

What's New in Financial Aid for FALL 2009?

The financial aid office is making changes to better serve students. Starting Summer 2009, the following changes are being implemented.

1. **New Fall Payment Requirement** – Fall Payment Due date is 4:30pm Thursday, August 20, 2009. If you have a completed appeal submitted prior to August 1, 2009, the committee will make every effort to review your appeal prior to the first day of school, August 24, 2009. We are anticipating a large number of appeals. If you submit an appeal after August 1, 2009, you will be required to sign up for a payment plan through e-cashier. If your appeal is approved, you will not be charged for the monthly payments. If your appeal is denied, your payments will be charged as you set them up. The earlier you make a payment plan, the longer you can stretch your payments out.
2. **New Satisfactory Progress Policy** – students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 in order to receive financial aid. An approved appeal is required if the student's GPA falls below 2.0. Other provisions of the Satisfactory Progress Policy are still in effect. http://sfa.lsua.edu/_d/SAP.pdf
3. **New Loan Processing** – students eligible for loans will initially be packaged at direct costs only (tuition, fees, books) AND only if they indicated on the FAFSA they were interested in loans. Students who wish to borrow additional money must complete the additional loan form. (Check the financial aid forms page <http://sfa.lsua.edu/forms/> – form will be available mid-July)
4. **New Requirement to have Financial Aid Processed for Fall Semester** – financial aid will not be processed unless the student has a schedule. In order to process anticipated aid, the student must have a schedule of classes, and have submitted all required paperwork.
5. **New Access to Information** - The updated version of IQWeb/Self-Service shows you each of the documents that are needed and whether they have been received. You can see at any time what we are missing.
6. **New Packaging Date** – The initial batch of Fall 2009 financial aid packages will be posted starting July 13, 2009.
7. **New Appeals Process** – We are expecting a large number of appeals for Fall 2009. The committee is meeting weekly, but you must get your paperwork in soon to have a decision prior to school starting. The committee will only review appeals that are complete. Please turn in ALL requested paperwork. See cover sheet and instructions at http://sfa.lsua.edu/_d/appealrequest.pdf
8. **New Wash (Schedule Deletion) Policy** – Students are responsible for the classes they register for. If you are holding a seat, you are preventing another student from claiming that seat. Although we do wash (delete) schedules for students with no payment, financial aid, or payment plan, many students are not selected for this list because of financial aid appeals or status. **Please do not assume that we will drop your courses. You must drop any classes you do not wish to pay for PRIOR to the first day of class.** The following fee rates apply whether you drop your classes or your classes are washed. Please pay attention to drop dates:
 - a. Fee Payment Due Date: 4:30pm Thursday, August 20, 2009
 - b. Drop All Classes prior to 4:30pm Thursday, August 20, 2009 - pay only \$15 registration fee
 - c. Drop All Classes between 4:30pm August 20, 2009 and 4:30pm September 4, 2009 – pay Mandatory fees (approximately \$175.00)
 - d. Drop All Classes after 4:30pm September 4, 2009, pay full tuition and fee bill

9. **Easier Contact and Response** – for fastest response, please send an e-mail to financialaid@lsua.edu from your LSUA e-mail account. Put your full name in the subject line and ask your question in the body of the e-mail. You should receive a response within 2 business days.