

**iStudy Enrollment: Aid eligibility and Disbursement Rule Changes  
Effective Spring 2020**

Definitions and Notes:

- iStudy courses are different from traditional seat and online courses in that iStudy courses are self-paced, making them more flexible. They are also distinct from "Independent Study" courses, which are faculty-guided and take place on campus.
- *Semester iStudy courses:* Follow the university's academic calendar regarding registration and withdrawal deadlines and must be completed within the term.
- *Flex iStudy courses:* Do not follow the university's academic calendar. The student may enroll at any time during the academic year and may take up to a year to complete the course.

	<b>HOW WAS IT BEFORE?</b>	<b>HOW IS IT NOW?</b>
<b>Institutional Scholarships</b>	Semester and Flex iStudy enrollment <i>did not</i> count in the enrollment calculation for full-time institutional scholarship eligibility (for awards such as Academic Excellence/Merit, Community College scholarship, Ole Miss Opportunity...)	Semester iStudy enrollment <i>now counts</i> in the enrollment calculation for full time institutional scholarship eligibility. Flex iStudy still does not.
<b>Federal Aid</b>	<p>Semester iStudy enrollment <i>did</i> count towards enrollment eligibility requirements for federal and state aid.</p> <p><i>Disbursement Rules:</i> Disbursement of all federal aid was held until the student reached the 50% of the course lessons or otherwise completed 50% of the work scheduled for the term, whichever occurred last. We called this "reaching the midpoint."</p> <p><i>Midpoint Confirmation:</i> There was a midpoint deadline set each term, after which a student's aid would be adjusted (typically meaning reduced) if the midpoint was not reached. If reached by the deadline, federal aid would be manually disbursed at that time.</p>	<p>Semester iStudy enrollment <i>still counts</i> towards enrollment eligibility requirements for federal and state aid.</p> <p><i>Disbursement Rules:</i> Disbursement of federal aid will <i>no longer</i> be held for students who are taking a combination course-load of regular and Semester iStudy courses (which is the case for most students). It <i>still will be</i> held until "midpoint" if a student is taking ALL Semester iStudy courses.</p> <p><i>Midpoint Confirmation:</i> The midpoint deadline is still set each term, but now only tracked for students enrolled in ALL Semester iStudy courses in a term.</p>
<b>State Aid</b>	Semester iStudy enrollment <i>did</i> count towards enrollment eligibility requirements for state aid.	Semester iStudy enrollment <i>still counts</i> towards enrollment eligibility requirements for state aid.