

PARENTS' BULLETIN

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY NEW ORLEANS

JUNE 2010

Louisiana's TOPS Scholarship Program

This is a state sponsored program to encourage Louisiana students to attend a Louisiana college.

High school seniors who are eligible for the program will get an award letter from Louisiana's Office of Student Financial Assistance ("LOSFA")

The value of the basic TOPS tuition scholarship at Loyola University New Orleans for the 2010-2011 academic year will be \$3,030.

We can not bill the state for these funds until 14 days AFTER classes begin. The state will then send the funds (including any stipends awarded) to Loyola via an electronic funds transfer to the students' accounts. For more information on the TOPS Program, contact the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance at <http://www.osfa.state.la.us/>

Renewal requirements for TOPS awards are available online at <http://www.loyno.edu/financialaid/renewal-requirements-tops-scholarships>

Other Financing Options for Families

Monthly Payment Plans:

Loyola accepts monthly payments through **Tuition Pay by Sallie Mae** and **Tuition Management Systems, Inc.** Both agencies offer monthly plans with no interest and free insurance for a low enrollment fee. Amounts financed through monthly budget plans are limited to the billed charges (tuition, fees, residence hall, and board plan) less any scholarships and financial aid expected to be received by the student. For more information, see <http://www.loyno.edu/studentfinance/monthlybudgetplans.html>.

Federal Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students ("PLUS"):

Federal PLUS Loans are government sponsored low interest loans available to parents of undergraduate students. Effective July 1, 2010, the Department of Education will be the sole lender under the Federal Direct Student Loan Program. For PLUS Loans disbursed July 1, 2006 and later, the interest rate will be set at a fixed rate of 7.9%. For more information, go to <http://www.loyno.edu/financialaid/direct-plus-loan>

Alternative Private Loans:

Private, credit-based offer another mechanism for students to finance the costs of education. **As a general rule, these loans are more expensive in the long run than the Federal Student Loans. Therefore, we strongly encourage all students to first apply for federal student loans before utilizing these programs.**

Our web site has links to a number of resources that will help you evaluate the ultimate cost of these loans. *Full-time undergraduate students will normally need a credit worthy cosigner to participate in these programs.* For more information, go to <http://www.loyno.edu/financialaid/private-alternative-loans-undergraduates>

Other Financing Tools for Parents:

- <http://www.loyno.edu/financialaid/financing-tools-parents>
- <http://www.loyno.edu/financialaid/federal-tax-issues>

On-Campus Resources Promote Student Success

- **Academic Resource Center** - <http://www.loyno.edu/arc/>
- **Career Development Center** - <http://www.loyno.edu/careerservices/>
- **Disability Services** - <http://www.loyno.edu/arc/disability-services>
- **First Year Experience** <http://www.loyno.edu/fye/>
- **Free Tutoring Services** <http://www.loyno.edu/fye/resources/academic.html#freetutoring>
- **University Counseling Center** <http://www.loyno.edu/counselingservices/>
- **University Ministry** <http://www.loyno.edu/universityministry/>
- **Writing Across the Curriculum** <http://www.loyno.edu/>

Fall Semester Billing Information

Statement of Account

The **Student Finance Office** (<http://www.loyno.edu/studentfinance/>) administers the billing process for student accounts at Loyola. Staff members can be reached at (504) 865-3337 or by email at stufinan@loyno.edu and is located in Marquette Hall, room 112.

Students who pre-registered for the 2010 fall semester will receive a bill for the semester in mid-July. Since students are not on campus for this first billing, it will be mailed to the student's permanent address. However, subsequent bills for the semester are sent to the student at their local address, unless a special billing address has been established. To have all bills for a student mailed to an address other than the campus or local address, please contact **Student Finance** and request to establish a billing address. Once a billing address is established, it will only affect where the bills will be mailed. Other contacts from the university will still utilize the campus, local or permanent addresses as appropriate.

Student Finance generates your bill based on information provided by various departments and offices. Charges on the statements include current tuition, fees, campus housing and board plans and may also include other items such as parking and library charges. For more information on charges, see <http://www.loyno.edu/studentfinance/tuitionandfees.html>

Fees

Fees are assessed to cover special activities and services, such as, the orientation program, intercollegiate athletics and Internet access. General Fees include the Student Center, Student Government Association, Athletic and Yearbook fees. These fees along with the Information Technology fee are mandatory charges for all students. In addition, new full-time students are required to pay the Orientation fee.

Credits

Credits include any deposits, payments, scholarships, loans, grants and "Anticipated Financial Aid" that has not yet been received. Private loans and outside scholarships appear on the tuition account once the funds have been received and deposited.

Many loan programs now disburse their funds via an electronic funds transfer to the students' accounts. Some lenders still send traditional paper checks that require either a student or parent signature. Students will be contacted by the Office of the Bursar (<http://www.loyno.edu/bursar/>) if the University receives a paper check that requires their signature BEFORE funds can be disbursed to their account.

The Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid

(<http://www.loyno.edu/financialaid/>) will mail any parent loan checks that require a parent signature directly to the parent borrower with more instructions.

Families should contact the **Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid** immediately should they decide that they no longer want to receive the proceeds from any loan program so that we can promptly return funds to the Department of Education.

How Aid Is Applied to Your Bill

- Entering undergraduate students who have been awarded merit scholarships must sign a **scholarship certification form** to acknowledge that they understand the academic requirements associated with their award. Continuing students do not need to sign a new form each year. Institutional merit scholarships will be directly credited to the students' bill for the semester.

- **Students must apply for federal financial aid each year by completing the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* or "FAFSA".**

Once we receive the results from the federal processor, we calculate the student's eligibility for need-based federal grant aid and student loans. Entering students will receive a traditional paper financial aid award letter and information packet. We will send continuing students a letter once we have posted their aid award online on Loyola's Online Records Access System ("LORA"). *Students must complete and return a **Financial Aid Response form** indicating which portions of their aid package that they are accepting BEFORE any further action can occur on their accounts.* Federal Grants can be credited as soon as the semester begins. Students who are participating in the Federal Direct Loan, Federal College Work-Study and Federal Perkins Loan Program may also need to complete the following steps:

- Students who are borrowing for the **FIRST** Time under the **Federal Direct Loan Program** must complete a *Master Promissory Note* ("MPN") and submit it directly to their lender **BEFORE** funds will be disbursed to Loyola. Students can complete both their mandatory entrance counseling session and MPN online at www.StudentLoans.gov ..

- Students participating in the **Federal College Work Study Program** must report to the Student Employment Office at the start of the semester. Students are paid based on the number of hours that they worked during the prior pay period. For more information on this program, see <http://www.loyno.edu/human.resources/work.study/>. Students can complete an authorization form so that their work-study paychecks are automatically applied to the outstanding balance on their account with the Student Finance Office.

- Students who are borrowing under the **Federal Perkins Loan Program** must also complete a Perkins Loan *Master Promissory Note*. For more information on completing the Perkins *MPN*, go to <http://www.loyno.edu/studentfinance/perkinsloans.html> .



Money Management Tools for Students

We want all of our students to become educated consumers so that they can make smart decisions when handling their finances.

The **National Endowment for Financial Education**

developed a web site specifically to help college-age students on campuses across the country. Money management skills and access to personal financial planning resources are necessary for college students to build a healthy financial future. We are pleased that we can offer this important resource to our students. Please encourage your student to visit <http://www.cashcourse.org/loyno> where they can review a host of topics such as:

- 40 Money Management Tips Every College Student Should Know
- Needs Versus Wants Checklist
- How to Balance Your Bank Account Worksheet

PLUS Program Changes for 2010-2011

On March 25, 2010, the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate passed the Health Care and Education Affordability Reconciliation Act of 2010 ("HCEARA"-H.R. 4872). This bill mandates that, effective July 1, 2010, **all federal student loans (Stafford, PLUS, and Grad PLUS)** will be originated through the [Federal Direct Loan Program](#). The Family Federal Education Loan Program, which permitted private lenders to originate these loans, is eliminated effective June 30, 2010.

Fees:

- All [Direct PLUS Loans](#) have a fixed interest rate of 7.9%. Interest on the loan accrues while the student is in school and during authorized periods of deferment. If you postpone paying the interest, it will be *capitalized* (that is, added to the principal balance owed). This will significantly increase the total cost of the loan.
- The loan origination fee is currently 4% of the amount borrowed.

Repayment Incentives:

- Under the Electronic Debit Account (EDA) payment option, your bank automatically sends your payment to the Department of Education. Borrowers who utilize this option receive a 0.25% interest rate reduction.

How to Apply For a 2010-2011 PLUS Loan

A new method to process Direct PLUS Loans is now available on the [StudentLoans.gov](#) Web site .

- The Direct Loan Electronic Master Promissory Note ("MPN") process has been redesigned and streamlined. There are only 4 steps instead of 9 and many data fields will be pre-populated, if available. **ALL BORROWERS WILL HAVE TO COMPLETE A NEW MPN THIS YEAR.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION: <http://www.loyno.edu/financialaid/direct-plus-loan>



LOYOLA
UNIVERSITY
NEW ORLEANS

Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid
6363 St. Charles Avenue
Campus Box 206
New Orleans, LA 70118

(504) 865-3231
(504) 865-3233 fax



Learn about new loan forgiveness
and repayment options.

Office /Program

Web Address

Student Finance

<http://www.loyno.edu/studentfinance/>

Bursar

<http://www.loyno.edu/bursar/>

TOPS Scholarships

<http://www.osfa.state.la.us/>

SALLIE MAE (loan info)

<http://www.salliemae.com>

Loyola Calendars

<http://www.loyno.edu/calendar/>

Loyola Emergency

<http://www.loyno.edu/emergency>

City of New Orleans –Emergency

<http://www.cityofno.com/>