

**NEW**

**SCHEDULE  
FOR  
SUCCESS**

**STARTING FALL 2014**

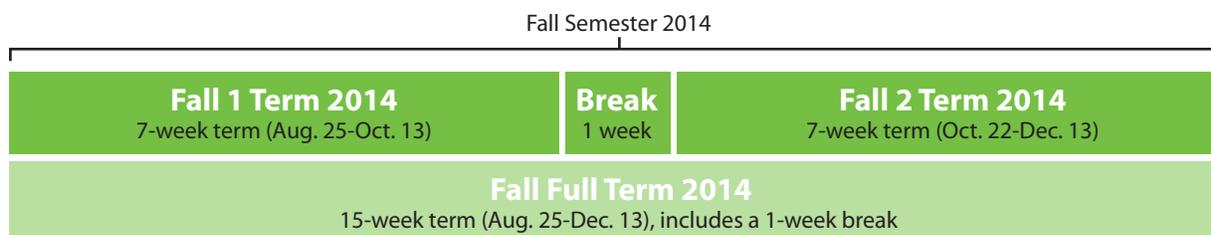
## Financial Aid and Compressed Scheduling

**Student success is very important to Trident Technical College.** That's why we are implementing a new 7-week compressed schedule. Starting Fall Semester 2014, TTC will offer most courses in this 7-week compressed format. (This format will be used for Fall Semester and Spring Semester; Summer Semester courses will not change.)

TTC's own research and a body of national research show that students are more successful in compressed courses. By successful, we mean that a higher percentage of students finish with grades of A, B, C or SC (satisfactory completion) in compressed courses than in courses taught across a full semester. Additionally, students in compressed courses typically report greater satisfaction with their classes.

### What is a compressed format?

In a compressed format, your schedule is divided into shorter terms within the semester. For example, instead of taking four or five semester-long courses, a typical full-time student will take two or three 7-week courses at a time.



Compressed courses cover the same content and are worth the same credits as full-semester, 15-week courses. All courses that currently transfer will still transfer.

### Sample compressed schedule for 15 credit hours:

Fall 1 Term				Fall 2 Term			
Course	Days	Time	Credit Hours	Course	Days	Time	Credit Hours
MAT 101	MWF	8:00 a.m.-9:55 a.m.	3	MAT 102	MWF	10:15 a.m.-12:10 p.m.	3
HIS 102	MWF	10:15 a.m.-12:10 p.m.	3	ENG 102	MWF	12:40 p.m.-2:35 p.m.	3
ENG 101	TTH	11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.	3				



**We know you will have questions about this change and how it will affect you. Visit [www.tridenttech.edu/newschedule.htm](http://www.tridenttech.edu/newschedule.htm) for answers to questions about this transition. Information will be added as we have more details.**

### Benefits of this new schedule:

- Transfer students may complete prerequisites more quickly.
- Student attention is focused on fewer courses at a time. For example, instead of having homework for four or five different subjects, a student might have homework for only two or three at a time.
- The 7-week term helps maintain academic focus.
- This format allows for more faculty/student engagement and increased opportunities for learning-centered activities.

### How will financial aid work in compressed scheduling?

Total financial aid award eligibility will not change. TTC awards your financial aid based on the assumption that you will enroll as a full-time student taking at least 12 credit hours in the semester. If you take fewer than 12 hours in the semester, TTC is required to reduce your aid accordingly. This procedure does not change with compressed scheduling.

In compressed scheduling, your credit hours for the semester are divided between two 7-week terms. The number of credit hours you take in each term will affect when your aid is issued and how much of your financial aid can be applied to your student account each term.

### What might different scenarios look like?

Two examples are shown below. Each of these students is enrolled for nine credit hours, and each has a Pell Grant for \$2,117 and a loan for \$1,750. Estimated Fall Semester 2014 tuition for nine credit hours is \$1,451.32. You can see that the refund amounts in each term differ, based on the number of credit hours each student is enrolled in for that term.

Student A			Student B		
	Term 1	Term 2		Term 1	Term 2
Credit Hours	3 credit hrs	6 credit hrs	Credit Hours	6 credit hrs	3 credit hrs
Estimated Refund Amount	\$0.00	\$2,397.68	Estimated Refund Amount	\$1,691.68	\$706.00

If it supports your academic and personal plans, and if you are financial aid-eligible, you should strongly consider enrolling in six hours in the first term because certain kinds of aid require that students are not only enrolled in a certain number of credit hours, but that they are actually sitting in those classes.

In the compressed schedule, financial aid refunds will change in three different ways:

How Refunds Will Change		
Area of change	Old System (prior to fall 2014)	New System (starting fall 2014)
Refund Frequency	One major refund made per semester	Two refunds made per semester (one per term), one of which may be larger than the other
Refund Timing	Approximately the fourth week of the semester	Approximately the third week of the term
Refund Amount	Full amount received at one time	Amount pro-rated per term, based on credit hours and other factors

Note: Some students who take Summer Semester and Fall Semester courses may receive no refund from June until November if taking fewer than six credit hours in Fall 1. However, they may qualify for a refund when enrolled in and attending six or more credit hours.

## When should I expect to receive my financial aid refund?

Starting Fall Semester 2014, there will be two primary refund disbursements each semester instead of one for students who have completed the financial aid process including verification. Dates in the chart below are based on a typical student taking all compressed courses. The few students taking a full-term course will need to speak with someone in financial aid.

Refund Schedule 2014-15		
Term	Refunds Begin	How is refund amount calculated?
Fall 1	Sept. 12, 2014	Amount determined by total hours attempted in Fall 1
Fall 2	Nov. 7, 2014	Amount determined by total hours attempted in Fall 2
Spring 1	Jan. 30, 2015	Amount determined by total hours attempted in Spring 1
Spring 2	March 27, 2015	Amount determined by total hours attempted in Spring 2
Summer 1	June 12, 2015	Amount determined by total hours attempted in Summer 1
Summer 2	July 17, 2015	Amount determined by total hours attempted in Summer 2

## What are the enrollment requirements for the different kinds of financial aid?

Financial Aid Type	Enrollment Requirements
Pell Grant	Must be enrolled in at least 3 credit hours per semester
Loans	Must be enrolled in at least 6 credit hours per semester
S.C. Lottery-Funded Tuition Assistance	Must be enrolled in at least 6 credit hours per semester
S.C. LIFE Scholarship	Must be enrolled in at least 12 college-level credit hours for the semester, not including developmental or bridge courses
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)	Must be enrolled in at least 6 credit hours per semester
South Carolina Need-Based Grant (SCNBG)	Must be enrolled in at least 6 credit hours per semester

## How can I be sure to receive and keep all of my financial aid?

- Complete your share of the financial aid process each semester by the published Green Light date. You must COMPLETE—not just begin—by the Green Light date. To help you do this, we will publish an earlier Wake-Up Alarm date each semester to remind you. *What do we mean by “your share”?* You need to submit and complete the FAFSA (TTC’s school code is 004920). Complete any loan requirements. You must also complete financial aid verification. **Until you do these things, we cannot complete our share of the process.** If you have not completed your share by the Green Light date, you run the risk that we will not have enough time to have your financial aid funds in place in time to start the semester.
- New students must submit a TTC admission application and complete the admission process. TTC does not download your completed FAFSA until you have been admitted to the college. Readmit students should complete and submit their update forms.

- Class attendance is key to receiving and keeping your financial aid. Students must attend class, starting the first day of the term. For online courses, you must log in the first day of the term, initiate communication with your instructor, and be actively engaged in an academic assignment to be counted as having attended. If you do not attend class:
  - You will be reported as never-attended.
  - You will be removed from the class roster.
  - You will **not** be allowed to re-enroll.
  - Your financial aid will be reduced.
- Students must maintain minimum Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue receiving financial aid.

### **How have the rules for Drop/Add changed?**

- You can still drop classes, but the opportunity to add courses to your schedule is very limited. Once a class has met, you cannot add that class to your schedule. However, you can change to another section of the same course, if available.
- The Drop/Add period applies differently to online courses. You may still drop online courses during the Drop/Add period, but you will not be able to add or change sections. You will need to be registered for any online courses before 6:30 a.m. on the first day of class for that term.

### **What should I do to be ready on the first day of class?**

- Get your financial aid in order.
  - Complete the FAFSA and your share of the financial aid process by the published Green Light date.
  - Buy your books. Some students may have a financial aid credit.
- Finalize your schedule before Drop/Add begins and pay any tuition due by the payment deadline.
- Attendance in class is required.
  - Attend class, starting on the first day of class. If not, you risk being removed from the class roster and reported as never-attended.
  - For TTC Online College, log in the first day of the term, initiate communication with your instructor, and be actively engaged in an academic assignment to be counted as having attended.

**Please note: In special cases and for certain programs, full-semester courses may still be offered. Be sure to speak with someone in financial aid and/or your academic advisor if this is the case for you.**



**We know you will have questions about this change and how it will affect you. Visit [www.tridenttech.edu/newschedule.htm](http://www.tridenttech.edu/newschedule.htm) for answers to questions about this transition. Information will be added as we have more details.**