# office of Financial Aid Newsletter Mency Matter



**Winter 2016** 

#### **IRS Data Retrieval Tool**

Save time by using the IRS DRT to transfer data from federal income tax returns into your FAFSA.

**Available February 7th!** 

\*Tool available if you have already filed taxes\*

#### **Selected for Verification?**

If you are selected for verification, please complete your verification process before leaving campus on

#### May 7, 2016!

FSU has contracted with College Foundation, Inc. (CFI) to help you complete the verification of your 2016-2017 FAFSA. For the verification service, CFI uses the name "School Servicing Center (SSC)." SSC will be contacting you and requesting the data needed to complete the required verification. Please watch for e-mail communications from verification@SSCwp.org or www.echosign.com and check your account often at www.SSCwp.org until you are notified that your verification has been finalized. If selected for verification, you may contact SSC at 855-328-4400.

Without completing your FAFSA and verification, if selected, we cannot process your application or give any financial aid. Also, your REFUND, if you are eligible to receive one, will be delayed.

# **2016/2017 FAFSA**

**BRONCOS!** The 2016-2017 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is available now. The form is required to receive financial aid at FSU. We encourage students to complete the application by our priority deadline, March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Submitting your FAFSA as early as possible is imperative to be considered for the best possible financial aid package. Specific types of aid, including state grants and work study, are awarded based on availability.

Completing the FAFSA application, and the verification process, if selected, in a timely manner is necessary for priority consideration. The FAFSA requires the following information in order to be processed:

- Federal Student Aid (FSA) Username and Password
  - o To set up your FSA ID, log onto www.fsaid.ed.gov.
- A copy of the 2015 Federal Tax Transcript from the IRS
- A copy of the 2015 Student's / Parent's W-2
- Documentation of income earned in 2015
- o Estimates of 2015 income if not required to file by IRS guidelines
- O Any other untaxed income (e.g. military, disability, etc.)

If you or your parents have not filed taxes for 2015, you can submit your FAFSA using the best estimate of 2014 income information. Once your taxes are filed, you can correct any information that is different.

## **FAFSA & Registration**

#### **New Requirement**

If you plan to use financial aid and/or scholarships to pay your bill for the 16/17 academic year, you <u>must</u> complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) prior to April 11, 2016 registration. You will be permitted to register <u>only</u> if you have filed the FAFSA.

PLEASE BE ADVISED: Financial aid dollars are limited!

Facebook: UNCFSUFinancialAid





Twitter: @FSUFinAid



Interested in scholarships for the 2016-2017 academic year?

Scholarships are a reward for academic excellence to support a student's education. Alumni, parents

and friends, as well as, corporations and foundations support the more than 100 scholarship funds administered by FSU and awarded by the scholarship committee. Scholarships are open and ready for submission for the 2016-2017 academic year. Please make sure you visit our Scholarship Opportunities page at <a href="http://finaid.uncfsu.edu/scholarships">http://finaid.uncfsu.edu/scholarships</a> to research available scholarships and submit your completed application packet.

To be considered for scholarships, you must meet the requirements listed for each scholarship and submit a completed application packet before the specified deadlines.

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Financial Aid or Evelyn Perez at <a href="mailto:eyeperez@uncfsu.edu">eyperez@uncfsu.edu</a>.

#### THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Happy New Year and I hope you are off to a great semester! Did you know you may reduce your financial aid anxiety by getting an early start in completing the FAFSA for the 2016-2017 academic year?

I'm sure you have already heard the exciting news: If you plan to use financial aid and/or scholarships to pay your bill for the 16/17 academic year, you must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) prior to April 11, 2016 registration. You will be permitted to register only if you have filed the FAFSA.

I challenge my Broncos to be proactive and engaged!

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." (Nelson Mandela)

Kamesia Ewing

Executive Director of Scholarships & Financial Aid

# Don't get ZAPPED by SAP

Stay on top of your student loans!

Log into <u>www.nslds.ed.gov</u>-to review your history!

Financial aid recipients must make Satisfactory Academic Progress to maintain eligibility for financial aid.

Fayetteville State University defines satisfactory academic progress in quantitative and qualitative terms.

Students are evaluated for satisfactory academic progress at the end of the Spring semester and will be notified by the Academic Appeals Committee of their eligibility status. To be eligible for financial aid, students must meet the following requirements:

GPA Requirements Progression Rate Maximum Attempted Hours
Undergraduate 2.0 67% 180
Graduate 3.0 67% 54

Progression Rate: A percentage calculated by dividing the number of earned hours into attempted hours.

Example: 45 Earned Credit Hours / 57 Attempted Hours = 0.7894 = 78.94%

Attempted Hours: The credit hours in which a student is enrolled at Fayetteville State University, to include hours transferred from other institutions.

## Upcoming Dates

Jan. 28: Issuance of Student Disbursements

Feb. 15-19: FAFSA Week

Feb. 27: Midterm Exams Begin

March 1: Priority Deadline to Submit FAFSA

March 5: Midterm Break Begins

March 25: Spring Holiday (University Closed)

April 7: Founders Day

April 11: Fall 2016 Registration Begins
April 11-15: Financial Literacy Week

Get help completing your FAFSA during

### **FAFSA Week**

February 15-19, 2016

LSA Lab

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April 4-8, 2016
OFA Computer Lab