

FINANCIAL AID

The mission of the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships is to assist students in obtaining funds to achieve their educational potential. The university provides assistance to students through three basic sources: grants, employment and scholarships. The primary purpose of financial aid is to provide assistance to students who, without such aid, would find it difficult or impossible to attend college. Our primary source of funding is from federally funded programs. To determine eligibility, students must complete a Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA); which takes into consideration all factors that affect a family's financial status. The FAFSA must be completed each year a student plans to attend school. Students may begin the process on **January 1st** of each year. The FAFSA may be completed online at www.fafsa.gov. SUSLA's Title IV code **007686** must be included to ensure that the results are accessible to the SULSA financial aid staff. In addition to completing the FAFSA, students must meet the following requirements:

- Be enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a regular student working toward a degree or certificate in an eligible program.
- Be a U. S. citizen or eligible non-citizen
- Have a valid social security number
- Submit an official high school transcript or General Education Development (GED) certificate to the Admissions Office, if a beginning freshman
- Certify that all federal/state student aid awarded will be used for educational purposes only by signing a Statement of Educational Purpose; which is located on the FAFSA
- Must not be in default on a federal student loan or owe a refund on a federal grant
- If male and aged 18 through 25, register with the Selective Service. Students may give Selective Service permission to register them by checking a box on the FAFSA or via the Internet at <http://www.sss.gov>
- Must not have earned an Associate Degree or Bachelor's Degree (pending reset approval)
- Must maintain satisfactory academic progress

A select number of students who apply for federal financial aid must verify the information submitted on the FAFSA application. Therefore, students must be prepared to submit income documents to the Financial Aid Office. All requested documents must be submitted in a timely manner to ensure the prompt processing of financial aid requests.

Students who transfer to Southern University at Shreveport from any other college/university or vocational/technical schools must take the necessary steps to ensure that they will be eligible for financial aid; as it does not automatically transfer. Students should add Southern University at Shreveport code (007686) to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Official academic transcripts from all schools previously attended must be submitted. As soon as possible, transfer applicants should contact the Financial Aid Office to find out what steps should be taken to ensure receipt of aid at Southern University at Shreveport.

The law suspends aid eligibility for students convicted under federal or state law of sale or possession

of drugs. Students who have been convicted of drug possession are ineligible for one year from the date of a first conviction, two (2) years after a second conviction, and indefinitely after a third conviction. Students convicted of selling drugs are ineligible for two (2) years from the date of a first conviction and indefinitely after a second conviction. If eligibility is lost, a student may regain eligibility early by successfully completing an acceptable drug rehabilitation program. For more information, visit the Financial Aid webpage on the university’s website.

Summer Eligibility

Only eligible continuing students and beginning freshmen are considered for financial aid for summer sessions. Scholarships and loans are not available for summer-only enrollees.

Satisfactory Academic Progress

The U.S. Department of Education requires colleges and universities to adopt specific guidelines to monitor the academic progress of students receiving federal or state financial assistance. The regulations require the University to monitor student grades and number of hours attempted/earned to determine whether students are eligible to receive financial assistance (See Figure 1). In order to maintain eligibility, a student must not exceed 150% of credits required for the student’s current major. Any student that does not maintain satisfactory academic progress has the right to initiate a financial aid appeal. In such cases, students shall not be paid retroactively for terms where eligibility is lost. Additional information can be obtained on the Financial Aid webpage via the university’s website.

<u>SAP Requirements: Undergraduate</u>		
Southern University will determine the eligibility of a student for financial assistance based on the following:		
Cumulative Hours Attempted	Minimum Hours (%) to Complete	Minimum Cumulative GPA
0-25	50%	1.50
26-45	67%	1.75
46 and above	67%	2.00

Figure 1

Return of Title IV Funds:

Southern University at Shreveport adheres to the 2008 Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act of 1965; as amended. The law defines the amount of Title IV grants and loans that the student has earned the right to use. The amount of aid a student has earned is directly related to the length of time he or she has maintained attendance during the semester. The law requires that if a recipient of Title IV assistance withdraws/resigns from an institution before completing more than 60% of the semester in which the recipient began attendance, the institution must calculate the percentage and amount of Title IV assistance the student earned. Unearned Title IV funds must be returned to the Title IV programs by the school and/or the student.

SOURCES OF FINANCIAL AID

Federal Funds

There are several types of grants a student may obtain at Southern University at Shreveport. They are as follows: Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, Veterans' Benefits, Vocational Rehabilitation, Armed Forces Reserve, and National Guard. For information on military-related stipends, contact the Registrar's Office.

Federal Pell Grant - The Federal Educational Amendment of 1972 established a program that entitles all eligible students to receive Federal Pell Grant awards. These awards range from \$564-\$5,775 for an academic year; depending on the student's eligibility as determined by the U.S. Department of Education, his/her enrollment status and the institution's cost of education.

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant - Southern University at Shreveport, in cooperation with the federal government, has limited funds to provide grants to eligible students. The amount of the grant is based on the individual student's financial need and the availability of funds.

Loans

Southern University at Shreveport currently provides loans to students through the William D. Ford Direct Loan Program. Direct loans are provided by the federal government rather than a commercial lending institution. The university's office of student Financial Aid administers the loans; determines loan eligibility; approves the loan; confirms the promissory note, when necessary; receives the funds from the federal government; and credits the loan amount directly to a university student account.

To be eligible for Federal Direct Loans, students must submit a FAFSA and be enrolled in at least six

(6) credit hours. The financial aid loan coordinator will use information from the FAFSA to determine eligibility for a Parent Plus, Subsidized and / or Unsubsidized Loan.

Subsidized Direct Loans - is awarded on the basis of financial need. The interest rate is fixed at 1.07% for 2015-2016 award year.

Unsubsidized Direct Loans – is not based on financial need. The interest rate is fixed at 1.07% for 2015-2016 award year.

Parent Plus Loans – a Federal PLUS Loans enable parents with good credit histories to borrow funds to pay the education expenses of each child who is a dependent undergraduate student. PLUS Loans have fixed interest rate of 6.41% starting with PLUS loans disbursed after July 1, 2014. A fee of 4.292% of the loan can be deducted proportionately from each disbursement.

Student Employment

Southern University at Shreveport provides jobs for students who need financial assistance using funds from the federal government. Through the Federal Work-Study Program, the office of Financial Aid arranges jobs for students on- and off-campus with private non-profit agencies. Students are paid at least the hourly minimum wage. Interested students should apply in the Financial Aid Office.

Veterans' Benefits

All veterans, spouses and dependents of deceased or disabled veterans must acquire a Certificate of Eligibility from the Veterans Administration Office prior to registration. Students must mail or bring the Certificate of Eligibility to the Registrar's Office for authenticating and processing.

Vocational Rehabilitation

A student who has a physical disability may obtain assistance for tuition and books through the Louisiana Department of Education (Division of Vocational Rehabilitation). Students who feel they may qualify should apply for assistance to the nearest rehabilitation office.

A non-resident is herein defined as an individual who cannot provide proof of eligibility for assignment of resident status under the regulations prescribed in this section.

Workforce Investment Act (WIA)

The WIA funding is available for individuals to fund short-term training programs that have been approved by the local Workforce Investment Board (WIB). To qualify for funding to attend the training programs, students must apply in the workforce region of residence and meet specific requirements.

WIA is designed to enhance customer choice through a system of Individual Training Account (ITA) vouchers, while assuring program quality through a provider certification system. SUSLA is a state approved training provider through the provider certification system. The intent of WIA is to empower individuals by allowing them to choose the program of training or education they need, giving them the information to make informed decisions, and increasing accountability and quality among providers.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Southern University Board of Supervisors makes scholarships available to qualified students. Scholarships are awarded by the university Scholarship Committee and administered by the Financial Aid Office. The following university, state and private scholarships are available:

The Academic Scholarship - This scholarship is awarded to those who have demonstrated academic excellence. Recipients are selected on the basis of high school cumulative averages of 3.0 or better, ACT test scores, and/or selected recommendations. The recipient must complete at least twelve (12) hours of college level courses each

semester. Developmental courses are not accepted.

The Thelma Fisher Patterson Memorial Scholarship - This scholarship is awarded to selected students with a high school cumulative average of 2.5 or better and selected recommendations. All other recipients must maintain a grade point average of 3.0 or better by the end of the first academic year. The recipient must complete at least twelve (12) semester hours of college level courses each semester. Developmental courses are not accepted.

Private Scholarships - Private Scholarships are often awarded by various organizations such as churches, fraternities, sororities, casinos, and masonic and civic organizations. Not all of these are recurring awards; nor are they always made through the institution. The most frequent awards are:

- Shreveport Rotary Club
- Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.
- Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.
- Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.
- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
- Alpha Phi Alpha, Fraternity, Inc.
- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
- Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.
- Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.
- Order of Eastern Star
- National Association of University Women
- Louisiana Tuition Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS)
- Southern University Alumni Federation - Shreveport Chapter
- Southern University at Shreveport Foundation
- Ida M. Stinson Scholarship in Chemistry
- Annie Lowe Stiles

REGULATIONS REGARDING RESIDENT CLASSIFICATION

For purposes of assigning tuition and fees at public institutions of higher education, a Louisiana resident shall be defined as an individual who has abandoned all prior domiciles and has been domiciled in the State of Louisiana continuously for a period herein called the domiciliary period, of at least one calendar year immediately preceding the first day of classes for which resident classification is sought. The individual's physical presence within this state solely for education purposes without substantial evidence of the intent to remain in Louisiana will not be sufficient for resident classification; regardless of length of time within the state.

A person herein termed as a bona fide Louisiana resident is an individual who qualifies as a resident in accordance with the regulations prescribed in this section. An individual who is recognized under one of the mandated criteria as a bona fide Louisiana resident by any other of the system's institutions shall so be recognized by every institution within the system; provided

the individual's category has not changed.

A non-resident is herein defined as an individual who cannot provide proof of eligibility for assignment of resident status under the regulations prescribed in this section.

CRITERIA FOR ASSIGNING RESIDENT STATUS

System institutions shall classify as residents persons, who in accordance with the one-year domiciliary requirement, resided in Louisiana for purposes other than to attend a Louisiana institution of higher education. Resident status so acquired in one public institution of higher education shall be transferable to any other such institution.

System institutions shall afford resident status to individuals in the following categories, and transfer to any other institution within the system shall not alter resident status so acquired:

- Members of the armed forces who are currently stationed in Louisiana on active duty
- Dependents who reside with a bona fide Louisiana resident
- Spouses who reside with a bona fide Louisiana resident

System institutions shall permit the following categories of individuals residing out-of-state to retain resident status, and transfer to any institution within the system shall not alter status.

- Sons or daughters whose legal and/or natural parent is a graduate
- Dependents or spouses who live with persons residing in Louisiana and who provide appropriate documentary evidence substantiating that they have abandoned all prior domiciles and intend to remain in Louisiana
- Persons who have not and are not registered for more than the equivalent of six credit hours per semester and who have resided in Louisiana in accordance with the one-year domiciliary requirement

RESIDENCE APPEALS COMMITTEE

The Chancellor appoints a Residence Regulations Appeals Committee. Any student classified as a non-resident may appeal the classification to this committee.

STUDENT FEES AND EXPENSES

FEE TYPE	Audit	1 Credi t Hour	2 Credi t Hours	3 Credi t Hours	4 Credi t Hours	5 Credi t Hours	6 Credi t Hours	7 Credi t Hours	8 Credi t Hours	9 Credi t Hours	10 Credi t Hours	11 Credi t Hours	12 or more (Full Time Students
Tuition	\$660.00	660.00	672.00	683.00	694.00	707.00	879.00	896.00	906.00	1151.00	1160.00	1170	1309.00
Academic Enhancemen	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00
Academic Excellenc		10.00	20.00	30.00	40.00	50.00	60.00	70.00	80.00	90.00	100.00	110.00	120.00
Athletic	55.00	55.00	55.00	55.00	55.00	55.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00
Breakage													1.00
Building Usage	4.00	4.00	8.00	12.00	16.00	20.00	24.00	28.00	32.00	36.00	40.00	44.00	48.00
Class	0												2.00
Energy	4.00	4.00	8.00	12.00	16.00	20.00	24.00	28.00	32.00	36.00	40.00	44.00	48.00
Intramural	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
Lyceum							3.00	3.00	3.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
Specia l	0						5.00	7.50	7.50	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
Student Activitie	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
Student Government	0	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	15.00	18.00	18.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
Student I.D.	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
Student Life Improvemen	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
Student Life													
Student Loan Publication							3.00	4.50	4.50	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Student Union	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00
Technology		5.00	10.00	15.00	20.00	25.00	30.00	35.00	40.00	45.00	50.00	55.00	60.00
TOTAL	798.00	823.00	858.00	892.00	926.00	962.00	1193.00	1240.00	1273.00	1549.00	1581.00	1614.00	1780.00
Late Fee 1 st Day of Class	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00
Minimum 60% Down with Deferred Payment Plan	479.00	494.00	515.00	535.00	556.00	577.00	716.00	744.00	764.00	929.00	949.00	968.00	1068.00
BALANCE DUE AT MID TERM	319.00	329.00	343.00	357.00	370.00	385.00	477.00	496.00	509.00	62.00	632.00	646.00	712.00

NOTE: Out of State Fees: \$650.00

NOTE: If Clinical Fee added – 60% Down Calculated with Fee Added to Tuition NOTE: Late Fee not eligible for deferred calculation

NOTE: Fees are subject to change

UNIVERSITY HOUSING AND MEAL PLANS

2 Bedroom – 1 Bath Unit	\$3,960.00
4 Bedroom – 2 Bath Unit	\$3,330.00
Security Deposit	\$100.00 (Refundable)
Application Fee	\$35.00 (Non-Refundable)
Reservation Fee	\$200.00 (Non Refundable)
Meal Plan A	\$1,334.00
Meal Plan B	\$1,219.00
Meal Plan C	\$1,175.00

APPLICATION FEES

There is a non-refundable \$20.00 fee for new admission applications. There is a non-refundable \$15.00 application fee for international students.

Louisiana Resident Students - A general registration fee of \$1,780.00 per regular semester and \$467.00 for the summer session is charged to all full-time Louisiana resident students.

Out-of-State Residents - An out-of-state resident fee of \$650.00 per regular semester and \$319.00 for the summer session in addition to the general registration fee will be charged for all non-resident students.

Add/Drop Courses - There is a \$2.00 fee for each add or drop course transaction.

Transcript Request - A fee of \$3.00 will be charged for each transcript requested from the university. Fee payment must be in the form of cash, cashier's check, Money Order, VISA, MasterCard or Discover.

Technology Fee - A state-mandated technology fee is included in the fee schedule. The purpose of this fee is to meet the growing technological needs of the students. The amount of the fee is based on the number of credit hours pursued. However, there is a five (\$5.00) per credit charge – minimum of \$5.00, maximum of \$60.00.

Late Registration Fee - A late registration fee of \$25.00 is imposed on students on or after the date classes begin in any semester.

GRADUATION FEE

A graduation fee of \$90.00 is required of all students who are graduating. This fee includes the cost of the degree/certificate. The graduation fee is NON-REFUNDABLE.

REFUND POLICY

The general fee, which includes student assessed fees and non-resident fees, is refundable on the following basis for students who register, pay fees, and resign from the university:

Fall and spring semesters - Before the fourteenth (14th) day of class, 100% refund will be given. After the fourteenth (14th) class (fall and spring semesters) to the end of the semester, no refund will be made.

Summer Term - Before the seventh day (7th) day of class, 100% refund will be given. After the seventh (7th) day of class to the end of the term, no refund will be made.