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## HOW TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID

2011-2012

### ***THE FOLLOWING FORMS ARE REQUIRED TO AWARD YOUR AID***

- ✓ Results of your FAFSA
- ✓ Southwestern Financial Aid Application
- ☞ Some aid applications require additional verification. Copies of **2010 tax returns and other documents** will be requested.

### ***TO COMPLETE THE FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)***

- ✓ Request PIN # at: [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov) (Student and parents use PIN numbers as an electronic signature)
- ✓ Complete new application on the internet at: [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)  
or  
Access renewal application by using your PIN # at: [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)  
or  
Request paper application from the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 800-4-FED-AID  
or  
Print 2011-2012 paper application at [www.federalstudentaid.ed.gov](http://www.federalstudentaid.ed.gov)

**Southwestern Adventist University code: 003619**

## **APPLY EARLY**

**Application Priority Date: March 15**  
(Early Application Guarantees Maximum Grant Awards)

### ***SOUTHWESTERN DOCUMENTS ON-LINE***

[www.swau.edu](http://www.swau.edu)

Admissions>Student Financial Services>Financial Aid>Forms

### ***NOTIFICATION OF ESTIMATED STUDENT AID AWARDS***

Aid is awarded after completion of the following:

- ✓ Acceptance for admission to Southwestern Adventist University
- ✓ All required forms have been received by Student Financial Services



## **SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY FINANCIAL AID AWARD POLICY**

### **SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS, and WORK STUDY**

Students who apply for federal/state aid are automatically considered for all available scholarships, grants, and other “gift” aid for which they are eligible. Students who indicate that they will be working on campus will be considered for the federal/state work study programs.

### **LOAN INFORMATION**

#### **Federal Direct Loans**

Initial Federal Direct Loan awards require the completion of a master promissory note. Southwestern will automatically award the maximum Federal Direct Loan for which the student is eligible. This may be a combination of subsidized and unsubsidized loans depending on the student’s eligibility. Maximum awards are as follows: Freshman \$3500, Sophomore \$4500, Junior/Senior \$5500. Notification letters will be mailed to the applicant regarding the amount of the award(s). All dependent students may borrow an additional \$2000 in Federal Unsubsidized Direct Loan. Independent students may borrow an additional \$6,000 (freshmen and sophomores) and \$7,000 (juniors and seniors). Students may request a Loan Change Request Form from Student Financial Services (SFS) to apply for this additional loan. Any loan may be declined by writing to SFS.

Regardless of income, all students who meet the eligibility criteria are able to borrow a Federal Direct Loan. Students will first be considered for the subsidized loan. Subsidized means the federal government pays the interest while the borrower remains enrolled at least half-time and during the six-month grace period. If ineligible for the subsidized loan, the student will be awarded an unsubsidized loan which means that interest is paid by the individual rather than the government. The interest can be paid during enrollment or can be capitalized by the lender and added to the loan principal upon repayment.

#### **Federal Direct PLUS Loan**

Upon evaluation of the results of the FAFSA, parents may be awarded a Federal Direct PLUS Loan. Completion of a multi-year master promissory note (MPN) is required for first-time borrowers. A PLUS Affirmation Form or confirmation of parents request on the Direct Loan website, indicating the desired loan amount, is required of all PLUS borrowers each year.

### **SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES**

Students may request a Special Circumstances Form if any of the following circumstances apply but were not reported on the FAFSA:

- Family pays tuition expense for elementary or secondary school for children other than applicant
- Family pays excessive medical or dental expenses not covered by insurance
- A family member recently became unemployed
- Parents are taxed for educational subsidy

### **EFFECT OF ENROLLMENT STATUS AND GPA ON AID**

Grant money is awarded on the following basis: 12 hours or more - full award; 9-11 hours – three-quarter award; 6-8 hours – half award; under six hours – no award. The Pell Grant and SEOG Grant are exceptions to this policy since a student may receive a portion of the full award for less than half-time study. Full-time or three-quarter-time enrollment is required for students who were awarded their first Tuition Equalization Grant after September 1, 2005 and at the end of the academic year in which a student receives a renewal award the student must have at least a 2.5 GPA, and have completed at least 24 credit hours in their most recent academic year. Some Southwestern scholarships require full-time enrollment. Academic year awards are divided between two disbursements – one each semester. Students must meet academic progress standards to receive aid. Refer to the Southwestern Adventist University bulletin and website for more detailed information.

### **CHANGES TO INITIAL AWARD**

If a student receives an additional scholarship, or reduces the number of enrollment hours, an over award may occur in the student’s aid. Southwestern will correct this by replacing the subsidized Federal Direct Loan with an unsubsidized Federal Direct Loan. If the over award cannot be resolved in this manner, a portion of the loan or other aid will be cancelled.