

Financial Aid Office • Hampton, VA 23668 • 1.800.624.3341 • 757.727.5332

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships has put together information as it relates to our new business practices and services for the 2004-05 school year. Please be advised that Hampton University has opted out of the William D. Ford, Direct Loan Program. Effective Fall 2004, we will begin participating in the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program.

The FFEL Program consists of private lenders who provide federally guaranteed loan funds, such as, the Federal Stafford, Federal PLUS Loans, and Federal Consolidation Loans to students attending college. Repayment of these loans will be to the lender or to its designated agency.

Listed below is the step-by-step process to ensure prompt processing and timely disbursements of both student and parent loans during the 2004-05 school year.

Step 1 All Borrowers - Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

To be considered for "Priority" awarding, your FAFSA must have been processed on or before March 1. If you have not completed the 2004-2005 FAFSA, please visit the Hampton University web site: www.hamptonu.edu. From the University's homepage please select "Financial Aid" and within the financial aid homepage select "Useful Links". You will then need to click on "FAFSA" which will take you through the application process.

Step 2 Continuing Students Only - Implementing New On-line Award Acceptance Process for Financial Aid.

Effective June 1, returning students may choose to accept their award letter online through the Financial Aid link via our University's main web site www.hamptonu.edu instead of a manual process. Visit the Hampton University web site, select the "Financial Aid" menu item, and then click on the "On-Line Award Acceptance" link. Students who choose to use the Online Award Acceptance option must use their Campus-based Pipe Line PIN number to gain access. Please follow the on-line step-by-step instructions, once logged in. If you have misplaced or cannot remember your PIN, please contact the Hampton University Help Desk at: 757.728.6931.

Students also have the option to mail us their award letter if they choose to do so. Please allow time for both the U.S. Postal Service and Hampton University to process your correspondence. Our mailing address is: Hampton University, 2nd floor - Whipple Barn, Hampton, VA 23668, Attn: Student Financial Aid Office.

Please remember that you must be in good academic standing, as determined by the Office of Financial Aid. If you're unfamiliar with the minimum academic requirements to receive financial aid, please contact your assigned financial aid counselor at 1.800.624.3341.

Step 2 Plus Loan Borrowers Only - Completing the PLUS Loan Online Application Process

We have implemented a new feature for parent borrowers to complete their PLUS application process online after they undergo a credit check. Hampton University has selected to use Nelnet PLUS Credit Check services, which can be accessed on our Financial Aid web site: www.hamptonu.edu/studentservices/financialaid/ Please visit the Financial Aid web site listed above, and select: "Plus Credit Check" link. Nelnet will perform an immediate (online) credit check for you. You will receive an



electronic response indicating the results of your credit check. Parents who are denied a loan via the credit check process will receive a letter in the mail as well and may opt to appeal the decision to the credit-reporting agency listed in their response letter. Questions relating to the credit check process should be directed to Michael. Jefferson@hamptonu.edu.

Step 3 All Borrowers - Signing of New Stafford & Plus Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN)

Because of our transition into the FFEL Program, by law, each student must sign a new MPN, including parents that wish to borrow funds via the PLUS Loan Program. To better serve you, we have added another new option known as Electronic Signature (e-signature) to our web site. Both the parent and the student can utilize the e-sign option from the Financial Aid web site. Please visit: www.hamptonu.edu/studentservices/financialaid/ and select "E-Signature." You will then be guided through a step-by-step process (completing the e-signature process).

We can still send/mail a manual MPN if either the student or parent chose not to complete the online application process. If you choose to use the manual process, then the student or parent must complete, sign, and return the manual MPN to the Financial Aid Office (see mailing address listed above). The new MPN (e-signature or paper) is good for up to 10 years so long as the student/parent continue to use the same lender.

Step 4 First Time Borrowers and New Students Only - Entrance Loan Counseling & Federal Loan Regulations

A few important reminders: student aid regulations require the school to conduct entrance loan counseling for all new & first-time borrowers before issuing the first disbursement. If you're a first-year undergraduate student and a first-time borrower, your first disbursement cannot take place until 30 days after the first day of your enrollment period begins.

Step 5 All Borrowers - Disbursing Stafford and Plus Loans

If you're a first-year undergraduate student and a first-time borrower, your first disbursement cannot take place until 30 days after the first day of your enrollment period begins. Disbursements for the fall 2004 semester for continuing students who have completed their 2004-05 FAFSA, are in good academic standing, enrolled in the correct number of credit hours, and have no outstanding requirement(s) have their first disbursement scheduled for September 10, 2004. If you are due a refund at that time, please allow a minimum of fourteen days afterwards before inquiring on the status of your refund with the Business Office. Your balance due to the University for all charges must be paid in full before a refund from your loan proceeds can be processed.

We hope that the information provided will help you understand the upcoming changes as they relate to our Stafford/PLUS Loan processes for the 2004-05 school year. Should you have questions concerning any of the above noted items, contact your assigned financial aid counselor at 1.800.624.3341 or visit us at www.hamptonu.edu and click on "Financial Aid."

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