



Radford University
Two-Year College Transfer Grant Update
May 1, 2024

Requirement:

Per Item 142 paragraph F.4.d of the 2023 Special Session Amendments to the Appropriation Act, Radford University is required to report on the progress of achieving targeted goals for the Two-Year College Transfer Grant Program. In accordance with the mandate the following response is provided.

Response:

The commitment to transfer students at Radford University is the strongest it has ever been. The support of the Two-Year College Transfer Grant Enhancement program is one of the many resources and initiatives used to attract students and retain them to graduation. Under the direction of President Bret Danilowicz and new Provost Dr. Bethany Usher, creating seamless and affordable transfer pathways is a priority of the institution.

This year, Radford University has partnered with eight area community colleges to author a Memorandum of Understanding that further aligns the mission to be accessible and affordable to transfer students by lowering barriers and providing enhanced early identification advising. This effort is called the Tartan Transfer and will begin implementation this fall.

The collaborative efforts with area Virginia Community Colleges have already shown results as applications from transfer students are at a record high (n = 1600 as of May 1, 2024) and deposited students for fall 2024 (n = 434) are tracking higher at this time than the last three years, even with the delays in financial aid packaging.

Radford University remains committed to supporting the Two-Year College Transfer Grant Enhancement program and stabilizing the University's transfer student enrollment. With the CTG resources provided in 2023-24, Radford served 20 students. A detailed chart outlining the use of funds and the total enrollment in the CTG program is appended to the end of this document. The University is working diligently to increase enrollment in the CTG program to reach the transfer target of 140 originally established in the 2015 Acts of Assembly. Recent enrollment declines within the University as well as within the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) has impacted program participation and many of the transfers who enroll do not meet the requirement of associate degree completion and Estimated Family Contribution/Student Aid Index (EFC/SAI) less than \$12,000.

To ensure that more students complete the requirement of associate degree completion, a newly formed position "Tartan Transfer Coordinator" was created as a joint effort between Enrollment Management and Academic Affairs to ensure that early advising takes place. This early intervention approach will ensure students reach the associate degree completion before entering full time at Radford University, thus making more students eligible for the CTG program.

With the newly announced Radford Tuition Promise, students whose EFC/SAI is less than \$15,000 and whose family's Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) is less than \$100,000 are eligible to have tuition covered in alignment with our CTG program commitment. This initiative builds in the criteria included in the eligibility of the CTG program and is an automatic qualifier for this aid and the Promise. The CTG program award is given on top of the Promise aid to make Radford University even more affordable for students.

The effort to complete more students with an associate degree with early advising and through the statewide commitment to affordability, Radford University will stand apart from its peer this year in providing innovative and student-centric strategies that have transfer students at the center.

To ensure all eligible students receive the CTG, the University focuses on the following new and continuing strategies to encourage participation and increase visibility of the CTG program:

- Include the EFC/SAI criteria in major financial aid initiatives of the University to improve potential for CTG program eligibility.
- Couple the Radford Tuition Promise promotion with CTG to ensure maximum awarding to eligible students.
- Highlight the availability of the CTG program to reduce student costs early in advising.
- Dedicate a staff member to ensuring early intervention with advising so degree completion occurs and increases potential of eligible students for CTG.
- Promote the CTG program with prospective transfer students during on-campus visits, tours and open house presentations.
- Throughout the recruitment cycle, send email communications to prospective transfer applicants who may qualify for the CTG program.
- Promote the CTG program to prospective transfer students during Radford admission counselors' on-site application reviews at the community colleges and during prospective students' visits to the Radford campus.
- Promote CTG program with Virginia Community College Counselors during annual VCCS Advisor Workshop.
- Encourage all transfer students to complete the FAFSA.

The following tables provide a detailed accounting of the number of students receiving the Two-Year College Transfer Grant (CTG), CTG PLUS Grant, and the CTG Incentive Grant since each program began. It should be noted that the 2023-24 financial aid data are not completely finalized until October; therefore, the projections (*) provided are subject to final validation and could change.

Recipients of the Two-Year College Transfer Grant

Year	Student Level Group	Residency	Term	# Unique Students	Total Dollars Awarded	Average Award
2009-10	Total	All	Annual	17	\$14,500	\$853
2010-11	Total	All	Annual	40	\$38,000	\$950
2011-12	Total	All	Annual	46	\$41,000	\$891
2012-13	Total	All	Annual	52	\$49,500	\$952
2013-14	Total	All	Annual	47	\$38,000	\$809
2014-15	Total	All	Annual	61	\$48,000	\$787
2015-16	Total	All	Annual	87	\$81,000	\$931
2016-17	Total	All	Annual	77	\$67,900	\$882
2017-18	Total	All	Annual	76	\$70,500	\$928
2018-19	Total	All	Annual	98	\$90,000	\$918
2019-20	Total	All	Annual	95	\$88,500	\$932
2020-21	Total	All	Annual	77	\$69,500	\$903
2021-22	Total	All	Annual	48	\$43,500	\$906
2022-23	Total	All	Annual	31	\$28,000	\$903
2023-24*	Total	All	Annual	20	\$19,000	\$950

Source: SCHEV FA22 Financial Aid by Program; Radford University Data Warehouse

Recipients of the Two-Year College Transfer Grant PLUS

Year	Student Level Group	Residency	Term	# Unique Students	Total Dollars Awarded	Average Award
2009-10	Total	All	Annual	4	\$3,500	\$875
2010-11	Total	All	Annual	14	\$13,500	\$964
2011-12	Total	All	Annual	16	\$14,000	\$875
2012-13	Total	All	Annual	20	\$16,500	\$825
2013-14	Total	All	Annual	15	\$11,500	\$767
2014-15	Total	All	Annual	15	\$12,000	\$800
2015-16	Total	All	Annual	19	\$15,000	\$789
2016-17	Total	All	Annual	16	\$13,580	\$849
2017-18	Total	All	Annual	15	\$12,500	\$833
2018-19	Total	All	Annual	47	\$41,500	\$883
2019-20	Total	All	Annual	43	\$39,000	\$907
2020-21	Total	All	Annual	32	\$27,500	\$859
2021-22	Total	All	Annual	14	\$12,500	\$893
2022-23	Total	All	Annual	11	\$10,000	\$909
2023-24*	Total	All	Annual	13	\$13,000	\$1,000

Source: SCHEV FA22 Financial Aid by Program; Radford University Data Warehouse

Recipients of the Two-Year College Incentive Grant

Year	Student Level Group	Residency	Term	# Unique Students	Total Dollars Awarded	Average Award
2015-16	Total	All	Annual	58	\$54,000	\$931
2016-17	Total	All	Annual	69	\$64,000	\$928
2017-18	Total	All	Annual	63	\$57,000	\$905
2018-19	Total	All	Annual	94	\$82,500	\$878
2019-20	Total	All	Annual	89	\$79,500	\$893
2020-21	Total	All	Annual	65	\$53,000	\$815
2021-22	Total	All	Annual	39	\$30,000	\$769
2022-23	Total	All	Annual	29	\$24,000	\$828
2023-24*	Total	All	Annual	19	\$17,000	\$895

Source: SCHEV FA22 Financial Aid by Program; Radford University Data Warehouse