

DOLLAR\$ AND CENT\$

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DIRECT TO CONSUMER LOAN WARNING

As the peak of lending season approaches the Office of Financial Aid wishes to issue a warning about Direct to Consumer Loans & Direct to Consumer Loan Marketing. These types of loans are paid directly to the student without school certification, and without the Office of Financial Aid's knowledge. In many instances misleading information (in the hopes of increasing the lender's loan volume) causes the students to borrow expensive private loans before exhausting their federal aid options, or borrow more than they need.

This can have a severe negative impact on students. While Direct to Consumer loans do not require school certification, if the Office of Financial Aid becomes aware of the loan, it must be included as a resource, therefore potentially reducing or eliminating lower rate federal aid options. Direct to Con-

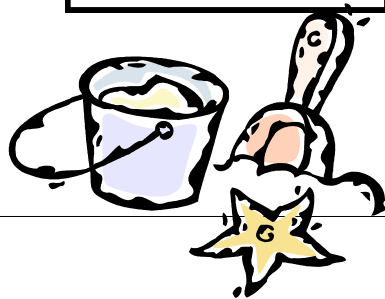
sumer loans are also a high risk loan for the lenders who make them since they do not require confirmation of enrollment, purpose of loan, or even verification of the amounts that are actually needed, consequently the loans typically have higher fees and higher interest rates. These loans are also a credit based loan product; if students have little or no credit history their interest rates could be even higher, and potentially negatively impact their credit score and future student loan borrowing. In addition, students who sidestep the Office of Financial Aid can also be missing out on opportunities for state, regional, and institutional aid.

In general, it is almost always in the student's best interest to explore federal aid options first. To apply for federal aid students should complete

the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.ed.gov. The FAFSA may also qualify the student for grants, work-study, and other forms of student aid in addition to federal student loans. If you have questions about student loans, or other types of student financial assistance please contact our office.

Welcome, Maria & Marla!

The Office of Financial Aid welcomes Maria Jiminez & Marla Schinstock to our staff. Maria was hired in April as our new verification/pell Administrative Specialist. Marla was hired as an Administrative Specialist for our scholarship area. We are delighted to have them on our team.



OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID FWS JOB OPENINGS

With the start of the 2008-2009 academic year fast approaching you or someone you know may be in search of a work study position on campus. Our office is currently looking for students to work in a fast-paced, professional, and fun environment. We have several positions available that utilize various skills and

encompass a wide range of responsibilities. Please stop by our office or visit the "Current Job Openings in our Office" section of our website at www.wichita.edu/financialaid to obtain an application and to view the specific job descriptions. Completed applications can be mailed to: Wichita State

University, Office of Financial Aid, 203 Jardine Hall, 1845 Fairmount, Wichita, KS 67260-0042 or faxed to: (316) 978-3396. If you have any questions regarding the work study positions available in our office, please feel free to contact our office at (316) 978-3430 or 1-800-522-2978.

SIGN UP FOR DIRECT DEPOSIT!!

- *Students can elect to have excess aid deposited into any U.S. Bank Account.*
- *Students electing to sign up for direct deposit will receive their refunds within 3-5 business days.*
- *To sign up for direct deposit you must complete the direct deposit authorization form found at: www.wichita.edu/finaidforms*

Important Dates

August 13— 1st day electronic refunds available for excess financial aid for Fall 08 courses

August 15— 1st day paper checks to be mailed for excess financial aid for Fall 08 courses

August 15, 20, 27— Fall 08 course drop dates for non-payment



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VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT
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“INVESTING IN
THE FUTURE, ONE
STUDENT AT A
TIME.”

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SCHOLARSHIP CORNER SHEELU SURENDER

High School Class of 2010 – It’s hard to believe that we are looking toward the class of 2010! This summer is the perfect time for incoming students to begin working on their scholarship application. Apply early for full consideration to all available opportunities.

In an effort to be the number one choice for academically talented students in a highly competitive market, WSU has added a tier of renewable scholarships for incoming new students. These competitive merit scholarships will be awarded to the top students who apply by the priority deadline of November 1. Students will be reviewed on GPA, ACT, strength of school curriculum, personal statement, record of extracurricular activities including community

service and demonstrated leadership. Minimum requirements for consideration include a cumulative 3.5 high school GPA and an ACT composite of 25. Awards are limited and highly competitive. Awards range from \$6,000 to \$20,000.

Additionally, WSU will continue to offer new student non-renewable general scholarships to incoming applicants. These scholarships range between \$1000 to \$4000. Preference is given to students with a minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA and an ACT composite of 21.

One of the best opportunities for incoming Sedgwick County residents is the Sedgwick County Scholars program. This scholarship is awarded to residents of Sedgwick County who submit a complete scholarship application and meet

one of the following criteria; have an ACT score of 21 or higher (SAT 980), rank in top 1/3 of high school graduating class, or be an admissible student who participated in Kansas Kids or USD 259 GEAR UP Program.



To apply for these general scholarships students must be fully admitted to the University and submit a scholarship personal statement and an activities chart. The university must have an official high school transcript and ACT/SAT score on file. Incomplete applications are not considered.

Apply early to be considered for opportunities with limited resources!