



FINANCIAL AID ADVISOR

Clark College Financial Aid,
Sponsored Programs & Veteran's Affairs

SPRING 2008

WWW.CLARK.EDU | 360-992-2153

Planning to Attend Summer or Fall 2008? Then Apply Early For Financial Aid 2008-2009.

NEW FOR 2008-2009

A paper copy of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will only be available by contacting the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1-800-433-3243.

The easiest and fastest way to apply for financial aid is online. If you are a new applicant, the first step is to request a PIN number at www.pin.ed.gov. The pin number will serve as your electronic signature (you will also need one for your parent(s) if you are considered a dependent for Financial Aid purposes).

Once you have your PIN number, you can fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at www.fafsa.ed.gov and sign it using your PIN number (and your parent(s) if you are considered a dependent student). If you are a returning applicant, you can select the 'pre-fill' option when filling out your FAFSA online. This option will pre-fill your 2008-2009 FAFSA with your biographic information; all you have to do is enter in your 2007 income information and sign it using your PIN number (and your parent(s) if you are dependent). Remember: In order to have a complete file and meet the priority processing date, you must do MORE than just fill out the FAFSA. You will also need the following:

A valid Student Aid Report from Federal Student Aid by the posted priority dates and your Financial Aid Data Sheet turned into the Financial Aid Office.

The 2008-2009 Financial Aid Data Sheet is available on-line at http://www.clark.edu/admissions_fin_aid/fin_aid/forms.php

If you are selected for verification, you will also need to complete the Federal Verification Worksheet and provide copies of your 2007 financial documents including: signed copies of your federal 2007 tax return, W-2's, etc. (including parent(s) information if dependent).

If you want a Stafford Loan, you will also need to complete the Clark College Stafford Loan Application (in addition to the FAFSA) after receiving your initial Financial Aid award notification. For additional information see the Stafford Loan Application box below.

Financial Aid Priority Dates

Apply as soon as possible!

Priority Processing Dates for
2008-2009

Summer/Fall: May 9th, 2008

Winter: October 3rd, 2008

Spring: February 6th, 2009

Congratulations! Clark College 2008 Graduates

Are you graduating and did you receive
Stafford Loans?

If yes, you are required to complete a Federal
Stafford Loan Exit Interview session.

Please access the exit interview below:

1. Access www.clark.edu
2. Select "Admissions and Financial Aid."
3. Select "Financial Aid" then "Loans."
4. Click "On-Line Loan Counseling."
5. Click on "Stafford Exit Counseling."

Good Luck and Best Wishes!

A New Home for Student Services!

During spring quarter 2008 many student services offices, including Financial Aid, will move into the remodeled Gaiser Hall. Offices that have been temporarily located in the "T" Building and other locations across the main campus are scheduled to move in April and May. Move dates will vary by department. Please watch for further information on campus on through the Clark College website www.clark.edu

Stafford Loan Applications

Once you receive and Award Notification letter, you can choose to activate your estimated loan offer. Apply for a Stafford Loan by following these steps...

Go to www.clark.edu/admissions_fin_aid/fin_aid/loan.php and complete:

- Entrance Interview (On-line Loan Counseling)
- Master Promissory Note (MPN)
- Turn in a completed loan application to the Financial Aid Office.

Spring Financial Aid Disbursements

Spring Financial Aid disbursements will be available in the Student Center (located in Gaiser Hall next to the stage)

Monday, April 7th 7:30 am to 6:00 pm and

Tuesday, April 8th, 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

Financial Aid Information Nights

April 23rd, 2008 --Wednesday, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Penguin Union Building (PUB), Lounge

This is the best time to apply for 2008-2009 scholarships

Local, civic and community organizations, as well as the Clark College Foundation, award numerous scholarships to students each year. The scholarship program offered through the Clark College Foundation is one of the largest at a Washington community college. A Clark College Scholarship Handbook and application materials are available each January. In addition to the Clark College general scholarship program, the college also has other scholarships, each requiring a separate application.

Most scholarships are disbursed through the Financial Aid Office and eligibility varies according to the criteria established by the donor. Sources of scholarship information can be found in resource books available in the Career Center, Library, bulletin board in the Financial Aid Office, and Clark College's Web Site www.clark.edu.

Clark College Foundation Scholarship Application deadline is April 11, 2008.

A complete application packet must be received in the Financial Aid Office at Clark College by 4:30 pm Friday, April 11, 2008. Note: The application must be typed or printed legibly.

Attention Student Employees!!!

Now is the time to submit your nomination for the "Clark College Student Help Supervisor of the Year Award". You can pick up nomination forms at the Financial Aid Office. Please return them to the Financial Aid Office, Attn: Eugene Carroll by April 15th, 2008. Thank you for your participation in this program. Winners will be announced in late April after which we will have a ceremony in their honor.

Attention Work-Study Supervisors

We are announcing the Mandatory annual 2008-2009 Clark College Student Employee Training Sessions. We have set the Supervisor Training session and locations as seen below, please mark your calendar: May 13 PUB 161/Lounge 10-11 am, May 14 JSH 245 10-11 am, May 15 161/Lounge 10-11 am In order to be eligible to use Clark College Work-Study, Work-First, or Institutional Hire Student help, you must attend one of the training sessions. If you have questions please call (360) 992-2416.

Notice to all Supervisors of Work-Study, Work-First and Institutional Hire Students

Please keep in mind that students cannot work past June 15th, 2008 without receiving a new 2008-2009 referral marked "Authorized to Work" from employment services. New referrals will start being issued on the first of June.

Textbook Holds

The Clark College Bookstore offers an In-Store Financial Aid Hold Service enabling students to select books, new or used, and secure them in the store until checks are disbursed. If you would like to use this service, visit the Bookstore and be prepared with the following:

- Copy of Award Letter
- \$10 deposit cash/check/charge (to be applied to purchase at pick up)

Spring textbooks and information are available starting Monday, March 17, 2008.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Karen Driscoll

Hello, my name is Karen Driscoll, I am the new Director of Financial Aid. I have 21 years of student affairs experience in various capacities. I started as a part-time employee working as an Office Assistant at the front counter in the Financial Aid Office and eventually became the Interim Vice President of Student Services at Spokane Falls Community College. I have a Bachelor's Degree in Business and majored in Accounting. I enjoy working in Financial Aid because I can help students achieve their higher education goals. Clark will distribute more than 20 million dollars to students this year. We have so many sources of funding available to financially assist students who do not have the resources to pay for college. It is our job to combine these funding sources to put together a financial aid award package that covers a student's cost of attendance at Clark.

I am so excited to join the Clark College team. The staff, faculty and administrators have been very supportive and demonstrate compassion for student success. I look forward to working with financial aid staff to streamline services for students. Our experienced staff listen to students needs and know where and when students encounter barriers. They have already suggested several changes that will be implemented summer quarter 2008. I am proud to be a part of the Penguin Nation and look forward to meeting you on campus.

Have a great Spring quarter!

Sponsored Programs:

Sponsored Programs students whose authorizations for a Bookstore account have been received, may access their account beginning March 24th. All accounts will close on May 16th. **No purchases may be made before March 24th or after your account closes.** Please call 360-992-2307 if you have any questions in regards to your account.

Veterans Administration (VA) Education Benefits

Veterans! Remember that you must notify the Veterans Affairs Office each quarter when you register for classes to ensure your VA education benefits continue.

Veterans! Remember you can receive financial aid in conjunction with your MGIB. The only way to know whether you are eligible for financial aid is to file your FAFSA (find more information regarding applying for financial aid elsewhere in this newsletter). Do it today!

Veterans and Dependents of Veterans! You may be eligible for a Tuition Waiver. Please look at the current Clark College Schedule book "Connections", to find out more. You will find this information in the Schedule near the Tuition & Fees information page or call the Veterans Affairs Office at (360) 992-2112.

Financial Aid Office/MS-18

1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver, WA 98663-3598
www.clark.edu/admissions_fin_aid/fin_aid
 Phone: 360-992-2153, Fax: 360-992-2864

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 7:30 am to 6:00 pm
 Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm