



FINANCIAL AID NEWS

FALL SEMESTER 2008

TABLE OF CONTENTS

New USD One Stop Student Center Answers Financial Aid, Student Accounts, Campus Card and Registrar Questions! 1

Who Provides Financial Aid? 1

Who Receives Financial Aid? 2

Addresses are Important 2

Student Employment Opportunities 2

USD Student Employee of the Year! 2

Just Drop It Off! 2

Exit Loan Counseling/ Money Management Information 2

New Interest Rates for Student and Parent Borrowers 3

The Search for Outside Scholarships Continues to Pay Off for USD Students 3

Your Financial Aid Loan Connection 3

USD Alumni Repay Student Loans 3

2009-2010 Financial Aid Applications 4

Are You the First in Your Family to Attend College? 4

Check your USD E-mail for Financial Aid Award Offers and Other Information 4

January 2009 Intersession 4

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID NEWSLETTER

Office of Financial Aid
Phone: (619) 260-4514
www.sandiego.edu/financial_aid

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

Hahn University Center, Room 125
(619) 260-2700

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

In addition, USD students may access the new One Stop tab on the 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. 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 Manage your Money after You Graduate
- 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 2008/09 and into your future at USD – Go Toreros!

Who Provides Financial Aid?

SOURCES (2007 - 2008)	AMOUNT
USD and USD Donors	\$48.82 million
Federal Government	\$54.26 million
State Government	\$4.20 million
Private Sources	\$8.20 million
TOTAL	\$115.48 million

(Includes summer sessions '08 and parent loans)

Who Receives Financial Aid?

During the 2007-08 academic year 64 percent of USD undergraduates received some form of financial assistance totaling \$89.35 million (includes over \$21.28 million in Federal PLUS loans received by their parents). In addition, 67 percent of USD graduate students received \$22.40 million. Students in the paralegal program received more than \$1.27 million in student loans during the 2007-08 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	68%
Loans	27%
Part-time employment**	6%

***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

There are over 800 students employed on the University of San Diego campus each year. Over 500 of them are employed under the Federal Work-Study Program. Others are employed as casual workers by the departments in which they work. 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 2007-08, the winner was **Raffaella Abbriano**. Ms. Abbriano worked for the Department of Marine Science and Environmental Studies 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 for students receiving loans during the month before they graduate. The information is also for students who withdraw. 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.nslds.ed.gov.

New Interest Rates for Student and Parent Borrowers

The new federal loan interest rates for student and parent loans effective July 1, 2008 are:

STAFFORD		PLUS	
FIXED RATE 7/1/08 - 6/30/09	6.0% SUBSIDIZED UNDERGRADUATES 6.8% SUBSIDIZED GRADUATES	6.8% UNSUBSIDIZED	8.5%
FIXED RATE 7/1/06 - 6/30/08	6.8%		8.5%
Loans Prior to 7/1/06	IN-SCHOOL 91-DAY T-BILL +1.7%	REPAYMENT 91-DAY T-BILL +2.3%	91-DAY T-BILL +3.1%
	6.62%	7.22%	8.02%

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 \$2.5 million in outside scholarships for 2007/08.

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 www.fastweb.com to search for scholarships.

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

Have you completed the USD OFA scholarship questionnaire? It's not too early to begin the search for 2009-2010. Questionnaires are available at the One Stop Student Center... **GOOD LUCK!**

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

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

2009 - 2010 Financial Aid Applications

Applications for 2009-2010 financial aid are expected to be available in early December. Students who completed a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) for 2008-2009 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, 2009.*

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, 2009	For entering freshman, undergraduate transfer students, and returning undergraduate students
APRIL 1, 2009	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 2009-2010. The deadline is usually March 2 preceding the academic year for which the student wishes to receive funding. **In 2007-08, more than 474 USD students received up to \$9,708 from the state of California to help them pay USD tuition. Some receive an additional \$1,551 for other college costs (Cal Grant B).**

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 624 first generation undergraduate students attending the University of San Diego. In addition, there are more than 240 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!

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

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

The OFA makes Award Offers available to you online. When an Award is ready, you will receive a notice at your USD e-mail address. You can then access your Award Offer on the MySanDiego Web site. Go to the One Stop tab and then the Financial Aid Award Channel. Once you view your Award Offer, make sure to print, sign and return all required forms – including loan forms. You will receive an e-mail whenever your USD Financial Aid Award is revised.

January 2009 Intersession

USD students who plan to attend the January 2009 Intersession may pick up financial aid Intersession applications beginning Oct. 1, 2008. **The application priority deadline is Nov. 3, 2008.** Loans are usually available for Intersession.