As students apply for federal student aid and submit the Fafsa and all required documentation, the financial aid office begins a process to calculate their unmet financial need. The methodology formula has been established by the Dept of Education, in which a budget, or Cost of Attendance, is set up for each student, based on information taken from the Fafsa. The unmet need is determined, by subtracting the EFC (Estimated Family Contribution) from the COA, or Cost of Attendance, and using the difference to determine the financial award package the student is eligible to receive.

After financial need is determined, students are awarded a financial aid package. The package is usually a combination of various types of aid from different categories available from Kilgore College: Grants, Student loans, Workstudy, and scholarships.

Grants are awarded first to eligible students who have submitted all requested documents and meet the specific grant criteria. Federal loans are awarded only to students who have requested loan funds through the Loan Request Form, and completed the Master Promissory Note and Entrance Loan Counseling. Grant payments will fluctuate during the first 11 days of the fall and spring semesters, and the first 3 days of the summer semester. Grants are locked on the census day, (12th class day for Fall and Spring, and 4th class day in Summer terms.) Any student paid after the census day will be funded based on enrollment at the time the valid Fafsa was received and verified.

Payment of loans is determined by the enrollment at the time of disbursement – or payment to the student account. Students who drop below the required six hours may have their loans cancelled and returned to the Department of Education.

Courses which cannot be considered for funding include:
1. Audited courses
2. Continuing Education courses
3. Dual credit courses (taken through high school)
4. Developmental courses if a student has attempted a total of 30 developmental hours, even if required for program enrollment.
5. Courses for which a student has not begun attendance. Failure to attend class may also result in a reduction to a student’s awards.
6. Courses which do not apply to a student’s stated major.

In cases in which a student account has been overawarded (total aid exceeds student cost of attendance), the aid is adjusted to eliminate the overaward. Cases of overawards occur most often when late scholarships, waivers or funds from third parties (such as DARS, WIA) are added to a student account. Initially, the direct student loan funds will be adjusted downward to reduce the overaward.