# Financial aid: What to do next



## TO RECEIVE YOUR AID

In order to receive financial aid for the current aid year, you must accept the terms and conditions and review your aid online via MySCAD. Financial aid funds are not disbursed until the acceptance process has been completed.

Complete the following steps to accept your aid as soon as possible.

- 1. Log on to MySCAD
- 2. Select the My Info tab
- 3. In the My Financial Aid channel, select the "My Overall Status" link.
- 4. Select the appropriate aid year from the drop-down screen and Click "Submit"
- 5. You should see a statement that reads similar to the following: "You have been awarded financial aid totaling \$XXX.XX." ("Awarded" should be blue and you should be able to click through.)
- 6. After clicking on "awarded," another screen opens. This is the General Information tab.
- 7. Select the Terms and Conditions tab.
- Read through the terms and conditions. Agree to the terms and conditions by clicking "Accept."
- Now you should be able to select the Accept Award Offer tab at the top of the screen.
- 10. This allows you to accept any additional funds that are not currently accepted, such as Direct Loans. Your options include:
  - a. To accept loans for the year click on the "Accept Full Amount All Awards" button at the bottom of the page.
  - b. To accept or decline loans by quarter, use the drop-down menu to select "Accept" or "Decline" for each quarter (Fall, Winter, Spring and/or Summer).
  - To accept a partial loan amount each quarter, select 'Accept' from the drop-down menu and indicate the amount in the coordinating boxes to the right.
- 11. When you are finished click "Submit Decision" at the bottom of the screen.

### LOAN INFORMATION

If you have accepted a loan as part of your financial aid package, additional action on your part is required.

- Disbursement of all federal loans requires a completed Master Promissory Note. Visit studentloans.gov to complete the MPN for Direct, Graduate PLUS or Parent PLUS loans.
- First-time student borrowers must fulfill the federally mandated Entrance Loan Counseling at studentloans.gov. This is required for first-time Direct Loan borrowers and first-time Graduate PLUS Loan borrowers.
- Federal PLUS Loans may be available, based on credit approval, as a
  resource to pay for educational expenses. Although this award letter
  may already include an optional Parent PLUS Loan or Graduate PLUS
  Loan, further action is needed. Parents or graduate students must
  complete the PLUS Request process available at studentloans.gov
  and be approved for this loan with a positive credit decision from the
  Department of Education, then complete a Master Promissory Note.

- Any applicable loan origination fees will be deducted from loan proceeds when funds are disbursed.
- Private or alternative loans are also available to assist with covering the cost of educational expenses. To apply, visit elmselect.com. Students should compare lenders and loan products and are free to select whichever lender they choose.
- Students/parents have the right to cancel all or part of their federal Title IV financial aid (including loans) before disbursement and up to two weeks after notification that such aid was credited to the student's account. Such requests must be made in writing to SCAD. If the cancelation creates a balance due on the student's account, the balance is due immediately. After the first day of class, the student account must have a credit balance remaining in order to return financial aid.

#### **GEORGIA AID**

If you are applying for the Georgia HOPE scholarship, complete the electronic GSFAPPS available at gacollege411.org. Submit all supporting documents as requested by the financial aid office. Complete program requirements and information about Georgia aid eligibility is available at gacollege411.org.

#### SCAD SCHOLARSHIPS

If you have been awarded a SCAD scholarship, it is applied quarterly as long as you remain enrolled and maintain a 3.0 cumulative GPA as an undergraduate student or 3.25 GPA as a graduate student first enrolled Fall 2012 or later. The scholarship award amount assumes that the recipient will enroll full time each quarter. If the student chooses to enroll in fewer courses or more courses, the scholarship award amount will be prorated accordingly.

# MAINTAIN YOUR ELIGIBILITY

- All aid is based on full-time enrollment and is subject to change or loss for changes in enrollment, academic progress, housing, receipt of funding from outside sources or changes in income. Students will receive an updated award letter for any changes made to their financial aid award.
- Financial aid is renewable upon timely annual reapplication.
- For complete information on available funds, specific requirements and financial aid policies, visit scad.edu/financialaid.