



FINANCIAL AID NEWS

FALL SEMESTER 2009

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OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID NEWSLETTER

Office of Financial Aid Phone: (619) 260-4514

www.sandiego.edu/financial_aid

USD One Stop Student Center Answers Financial Aid, Student Accounts, Registrar and Campus Card Questions!

Hahn University Center, Room 126
(619) 260-2700

The One Stop Student Center answers questions and does many transactions related to Financial Aid, Student Accounts, Registrar and Campus Card – all in one convenient place!

USD students should also use their MySanDiego portal, which links to the Office of Financial Aid Web site, for quick access to detailed information, forms and guides.

Eleven free informational guides are updated annually to help students and parents understand the financial aid “system” and apply/reapply early for important priority deadlines. Most guides are on line. The Fall and Spring Financial Aid Newsletters are on line as well.

The Office of Financial Aid offers free Spring Workshops:

- How to Apply/Reapply for Financial Aid
- How to Apply/Reapply for Outside Scholarships
- How to Manage your Money as a Student
- How to Complete your Tax Forms

Dates and locations will be in the Spring Financial Aid Newsletter – check on line!

The One Stop Counselors look forward to assisting you for 2009/10 and into your future at USD – *Go Toreros!*

Who Provides Financial Aid?

SOURCES (2008 - 2009)	AMOUNT
USD and USD Donors	\$53.61 million
Federal Government	\$59.11 million
State Government	\$4.31 million
Private Sources	\$8.38 million
TOTAL	\$125.41 million

(Includes summer sessions '09, parent loans and estimated on-campus employment.)

Who Receives Financial Aid?

During the 2008-09 academic year 64 percent of USD undergraduates received some form of financial assistance totaling \$99.49 million (includes over \$22.58 million in Federal PLUS loans received by their parents). In addition, 68 percent of USD graduate students received \$23.34 million. Students in the paralegal program received more than \$1.13 million in student loans during the 2008-09 year.

While graduate students and students in the paralegal program received most of their financial aid in the form of loans, undergraduates received most of their assistance in the form of scholarships and grants:

UNDERGRADUATE FINANCIAL AID <i>(Does not include parent loans)</i>	
Scholarships and Grants	69%
Loans	26%
Part-time employment**	5%

***Students working on campus only. In addition, many students work part-time in the San Diego community.*

Addresses are Important

Students must respond to financial aid e-mails and mail within specified deadlines. Of course, you cannot respond if you don't receive your e-mail or mail.

- USD students are required to have a USD e-mail address and to monitor it.
- Students must keep their local and permanent addresses up to date at all times. Use the MySanDiego.edu portal to update your addresses and phone numbers.
- If you are a financial aid recipient, it is essential that the University of San Diego has your correct name, birth date and Social Security number. You must notify the One Stop Center of any change or correction and provide a Birth Certificate and/or Social Security card to correct or change those personal identifiers.

Student Employment Opportunities

More than 1,000 students were employed on the University of San Diego campus last year. Over 600 of them were employed under the Federal Work-Study Program. Others were employed as casual workers by USD departments. Please contact the Student Employment Center (Hughes Center, Room 313, Phone: (619) 260-4801) for more information about on and off-campus job opportunities.

USD Student Employee of the Year!

Each year USD supervisors have an opportunity to nominate a student for the **USD Student Employee of the Year**. For 2008-09, the winner was **Maria Nguyen**. Ms. Nguyen worked for the School of Business and was recognized at the Honors Convocation in May.

The University Community is proud of the many outstanding student employees who provide service to the University of San Diego.

Just Drop It Off at the One Stop Student Center!

Whether the new USD One Stop Student Center is open or closed, you can use the **Drop Box** to drop off financial aid materials. **The box is secure and checked twice daily.** No envelope is necessary, just make sure your name and **USD ID number** are on the top of all forms. *It can save you time!*

Many financial aid forms are available on the financial aid Web site:
www.sandiego.edu/financial_aid

Exit Loan Counseling/Money Management Information

Exit Loan Counseling and Money Management information will be provided to students receiving loans during the month after they graduate. The information is also for students who withdraw or drop to less than half time. Don't wait for this information before you become familiar with all your responsibilities as a student loan borrower. All students should track their loan balances on www.nsls.ed.gov.

New Interest Rates for Student and Parent Borrowers

The new federal loan interest rates for student and parent loans effective July 1, 2009 are:

	STAFFORD	PLUS/FFEL PROGRAM	
FIXED RATE/First Disbursed 7/1/09 - 6/30/10	5.6% SUBSIDIZED UNDERGRADUATES 6.8% SUBSIDIZED GRADUATES	6.8% UNSUBSIDIZED	8.5%
FIXED RATE/First Disbursed 7/1/08 - 6/30/09	6.0% SUBSIDIZED UNDERGRADUATES 6.8% SUBSIDIZED GRADUATES	6.8% UNSUBSIDIZED	8.5%
FIXED RATE/First Disbursed 7/1/06 - 6/30/08	6.8%		8.5%
VARIABLE RATE/First Disbursed 7/1/98 - 6/30/06	IN SCHOOL 91-DAY T-BILL + 1.7%	REPAYMENT 91-DAY T-BILL + 2.3%	91-DAY T-BILL + 3.1%
	1.88%	2.48%	3.28%

The Search for *Outside Scholarships* Continues to Pay Off for USD Students

More USD students are taking the time to search for outside scholarships and it has paid off for them. USD students received over \$3.46 million in outside scholarships for 2008/09.

The USD Office of Financial Aid and the USD Copley Library help students search for outside resources:

- Guide to Outside Resources of Financial Aid (At OFA or www.sandiego.edu/financial_aid)
- Outside Resources Bulletin Boards (at OFA)
- Reference Publications (at Copley Library)
- USD Outside Resources Collection (at Copley Library reserve desk)

Current postings of scholarships on the Outside Resources Bulletin Boards are also available through the USD financial aid Web site at: www.sandiego.edu/financial_aid. Use the financial aid information page at www.finaid.org or salliemae.com/scholarships to search for scholarships.

Students in need of references for a scholarship application may contact their faculty advisers for assistance.

All USD students must access their personal USD information via my.sandiego.edu

Your Financial Aid Loan Connection

Check the up-to-date status on your loan!

- Learn about loan deferment
- Calculate your best repayment plan
- Learn about loan consolidation

www.edfund.org
www.salliemae.com
www.nsls.ed.gov
www.elmresources.com

USD Alumni Repay Student Loans

Current USD students owe a big “thank you” to USD alumni who have consistently repaid their loans on a timely basis. It is because of their excellent repayment record that USD has one of the lowest default rates in the nation!

Thanks, USD alumni!

Entrance Loan Counseling is required for all new Stafford and Grad PLUS borrowers and is available on the web:
www.sandiego.edu/financial_aid

2010 - 2011 Financial Aid Applications

Applications for 2010-2011 financial aid are expected to be available in early December. Students who completed a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) for 2009-2010 should have received a PIN from the Department of Education to file a Renewal FAFSA. To request a PIN or change a PIN, you can go on line at www.pin.ed.gov. Students may also complete a FAFSA on the web at www.fafsa.ed.gov. **Note: The FAFSA may be submitted beginning Jan. 1, 2010.**

The USD OFA provides *A Guide to Applying/Reapplying for Financial Aid* at USD for students and parents. It contains important information about the application process. See this guide and more at www.sandiego.edu/financial_aid

Deadlines are very important because of the demand for financial assistance. **Please note the following postmark deadlines for priority applicant status:**

MARCH 2, 2010	For entering freshman, undergraduate transfer students, and returning undergraduate students
APRIL 1, 2010	For all graduate and credential students

***Note to California Residents:** See information in *A Guide to Applying/Reapplying for Financial Aid at USD* (available in December) about deadlines for *Cal Grants* for 2010-2011. The deadline is usually March 2 preceding the academic year for which the student wishes to receive funding. **In 2008-09, more than 479 USD students received up to \$9,708 from the state of California to help them pay USD tuition. Some received an additional \$1,551 for other college costs (Cal Grant B).**

January 2010 Intersession

USD students who plan to attend the January 2010 Intersession may pick up financial aid Intersession applications beginning Oct. 1, 2009. **The application priority deadline is Nov. 2, 2009.** Loans are usually available for Intersession.

Are you the *First* in Your Family to Attend College?

If your parents did not attend college, you are a first generation college student. There are approximately 826 first generation undergraduate students attending the University of San Diego. In addition, there are more than 193 graduate students at USD whose parents did not attend college. You have a lot to be proud of! If the staff of the Office of Financial Aid can assist you in any way, please let them know. Many of them were first generation students themselves!

Congratulations on being first!

Check your USD E-mail for Financial Aid Awards and Other Information

The OFA makes your Financial Aid Award available to you online. When an Award is ready, you will receive an e-mail notification at your USD e-mail address. You should access your Award on the MySanDiego Web site immediately. Once you view your Award, make sure to print, sign and return all required forms – including loan forms. You will receive an e-mail notification whenever your USD Financial Aid Award is revised.

Submit Your Changes On-line!

You can now update or confirm your enrollment and residency status with the OFA by completing the *Change of Status* form on-line. This interactive pdf form allows you to notify the OFA by e-mail. No more printing, signing and mailing!

Go to www.sandiego.edu/financial_aid/forms to complete the form and save it to your desktop. Simply attach it to an e-mail addressed to usdofas@sandiego.edu. Use your USD e-mail address! The OFA cannot open attachments from unknown addresses. (Processing Change of Status form takes 7-10 business days.)