

## **New Financial Aid Regulations and Changes:** **Effective beginning the 2012-2013 academic year**

- **Enrollment Fees increase to \$46 per unit;** effective Summer 2012.
- **New BOG Eligibility** – To qualify for the BOG fee waiver based on the FAFSA application, students must have a minimum of \$1,104 in need. Need is determined by subtracting your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) from your full year cost of attendance.
- **A Copy of your Federal Tax return is no longer considered an acceptable documentation to verify your income.** You may need to request an IRS Transcript through the IRS office for the income verification process. Students are encouraged to use the IRS Data Retrieval when completing the FAFSA.
- **IRS Data Retrieval:** The IRS Data Retrieval Process is a way to get your tax information directly from the IRS without having to have a copy of your taxes with you when completing the FAFSA. If you have filed a Federal tax return, you will be asked if you want to retrieve your information directly from the IRS. If you select this option, you will be guided through the process. Once your information is transferred from the IRS to your FAFSA, it will be marked that it has been transferred from the IRS. This verifies that the information on the FAFSA has been matched and verified with the IRS.
- Students who enroll in a program of study after July 1, 2012 and do not have a High School Diploma must have completed either a GED or passed the High School Proficient exam in order to meet the High School requirement criteria. The Ability to Benefit (ATB) test or 6 units of college coursework will no longer comply with this requirement.
- Students may need to provide proof of receiving food stamps as part of the income verification process.
- Students may need to provide information in regards to the amount of child support paid.
- Life time limit for the Pell Grant has been changed from **18 full time semesters** to **12 full time semesters**. The Life time Pell Grant limit is applicable to all **continuing** and **new** students. This change goes into effect July 1, 2012, and impacts all students regardless of when they received their first Pell Grant. Important details on the Pell lifetime limit are below:

The number of years receiving Pell will be tracked as a percentage with a maximum Lifetime Eligibility Used (LEU) of 600%.

### *Examples:*

- A full-time student for two semesters who receives their full Pell grant for the year will use 100% per year.
- A part-time student for two semesters who receives half of their Pell grant for the year will use 50% per year.

Students who have submitted a FAFSA and are in excess of 450% Lifetime Eligibility Used (LEU), will receive an e-mail message from the U.S. Department of Education.

Students will be able to view their Lifetime Eligibility Used (LEU) on their Student Aid Reports (SAR) beginning July 2012.

### **Tracking Your Lifetime Eligibility Used (LEU) on NSLDS**

In addition, students will be able to find their *Lifetime Eligibility Used* for the federal Pell Grant by going to the Web site [www.nsls.ed.gov](http://www.nsls.ed.gov) and creating a student account. NSLDS, the National Student Loan Data System, tracks your lifetime Pell Grants, as well as other helpful information.

It is important that students use their Pell grant eligibility wisely, especially if they are transferring to the 4-year University. The Board of Governor's Fee Waiver (BOGFW) will continue waiving enrollment fees if the student is eligible.