Frequently Asked Questions

HOW IS MY CWSP AWARD DETERMINED?
In order for your eligibility for Federal College Work Study Program (CWSP) to be determined, you must have sufficient unmet need. The first step is to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and all other necessary documentation required as a result of filing the FAFSA. The following items are reviewed in order to determine your eligibility:

Cost of Attendance (Budget): Your budget is determined by a survey of the student body based on your living situation (with parents, off campus, on campus), residency, and grade level (undergraduate or graduate). The Office of Financial Aid takes an average of these responses to determine the cost of attendance at Armstrong.

Estimated Family Contribution (EFC): The EFC is a measure of how much of your and your family’s financial resources (for dependent students) should be available to help pay for your education. The EFC is calculated from the information you provided when completing the FAFSA.

Financial Aid Awards: This includes any other type of financial aid you are receiving, including, but not limited to Federal Pell Grant, SEOG, and Stafford Loans.

To determine your eligibility, we subtract your EFC and financial aid awards from your budget. This figure is your unmet need. If your unmet need for the semester is $4000 or more, you may qualify for the Federal College Work Study Program.

HOW WILL I RECEIVE MY CWSP FUNDS?
You will earn your award through working. Positions are paid biweekly as a paycheck (directly deposited into your checking or savings account). First paychecks are mailed to the address in your SHIP account.

HOW MANY HOURS CAN I WORK EACH WEEK?
The maximum allowable hours you may work each week is nineteen (19) hours. You must remember that you cannot exceed your award amount each semester, so your hours should be scheduled accordingly.

DO I HAVE TO MAINTAIN SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (SAP)?
Yes, you must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress in order to continue working under the Federal College Work Study Program. Failure to do so may result in the forfeiture of your award. For more information on how to maintain SAP, visit the Office of Financial Aid website.