Greeting from the Office of Financial Aid!

We are now approaching mid-semester and have a lot of information to share with you. As you know, changes in enrollment and how you’re doing in the classroom, i.e., your grades may have affects on your aid. So this newsletter is just a friendly reminder about how those instances may affect your aid. And if you haven’t been keeping up with all the “hoopla” about student aid in news, we’ve included important federal regulation changes that may affect you!

Don’t forget to you read your email frequently! You never know when a scholarship and/or free book voucher notification may be delivered directly to your email account.

Remember October is Breast Cancer Awareness month. Encourage the women in your life to take charge of their own breast health by practicing regular self-breast exams to identify any changes, scheduling regular visits and annual mammograms with their healthcare provider, adhering to prescribed treatment, and knowing the facts about recurrence.

Good luck on your mid-term exams, if applicable, and I wish you much success throughout the remaining of the term.

Thanks for choosing Our Lady of the Lake College to pursue you post-secondary goals and allowing us to serve you!

Sincerely,

Tiffany D. Magee
Director of Financial Aid

Financial Aid Quick Facts:
As of 10/04/11
1426 Students Awarded
$19,276,219 Aid Awarded
$8,047,224 Aid Disbursed
Federal regulations require that students maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) in their course of study to continue receiving Federal Title IV Financial Aid. Failure to maintain SAP results in the cancellation of a student’s Title IV financial aid, but does not prohibit the student from continuing enrollment with his/her own resources or nonfederal financial aid. SAP is defined as passing a required number of hours and achieving a required cumulative grade point average (GPA) during a specified semester or academic year. The minimum progress standards will be reviewed once per academic year, usually at the end of the spring semester. Students enrolled in the Practical Nursing Program will be evaluated each term. All specified semesters attended will be considered in making a satisfactory progress determination without regard to whether or not the student received aid in a given semester. The standards are consistent with institutional policies for students who are not receiving Title IV aid. The three components of the Our Lady of the Lake’s policy are described below:

**Component 1: Qualitative Standard**

**Undergraduate Criteria:** Each student must meet a 2.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA) to remain eligible for financial aid.

**Graduate Criteria:** Each student must meet a 3.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA) to remain eligible for financial aid.

**Component 2: Pace Standard**

Each student must successfully pass a minimum of 75% of their credit hours attempted during the preceding fall and spring semesters at the College (rounded to the next highest number). Withdrawals, incompletes, repeated and non-credit remedial course work will be counted towards the hours attempted.

**Component 3: Maximum Time Frame**

**Undergraduate Criteria:** To establish a quantitative measure, a time frame is set for students to finish a program of study. For any program, regulations require that the maximum time frame cannot exceed 150% of the published length of the program measured in the required academic credit hours.

**Graduate Criteria:** You must complete all requirements of the graduate program and complete your program within six calendar years.

**Undergraduate Part-time Students:** Student who enroll for less than 12 credit hours are considered part-time. Academic progress requirements apply to part-time enrolled students on a proportional basis.

**Transfer Students:** Transfer credits, applicable only to the program of study, are calculated into the credits attempted and completed, but are not factored into the cumulative grade point average (GPA) when a student first transfers to Our Lady of the Lake College. If a transfer student is not meeting the minimum GPA requirement when progress is evaluated, transfer credits will be calculated into the cumulative GPA. GPA of transferred credits will continue to be used in the GPA calculation from that point.

**SAP Appeal Process**

A student who fails to establish good academic standing or to make SAP becomes ineligible for financial aid. The student will be notified in writing of his/her ineligibility. A student may regain eligibility if s/he meets the minimum eligibility requirements. If the student has mitigating circumstances such as, death of a relative, illness or injury, or other special circumstances beyond their control that affected their ability to meet SAP standards, the student may appeal the loss of their eligibility. Sufficient documentation of such circumstances must be provided to the Office of Financial Aid with the appeal. Appeals will only be approved for mitigating circumstances such as illness, injury, death of an immediate family member, etc. Approved appeals will result in the student being placed on financial aid probation.

**Note:** Neither paying for nor sitting out for an enrollment period is sufficient to reestablish eligibility for Title IV aid.
THINGS TO CONSIDER BEFORE DROPPING A CLASS

- Have you put forth your best effort or can you change your study habits?
- The answer to this question requires an honest self-evaluation. Take a look at your priorities and study habits. If you put in a little more time with this course, can you succeed? Have you taken advantage of support services offered? Do you attend class regularly? Are your assignments submitted on time? Perhaps you have distractions such as family, personal, or financial problems. Will the distraction change in the near future?

- How will dropping this course affect your progression in your chosen major?
- If you need the class to proceed to the next phase of your academic program, perhaps you should not drop this course but look for other alternatives with your schedule. The same courses are not offered each semester. Check with the Registrar’s Office.

- How will dropping this course affect your grade?
- The academic calendar will always tell you when the last day to drop with a “WS” or “WU.” This means that the grade will not be added to your grade point average.

- What grade will you receive if you drop this course today?
- The academic calendar will always tell you when the last day to drop with a “WS” or “WU.” This means that the grade will not be added to your grade point average.

- How will dropping the class affect your financial aid?
- All students must make reasonable academic progress towards their degree. All students must pass 75% of the hours attempted during an academic year. For example, if you are initially enrolled in 12 hours and drop one course (3 credit hours) and fail a course, you’ve only earned 6 hours and passed 50% of the hours attempted. This is not considered making progress. There is also a cumulative grade point average requirement based on the hours attempted. Please consult the College Catalog or the Office of Financial Aid for more information.

- Have you consulted with your instructor to determine if there is a reasonable opportunity that you can still succeed in passing the course?
- Your instructor’s signature must be obtained before you drop. You should always speak with your instructor and academic advisor before dropping a course. Your instructor should be able to give you an honest evaluation of your performance and provide helpful insight and tips that may help you succeed.

- If this is your senior year, how will dropping the course affect your anticipated graduation date?
- If you are dropping a course required for graduation, your graduation date may be delayed.

BEFORE YOU DROP, STUDY, STUDY, STUDY!!!! ATTEND CLASS REGULARLY!!!
Resignation from the College

Withdrawal or discontinuation of all courses in which the student is enrolled requires a student to resign from the College. To officially resign from the College, a student must obtain a Student Resignation Form, which must be completed by the student. The form must be signed by the designated officials of the College. A student who discontinues classes or leaves the College without following official procedures is subject to receiving an "F" grade and may be denied re-entry to the College. Students should refer to the Academic Calendar for the final day to resign from the College. The date the completed form is received in the Office of the Registrar will be the official date resignation date.

Application for readmission is required when a student who has resigned from OLOL College desires to re-enter the College. See Re-admission in the Admission section of the Catalog.

Withdrawing from a course

A student may withdraw from a course up to the date defined on the Academic Calendar. Courses dropped before the census date are deleted from the student's record; courses dropped after the census date will result in a “W” grade.

Withdrawal forms may be obtained from the Registrar's Office. The form requires signatures from the instructor or dean, and the Bursar's Office. The completed form must be submitted to the Registrar's Office.

A student who stops attending class or leaves the College without following the official withdrawal procedures is subject to a “F” grade and may be denied re-entry into the College. Failure to complete courses may have an impact on a student's financial aid status. See Financial Aid section of this Catalog for details.

Academic schedule changes are not official until they are approved by the Registrar’s Office.
Return of Title IV for Nursing students

A student is considered to be withdrawn, and the school must do a Return of Title IV Funds calculation, if: In a credit hours program, the student does not complete all the days in the payment period of enrollment that the student was scheduled to complete.

Example: Student is enrolled in NURS 1715 (7 weeks) & NURS 1720 (7 weeks) NURS 1720 begins 08/23/10 & NURS 1715 begins 10/18/10. Student fails to progress to NURS 1715. 50% of aid must returned

Attention Graduate students!!

To cut federal spending, Congress eliminated subsidized loan eligibility for graduate and professional students effective with enrollment periods beginning on or after July 1, 2012. The elimination of Direct Subsidized Loan eligibility for graduate and professional students will mean a sharp increase in the number of students who are eligible for only unsubsidized student financial assistance and therefore, are not subject to ED’s verification requirements. Note, however, that graduate and professional students may still be selected for verification by the Central Processing System (CPS).
Completely re-imagined, the Talbots Scholarship Foundation will award $180,000 in college scholarships for the 2012 academic year, including up to seventeen (17) $10,000 scholarships and one (1) $30,000 scholarship to an extraordinary finalist demonstrating courage, conviction and an insatiable entrepreneurial spirit. Learn more about the program and how to apply by visiting https://www.talbots.com/scholarship starting Tuesday, October 4, 2011. The deadline for applications is Tuesday, January 3, 2012. Only the first 5,000 eligible applications received will be processed.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants to the 2012 Talbots Scholarship Foundation must:

• Be women currently residing in the United States or Canada;
• Be women who have earned a high school diploma or their GED on or before September 2002;
• Be enrolled or planning to enroll in full- or part-time undergraduate study at an accredited 2- or 4-year college or university;
• Be attending the full 2012-13 academic year and receiving a degree no earlier than May 2013; and
• Have at least two semesters (24 credit hours or more) remaining to complete an undergraduate degree as of the beginning of the 2012 fall academic term.

The Foundation for Neonatal Research and Education

The mission of the Foundation for Neonatal Research and Education (FNRE) is to solicit and disperse funds for neonatal research and education, to promote the development of expertise in the neonatal profession, and raise the awareness of the general public as the consumers of neonatal services. The objectives assigned to accomplish this mission include: Strengthening of Neonatal Nursing Practice through Research, Evaluation of Neonatal Nursing Interventions and Patient Outcomes, and Preparing Neonatal Nurses for the Future. To that end, the FNRE offers these six scholarship opportunities to neonatal nurses who are officially admitted to a college or school of higher education for one of the following: Bachelor of Science in Nursing (current RN); Master in Science in Nursing for advance practice in neonatal nursing; Doctoral degree in nursing; Master's or post-Master's degree in Nursing Administration or Business Management. Applicants must be a professionally active neonatal nurse and must not have received an FNRE scholarship or grant in the past five (5) years. For more information please visit http://www.inurse.com/fnre/scholarship.htm
During the month of January, the Office of Financial Aid will be placing yard signs around campus encouraging students to apply early for the 2012-2013 financial aid award year.

Students may begin completing the FAFSA on January 1, 2012.

Why should I apply early?

You are more likely to receive funds from all programs for which you are eligible as there are limited funds available in some of the Federal aid programs such as SEOG and federal works study. Also, you will help ensure that your financial aid will be credited to your account when your fee bill is due. Generally fee bills are submitted to you five weeks prior to the beginning of each semester. Applying early is always to your advantage.
Do I need to be admitted to the College before I can apply for financial aid?

No. You may apply for financial aid anytime after January 1. However, you must be admitted to receive a financial aid award and enrolled to receive disbursement.

How do I apply for financial aid and what is the FAFSA?

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the application for all federal and state aid programs. You will need to indicate Our Lady of the Lake College (OLOLC) (school code #031062) in the school release section of the application so that we may receive your file.

Where do I find the FAFSA and when should I complete it?

The FAFSA may be located and submitted on-line at www.fafsa.gov. If you have applied for aid in the previous year you may receive the Federal Renewal Application which should be updated and submitted instead of the FAFSA.

How will I know if I’ve been awarded aid and how do I accept or decline it?

Once all requested documentation has been submitted to our office you will either receive an email or paper award letter from our office notifying you of your award(s). Emails are typically sent to all continuing students who already have a Web Services account set up. The email will direct you to your Web Services account to either accept/decline your award offers. This is done by logging on to Web Services and selecting “Financial Aid,” and then “Accept/Decline Awards”. Any student, usually transfer students and entering freshmen, who does not have access to a Web Services will receive a paper award letter.

I’m in clinicals. Will I still get TOPS if I’m enrolled in less than 12 hours? Do I need to notify anyone of my status in order to get my TOPS? Do I still need to earn 24 hours in the academic year?

Clinical students must enroll in 9 hours each fall/spring semester to be considered full time for TOPS. The Office of Financial Aid will automatically bill the state for TOPS eligible clinical students enrolled in at least 9 hours. Clinical and technical students are not required to earn 24 hours in an academic year.

What is the total aggregate loan limits?

**UG Dependent Students:** $31,000 (no more than $23,000 of which can be subsidized)
**UG Independent Students:** $57,500 (no more than $23,000 of which can be subsidized)
**GRAD and Professional Students:** $138,500 (no more than $65,500 of which can be subsidized)

Am I required to enroll in a certain amount of hours to get student loans?

YES. You are required to be enrolled on at least a ½ time basis to be eligible for student loans. Six hours is considered ½ for a fall or spring term for an undergraduate student. Three hours are considered ½ for the summer term.
Breast cancer is a type of cancer where cells in the breast divide and grow without normal control. Between 50 and 75 percent of breast cancers begin in the ducts, 10 to 15 percent begin in the lobules and a few begin in other breast tissues.

Tumors in the breast tend to grow slowly. By the time a lump is large enough to feel, it may have been growing for as long as 10 years. However, some tumors are aggressive and grow much more rapidly.

It is important to understand the difference between invasive breast cancer and non-invasive breast cancer, called ductal carcinoma in situ (kar-sin-O-ma in SY-too). Invasive breast cancer occurs when abnormal cells from inside the ducts or lobules break out into nearby breast tissue. This allows the cancer cells to spread to the lymph nodes and, in advanced stages, to organs like the liver, lungs and bones (a process called metastasis). Cancer cells can travel from the breast to other parts of the body through the blood stream or the lymphatic system. They may travel early in the process when the tumor is small or later when the tumor is large.

Ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS, non-invasive breast cancer)

When abnormal cells grow inside the milk ducts, but have not spread to nearby tissue or beyond, the condition is called ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS). The term "in situ" means "in place". With DCIS, the abnormal cells are still "in place" inside the ducts. DCIS is a non-invasive breast cancer (you may also hear the term "pre-invasive breast carcinoma").

Although the abnormal cells have not spread to tissues outside the ducts, they can develop into invasive breast cancer. Learn more about DCIS and the risk of invasive breast cancer.

Resources: http://ww5.komen.org/Default.aspx