Federal Work Study Program Monitoring

The Federal Work-Study Award (earnings limit) allocated to the student is calculated for specific award period(s) as indicated on the student's FWS award letter. The employing department and the student should determine a work schedule. In order to ensure that the earnings do not exceed, it is important that the employing department monitor earnings, so the student does not earn the awarded amount too quickly.

Departments should plan the average number of hours per week for each student by following a simple formula: (FWS award for semester divided by 16 weeks divided by rate of pay.) If the department needs to have the student work during the Fall-Spring Semester break, the average number of hours should be reduced by following another formula (total number of hours to be worked during the break divided by 16 = the number of hours to be subtracted from the average number of hours per week calculated above.) It is the department's responsibility to ensure that federal laws are complied with by not allowing FWS student to earn more dollars than their awards and that students work/class schedule do not conflict. (See Monitoring Earnings)

Prior to each break in classes, the policy regarding the Federal Work Study students who work during semester breaks will be distributed to Student Employment Representatives which will reflect any recent changes in the regulations.