

PACT STUDENT HANDBOOK

**Information for High School Seniors and
PACT Students in College**

**(800) 252-7228
www.800ALAPACT.com**

Information for High School Seniors

- The “First Time in College” letter is mailed to all high school seniors in the spring prior to enrollment in college. This letter provides information on using PACT benefits.
- Your contract must be paid in full, including any outstanding fees, before you can receive benefits.
- Your benefits cannot be processed without a valid Social Security Number on file.
- Benefits can be used for dual enrollment while in high school or can be advanced up to three years if you enroll in college ahead of your scheduled graduation. The Purchaser must submit a written request to advance benefits.
- A roster of every eligible and ineligible beneficiary will be provided weekly on the Internet to the public and private colleges and universities in Alabama. It is your responsibility to let the institution know that you have PACT so they will know to bill us.
- You do not need to notify PACT unless you are attending a private or out-of-state institution.
- The current rate paid to private and out-of-state institutions is as follows:
\$216.70 per semester hour \$144.47 per quarter hour
\$66.60 for qualified fees \$44.40 for qualified fees

General Information

- PACT does not cover all expenses. PACT covers standard, non-discounted, published undergraduate tuition and qualified fees. Higher tuition for “nonstandard” courses such as distance learning, study abroad, internet/web, independent or off campus study will be paid at the standard rate, or basic tuition rate.
- Qualified fees are specifically listed by category, as follows: Building fee, Facility fee, Technology fee, Learning Resource Fee, Administrative Fee, Registration Fee, Instructional Fee, Library Fee, Bond Reserve Fee, and General University Fee. These are the only fees that will be paid by PACT.
- PACT will not pay for graduate or professional school.
- You are not required to take a specific number of undergraduate hours nor are you limited to four years. You can use your benefits as you choose for undergraduate study within the 10 year period.
- PACT deducts hours and fee terms from your account (not a dollar amount) each time an invoice is processed.
- If you fail a course or withdraw, hours which have been deducted from your account are not adjusted.
- There is a ten-year period for the use of contract benefits, based on the original Projected College Entrance Date of the original beneficiary.
- PACT will not pay back invoices submitted for payment by the college more than a year from the term the benefits were received.
- The PACT Contract terminates when all of the hours are utilized, ten years from the projected enrollment year or when you graduate, whichever comes first.
- If there is a minimum of 32 semester hours remaining, the hours can be transferred to a qualified substitute beneficiary. Only one substitution is allowed during the life of your contract.
- If a PACT Contract is cancelled after benefits have been used, a refund is only available if PACT has paid out less than the purchase price of the contract.

Attendance at a Public Alabama College/University

Notification Required/Billing

- Notify the billing office at the institution so that they will know to bill PACT.
- Each institution maintains a current list of PACT students that can be accessed to verify your PACT eligibility.
- PACT is billed after the drop/add period, before partial refunds begin.
- Withdrawal from the institution after registration but before classes begin, requires your notification to the billing office so that PACT will not be invoiced.

Payments

- PACT payment is full payment for standard, published, non-discounted tuition. Payment above this rate for “nonstandard” tuition will be your responsibility.
- PACT payment for qualified fees is full payment for any of the following fees: Building fee, Facility fee, Technology fee, Learning Resource Fee, Administrative Fee, Registration Fee, Instructional Fee, Library Fee, Bond Reserve Fee, and General University Fee. All other fees are not covered by PACT and you will be responsible for payment.

Attendance at a Private or Out-of-State College/University

Notification Required/Billing

- Notify PACT in writing 60 days in advance of attendance.
- PACT will mail a letter to the institution you designate giving the rates PACT will pay, and billing information. This notice is not required again unless you transfer to another institution.
- You are responsible for contacting the billing office to invoice PACT.
- PACT is billed after the “Drop/Add” period, before partial refunds begin.
- Withdrawal from the institution after registration but before classes begin, requires your notification to the billing office so that PACT will not be invoiced.

Payments

- PACT payment is based on the average of the four-year Alabama public institutions and is almost always less than the institution charges.
- PACT pays directly to the institution after receipt of a valid invoice.
- A \$25 per semester processing fee is deducted from this payment.
- Each semester, the hours taken and the fee term is deducted from your account.
- Unless actual charges are less, the rates are as follows:

\$216.70 per semester hour	\$144.47 per quarter hour
\$66.60 for qualified fees	\$44.40 for qualified fees

Scholarships

- If you receive a scholarship, the institution must bill PACT for tuition/fees. PACT will pay the institution and will not make payment directly to an individual.

Financial Aid

- For need-based financial aid, having a PACT contract may have a negative impact because the contract may be seen as a parental asset.
- For merit-based financial aid, such as academic scholarships, your contract should not impact your eligibility. However, we cannot assure you that your PACT contract benefits will not be considered in determining your eligibility for any type of financial assistance.
- You should contact the financial aid office of the college/university you plan to attend to determine the impact your PACT contract may have on eligibility.
- When completing forms, you may be asked for the value of your PACT contract and for all others that are owned by the Purchaser. Call PACT to obtain this amount, which is the redemption value of your contract.

PACT Information Mailed During College

- **First Time in College Letter** is mailed to graduating high school seniors to provide information on using contract benefits.
- **PACT Eligibility Letter** will be mailed each year in June. This letter should be presented to the billing office each quarter or semester, unless the college gives you other instructions. A replacement letter can be obtained by calling 1-866-898-0941.
- **PACT Usage Statement** will be mailed each year after spring invoices are processed. This statement provides the hours and qualified fees which have been deducted from your account. It is important to check this statement to make certain it reflects the correct number of credit hours you have taken the previous year. If there is a discrepancy, please call 1-866-898-0941 to discuss your account.
- **Price Letter** will be mailed the first of each year providing the rates paid to private and out-of-state institutions. This letter is also mailed to the institution.