

FLEXTRACK QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE-SEEKING STUDENTS

I. General Information

Q. What is FlexTrack, and why not just call it “part-time”?

A. The College does not have a part-time undergraduate student classification. FlexTrack students have the flexibility to take any number of credits per semester, from zero to 18. Thus, they are the only degree-seeking students who can be “part-time” (taking fewer than 12 credits) or “full-time” (taking 12 or more) at their option.

Q. For whom is FlexTrack meant?

A. FlexTrack is for non-traditional students from the Williamsburg community with significant time commitments such as family, full-time employment, etc. FlexTrack is never available to out-of-state students.

Q. How many FlexTrack students are admitted each year?

A. A maximum of 20 FlexTrack students will be admitted in any one year, each assigned to an advisor who will stress the importance of building a coherent program.

Q. How do I enroll as a FlexTrack student?

A. If you are a transfer student or freshman, you may be eligible for admission as a FlexTrack student if you live in the Williamsburg area, meet the usual admission standards of the College and can show compelling reasons why full-time status is not feasible. A letter should be included in your application detailing your necessity for FlexTrack status.

Q. How do I switch from full-time to FlexTrack status?

A. Switching from full-time to FlexTrack is an option for very few students. If you are already a full-time student and have compelling reasons to move to FlexTrack status, you must petition the Committee on Academic Status. Compelling reasons may include new family responsibilities, and significant changes in life circumstances.

Q. How do I switch from FlexTrack to full-time status?

A. If you are a FlexTrack student who wants to become full-time, you must petition the Committee on Academic Status.

II. Academic Performance

Q. What are the credit load requirements of FlexTrack students?

A. In their first semester, FlexTrack students are limited to no more than 10 credit hours. After the first semester, a FlexTrack student is able to make personal decisions about credit load, between three and 18 credits per semester. A FlexTrack student must earn a minimum of 12 credit hours each calendar year (two semesters and a summer term) from the date of enrollment and must complete all degree

requirements in effect at the time of enrollment, and all major requirements in effect at the time of the declaration of major.

Q. What if a FlexTrack student needs to take a break for a semester or two?

A. The Dean of Students Office must be notified in advance of any semesters away (or semesters with zero credit hours); if you do not notify the Dean of Students Office in advance, you will have to reapply for FlexTrack status upon your return.

Q. Do I have to maintain a GPA standard (continuance) as a FlexTrack student?

A. FlexTrack students must achieve at least a 1.7 cumulative GPA by the end of the term in which nine credits have been completed; a 1.7 cumulative GPA by the end of the term in which 21 credits have been completed; a 1.85 cumulative GPA by the end of the term in which 33 credits have been completed; a 2.0 cumulative GPA by the end of the term in which 48 credits have been completed, and a 2.0 cumulative GPA by the end of each successive term.

III. Tuition and Financial Aid

Q. What are the financial (tuition) differences between FlexTrack and full-time students?

A. FlexTrack students are charged by credit hour. As of Fall 2008, tuition for FlexTrack students is \$225/hour. If taking a full credit load (12 or more), a FlexTrack student is charged full tuition and fees. There is no option for FlexTrack students to pay fees if taking fewer than 12 credits.

Q. What are the financial aid limitations for FlexTrack students who are also Gateway recipients?

A. During the first year of attendance, FlexTrack students can receive Gateway funding, as long as they are taking at least 6 credit hours each semester. This funding will affect total financial aid to individual FlexTrack students. FlexTrack students will be awarded aid based on part-time procedures. After the first year, these students must move to full-time status in order to receive further Gateway support.

Q. What are other financial aid options for FlexTrack students?

A. If anything causes a FlexTrack student to become ineligible for Gateway yet still in need, the College still meets 100% of the student's need, but that part of the package will be made up of a Subsidized Stafford Loan and possibly a Perkins Loan. The only limit on regular aid is the number of semester equivalents of aid a student has used, as determined under the 10-semester rule (see p. 55 of '08-09 Undergraduate Course Catalog). All students are limited to 8 total semester equivalents of state/College aid. They can have 2 additional semester equivalents of Federal aid after the state/College aid runs out, for a total of 10 semester equivalents of Federal aid.

IV. Fees, Activities, and Health Insurance

Q. Can FlexTrack students have access to campus activities and services (i.e., recreational center, counseling center, intramural activities, bus service, entry to intercollegiate sporting events) even though they do not pay facilities fees or general fees?

A. No, since FlexTrack tuition for students with fewer than 12 credits does not include fees for these services, FlexTrack students do not have access to them. However, if they are taking 12 credits or more, FlexTrack students do pay fees and therefore are eligible for these services.

Q. Are FlexTrack students eligible for the student health care policy?

A. Not if they are taking fewer than 12 credits. If taking 12 or more, they are eligible.

Q. Can FlexTrack students live in College residence halls?

A. No. College residence halls are reserved for students with full-time status.

Q. Must a FlexTrack student who is taking less than a full course load provide proof of immunization and proof of insurance to the Student Health Center?

A. Yes. FlexTrack students must meet the same proof of immunization and insurance requirements as other degree-seeking students, even though they are not eligible for the student health care policy when taking fewer than 12 credits.