\_\_
6. I understand that my student admissions, financial aid, graduation and job placement information may be a part of the related follow up. \_\_\_\_\_
7. I authorize Houston Community College to release student academic information as part of the experiment. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Participation is voluntary and not a requirement for enrollment in the program of study. \_\_\_\_\_
9. Houston Community College is not responsible for selecting the Pell Grant recipients. \_\_\_\_\_
10. If I change my program of study, I will lose eligibility to receive the Pell Grant. In addition, if I change to another eligible program, I must submit a new Consent form for evaluation. \_\_\_\_\_
11. I will be required to setup a payment plan before Pell Experiment is posted to my account; if my award does not cover full tuition. \_\_\_\_\_
12. I understand that I cannot receive a Pell Experiment and Academic Pell Grant during the same school year. \_\_\_\_\_

Please print, sign, and submit to Anamaria A. Lopez at 3601 Fannin St, Houston, TX 77004. You may fax the completed form to 713.718.8174 or scan/email to [finaid.ce@hccs.edu](mailto:finaid.ce@hccs.edu).

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### For Official Use Only

Experiment 1  Experiment 2  Eligible for Both Experiments  Study ID: \_\_\_\_\_  
 FAFSA completed:  Yes  No Verification completed:  Yes  No  Not Specified Pell EFC: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date Entered into Random Assignment System (RAS): \_\_\_\_\_ RAS Notification by Letter  Email   
 Random Assignment:  Treatment Group (Offer Pell)  Control Group (Do Not Offer Pell)  Not Eligible