

What is the Return of Title IV Funds (R2T4)?

Federal financial aid is earned based on how long a student attends classes during the term. If a student withdraws from all courses before completing the term, Coker University must calculate how much financial aid the student has earned.

This process is called the Return of Title IV Funds (R2T4).

If a student does not complete the term, they may have earned only part of their federal aid. Any unearned aid must be returned to the federal government. This may result in a balance owed on the student's account.

R2T4 is required by federal law and is separate from Coker University's refund policy.

What Counts as a Withdrawal?

For financial aid purposes, a student is considered withdrawn when they stop attending all of their courses during a term.

A withdrawal can happen in two ways:

- **Official Withdrawal:** The student completes the University's withdrawal process or notifies the appropriate office that they are withdrawing.
- **Unofficial Withdrawal:** The student stops attending all classes without completing the official withdrawal process.

The Return of Title IV Funds (R2T4) process applies when a student stops attending all Title IV-eligible courses in a term, whether the withdrawal is official or unofficial.

In some cases, changes to a student's schedule may still require a review under federal financial aid rules. The Office of Financial Aid will review each situation to determine whether an R2T4 calculation is required.

How Earned Aid Is Calculated

Federal financial aid is earned based on the percentage of the term you complete.

Coker University calculates this by dividing the number of days you attended by the total number of days in the term (scheduled breaks of five days or more are not counted).

- If you complete 60% or more of the term, you are considered to have earned 100% of your federal financial aid.
- If you complete less than 60% of the term, you earn only a portion of your aid, and the unearned portion must be returned.

The Office of Financial Aid uses your official withdrawal date or last date of attendance to complete this calculation, as required by federal regulations.

What Happens to Unearned Aid?

If you withdraw before completing the term and have unearned federal financial aid, Coker University is required to return that aid to the federal government.

Some of the unearned aid is returned by the University, and in some cases, you may also be responsible for returning a portion of the aid.

Federal rules require that funds be returned in a specific order based on the type of aid you received.

When federal aid is returned, it is removed from your student account, which may result in a balance owed to Coker University.

You will receive a written notification explaining the calculation and any changes to your account.

How This Affects Your Student Account

When federal financial aid is returned through the R2T4 process, the amount of aid on your student account is reduced.

This means:

- Your account balance may increase.
- You may owe money to Coker University.
- Any outstanding balance is your responsibility to pay.

Coker University will notify you in writing of the results of the R2T4 calculation and any changes to your account. You are encouraged to review your account and contact the Office of Financial Aid or Student Accounts if you have questions.

Post-Withdrawal Disbursements (PWD)

In some cases, a student may have earned more federal financial aid than was disbursed before they withdrew.

If this happens:

- Grant funds (such as Pell Grant) may be disbursed automatically to your account, if you are eligible.
- Loan funds require your permission (or your parent's permission for Parent PLUS Loans) before they can be disbursed.

If you are eligible for a post-withdrawal disbursement, Coker University will notify you and explain your options before any loan funds are disbursed.

R2T4 vs. Coker University's Refund Policy

The Return of Title IV Funds (R2T4) calculation is not the same as Coker University's tuition and fee refund policy.

- Coker's refund policy determines how much of your institutional charges (tuition, fees, housing, etc.) may be reduced based on when you withdraw.
- R2T4 determines how much of your federal financial aid you earned based on how much of the term you completed.

Because these two calculations are different:

- You may still owe a balance to Coker University even if you receive a tuition refund.

- Or, you may not receive a full refund of charges even though some federal aid must be returned.

Coker University will notify you of any changes to your account after these calculations are completed.

How You Will Be Notified

If you withdraw from all of your classes or stop attending during a term, Coker University will review your enrollment and determine whether a Return of Title IV Funds (R2T4) calculation is required.

If an R2T4 calculation is completed, you will receive written notification that explains:

- That you were considered withdrawn for financial aid purposes
- The date used as your official withdrawal date
- How much federal financial aid you earned
- How much federal financial aid (if any) had to be returned
- Whether you owe a balance to Coker University or to the U.S. Department of Education
- Whether you are eligible for a Post-Withdrawal Disbursement and what steps are required to receive it (if applicable)

Notifications are sent using Coker University's official communication channels, and you are responsible for reviewing and responding to any required actions by the stated deadlines.

If you have questions after receiving your notice, you are encouraged to contact the Office of Financial Aid for assistance.

Where to Get Help

Return of Title IV Funds (R2T4) calculations can be complicated, and every student's situation is different. If you are considering withdrawing, taking a leave of absence, or have already stopped attending classes, we strongly encourage you to contact us before making a final decision.

The Office of Financial Aid can help you understand:

- How withdrawing may affect your financial aid
- Whether an R2T4 calculation will be required
- How your account balance may be impacted
- Whether you may be eligible for a post-withdrawal disbursement
- What steps you need to take next