



Office of Financial Aid

Many students attending the University of San Diego utilize some form of financial assistance to help them meet their educational costs. Some USD students qualify for need-based federal or state financial aid. Some students who feel they need assistance do not have "documented need" according to federal or state criteria. This guide consists of information that can be helpful to both types of students, but especially to those who do not qualify for need-based financial aid.

The ***Guide to Alternative Financing*** is updated annually and made available to USD students throughout the year. We hope you find the guide helpful as you plan toward meeting your educational costs at the University of San Diego.

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2007/2008

Alternative Financing Information

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Alternative Financing Information

There are several options available to students and parents in addition, or as an alternative, to the "need-based" sources of financial aid. This brief summary provides information regarding some of the resources available to assist in paying for college.

Scholarships

You may be eligible for a scholarship, grant, or fellowship that is not awarded directly by the University of San Diego. For example, many companies offer scholarships to the sons and daughters of their employees. Fraternal organizations, such as the Elks or Rotary International assist many students in meeting their educational costs. You may find local scholarship information on the internet by searching "scholarships in your city."

The USD Office of Financial Aid Services has prepared a guide to assist students in applying for outside/private sources of financial aid. A free copy of ***A Guide to Outside Resources of Financial Aid*** is available on the USD Financial Aid web site (www.sandiego.edu/financial_aid) or upon request. The guide has information regarding references available on campus and explains how to initiate the process of applying for outside/private scholarships. It has an extended bibliography of over 95 publications and is updated annually.

Current scholarship opportunities are posted outside the USD Office of Financial Aid as well as on the USD Financial Aid web site. Additional scholarship sources and search programs can be found on the Internet. A good site for several sources is the Financial Aid Information Page at www.finaid.org.

Note that all outside scholarships (including ROTC funds) must be coordinated with need-based aid. Depending on donor criteria and the documented need of the student, outside scholarships can usually reduce the amount of loans or employment in a financial aid package.

Military Programs

N.R.O.T.C.

There are two types of NROTC programs: the Scholarship Program and the College Program. The Scholarship program consists of two to four year scholarships including tuition, fees, and textbooks as well as \$200/month subsistence pay. The College Program is designed for students who desire to qualify for a commission in the Navy or Marine Corps while pursuing normal courses of study, and have not been accepted into the Scholarship Program. Contact the NROTC unit at USD (Sacred Heart Hall, Room 112, (619) 260-4811) or any Navy-Marine Corps Recruiting Office for more information and application materials. Further information is available on the NROTC Unit web site at www.sandiego.edu/nrotc.

Other R.O.T.C. Programs

Through an agreement with the Air Force and Army ROTC and San Diego State University (SDSU), qualified students at USD may participate in the Air Force or Army ROTC program at SDSU. For qualified students, AFROTC offers two to four year scholarships that may be applied toward tuition, various laboratory textbooks and incidental fees plus a monthly non-taxable \$200 allowance during the academic year. For more information, contact the AFROTC unit at SDSU at (619) 594-5545 or the Army ROTC unit at SDSU at (619) 594-4943 ext. 1236.

Other Military Programs

If you want to go to college, there are a variety of financial aid programs to choose from. The most popular are the **Montgomery G.I. Bill** and the **Army College Fund**. Combined, they give you up to \$50,000 for college at the end of your active duty tour. Or you can be a full-time student and serve part-time in the **Army Reserve** in which you will receive up to \$29,000 while you're in college, and you'll be committed to just one weekend a month plus two weeks a year. The **College Loan Repayment Program** can help you pay your existing Perkins, Stafford or any other federally insured college loan when you enlist. For information on the above scholarships or loans, contact GoArmy@usarec.army.mil. You can also receive up to \$15,600 from the **Navy College Fund**. For more information, go to www.navy.com. The **U.S. Coast Guard** also offers scholarships. To find out about them, go to www.uscg.mil.

USD Tuition Payment Plans

USD offers Tuition Payment Plans to allow students and parents the options in paying University charges. These plans are described below.

Prepayment Plan: The prepayment plan allows a discount of 4 percent per annum (1/3% per month) for payment in advance of all tuition, housing and fees. The Pre-Payment Plan operates according to the following guidelines:

- The University reserves the right to change the discount amount.
- You may prepay for the entire academic year or for Fall and Spring separately. To receive the maximum discount available, the entire academic year needs to be paid by May 1, 2007. Only one academic year may be paid in advance.
- July 1 is the last day you can make a pre-payment and receive a discount for Fall semester, and Dec. 1 for spring semester.
- The pre-payment plan is now available on-line. Please fill out the pre-payment worksheet on-line and the worksheet will automatically calculate the discount. Use the table of Number of Months Paid in Advance to calculate number of months discounted. If you are pre-paying through E-pay, you will need to print out the completed pre-payment worksheet and mail it to the Student Accounts Office for the discount to be applied. If paying by check, mail your prepayment worksheet with your check to the Student Accounts Office.
- In the event of withdrawal prior to registration/fee payment days, amount paid is refundable in full. After the registration/fee payment deadlines, amounts due the University are governed by the published refund policy. Please consult the Undergrad Bulletin or Graduate Bulletin for refund dates.
- If the student opting for the prepayment plan is unsure of units to be taken, a semester average of 12-18 units should be used to compute tuition costs. Housing estimates should be based on the cost of double occupancy in the San Dimas residence. Payment adjustments for deviations from average amounts will be made within reasonable time after actual charges are determined.
- If the student's actual charges exceed the estimated amounts prepaid, the student is responsible for paying any such amounts immediately.

Monthly Installment Plan: The monthly installment plan allows for payment in five (per semester) installments, subject to adjustments, covering actual expenses per semester. If you had a prior contract plan, your eligibility is subject to verification. The Monthly Installment Plan operates according to the following guidelines:

- The student's account balance with the University must not be delinquent and prior semester charges must have been paid on a current basis to be considered for the Monthly Installment Plan.
- No official paperwork is needed to enroll in the payment plan however; a payment plan worksheet is available on the following web site www.sandiego.edu/studentaccounts to help calculate your monthly payments. Please include a copy of this worksheet when mailing in your first payment. You will need to sign up each semester.
- Payments begin on August 1 for the Fall semester and on January 1 for the Spring semester plan.
- Adjustments are made to remaining contract payments as charges and/or credits occur. Charges for various fines, citations or other non-contractual charges are payable immediately and are not deferred over any remaining installment period.
- In the event of a contract default, USD may refuse the student or contract buyer a subsequent Monthly Installment Plan.
- All payments, which are due on the first of the month (not postmarked) throughout the contract life, must be current. If a student's installment plan is not kept current, the University reserves the right to cancel the student's class reservation and room and board arrangements. If installment payments are not current at the time of the Fall and/or Spring semester fee payment/registration deadlines, the \$150 late payment/registration fee must be paid.
- A \$50 processing fee must be paid when signing up for each semester. The processing fee is charged per semester and is nonrefundable.
- Tuition payments received are refundable in accordance with the University's published refund policy. Please consult the Undergrad Bulletin or Graduate Bulletin.
- Installment payments are not available for Study Abroad Programs, Summer Sessions or Intersession.
- The University reserves the right to change the terms of the installment plan, including enrollment fee amount and number of installments, prior to the start of any given semester.

Additional information regarding the payment plans is available from the Student Accounts Office, located in the Hughes Administration Center, Room 207 or at (619) 260-4561 and at www.sandiego.edu/studentaccounts.

Early Graduation

Students who complete Advanced Placement Tests (AP) or the College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) with acceptable scores may receive college credit from the University. Refer to the Admission section of the **USD Undergraduate Bulletin** (www.sandiego.edu/bulletin) for more specific information on this option.

Also, you may want to take Summer School, Intersession, or a heavier course load during the Fall/Spring Semesters in order to graduate in less time. Tuition costs at USD are the same for 14 to 17 units per semester for students entering prior to Fall 1997 or 12-18 units for students entering Fall 1997 or later. A separate financial aid application is required to be considered for summer or intersession financial aid.

Student Employment

USD offers a limited number of on campus part-time job opportunities for students who do not qualify for the Federal Work-Study Program. Approximately 400-500 of these positions exist during an academic year, primarily in Dining Services, Banquets and Catering, Telefunding, the Bookstore and the Athletics Department. In addition, the University assists USD students in finding off-campus employment within the San Diego metropolitan area. Contact the USD Student Employment Center (Hughes Center Rm. 313 or (619) 260-4801) for more information regarding these work opportunities which do not require documented need.

Employer Paid Tuition Plans

There are employers who provide Tuition Refund Plans as an aid to obtaining an advanced degree. These plans often provide reimbursement of tuition costs and fees. The employer may require that the course be job related, and pre-approval by a manager or supervisor may be required. Some employers provide flexible work schedules for the student/employee. Check with your employer's Human Resources/Benefits office.

Life Insurance and Pension Plans

In some instances, you and/or your parents may want to borrow on life insurance policies or on accumulations in retirement plans. Check your policies for the details on repayment and qualifications. The interest rates are generally low and repayment terms may be flexible.

Real Estate Options

You or your parents may want to consider a second mortgage, trust deed, or home equity line on your home or other real estate. Check with reputable lenders for exact interest rates and qualifications. Under the Tax Reform Act, interest on such loans may be 100% tax deductible, unlike consumer loans. In the case of 15-30 year loans, monthly payments may be quite manageable.

State Financial Aid Programs

Many states have their own financial aid programs for eligible students. Contact the State Educational Agency in your state of permanent residence for more information. Some states have allowed their residents to use state-funded grants in California (e.g., Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont).

Non-Federal Loan Programs and Lines of Credit

In addition to loans from the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program Federal (Subsidized and Unsubsidized) Stafford Federal PLUS Loans (Parent PLUS & GRAD PLUS)), there are Non-Federal Loan Programs available to students and parents who can demonstrate credit worthiness.

Generally, the interest rates are higher for the Non-Federal Loans than for loans available under the FFEL Program, but lower than many consumer loans. Most offer a long repayment period (e.g., up to 15 or 20 years). For more detailed information and the Non-Federal Loan preferred lender list, please go to www.sandiego.edu/financial_aid/loans/ and click on the "Non-Federal Loan Application" link. This will open a PDF that has EDFUND Loan Portal link embedded in the PDF information. This link will take you to USD's Non-Federal Loan preferred lender list on the EDFUND Loan Portal. By clicking on each lender's name, you will find detailed information about their specific Non-Federal Loan program. Once you have selected a lender, you can apply on-line directly with the lender.

Penalty-Free IRA Withdrawals

Individuals may withdraw funds from IRAs to pay for tuition, fees, books, and if enrolled at least half-time, room and board without facing the 10 percent penalty for early (before age 59^{1/2}) withdrawals. Taxpayers may use these funds for their education expenses or for those of their spouses, children, and grandchildren. Taxpayers making withdrawals from traditional before-tax or rollover IRAs would have to pay income tax on the full amounts withdrawn, but no penalty tax.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

A Guide to Outside Resources of Financial Aid

This may be printed from the OFA web site: www.sandiego.edu/financial_aid

Comparative Information Regarding ***Non-Federal Loan Programs*** is provided on line with the non-federal loan application.

Job Application for Employment in USD Dining Hall Services

This may be completed on the USD Dining Services web site:
www.sandiego.edu/dining/Employment.php

Prepayment Plan/Monthly Installment Plan

Contact the USD Student Accounts Office at (619) 260-4561 or at
www.sandiego.edu/studentaccounts