

# Financial Aid and Scholarships

## Financial Aid

Student financial aid programs are intended to provide assistance to students who do not have the necessary financial resources to meet their educational costs. Most students qualify for some type of assistance. Only United States citizens and eligible noncitizens can receive federal financial aid. For resources that recognize academic achievement, refer to the following information on scholarships.

Information about all state, federal, and institutional aid programs is available from the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, Student Services West, Room 3615, 619-594-6323. Information about the available programs as well as the academic standards that a student must maintain to remain eligible for such aid can be accessed at <http://www.sdsu.edu/financialaid>.

### Applying for Aid

Applicants who want to be considered for all types of state and federal financial aid should apply as soon after October 1 as possible by completing a *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)*. For California Dream Act-eligible students, complete the California Dream Act application to be considered for state grants.

The FAFSA is all you need to begin the application process. You may apply by using FAFSA on the Web at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>. For California Dream Act-eligible students, complete the California Dream Act application at <https://dream.csac.ca.gov/>.

To be considered for a financial aid registration fee postponement, a student must complete the FAFSA or California Dream Act application and submit all requested documents by December 1. Applications and documents submitted after December 1 may not be processed in time to be considered for a registration fee postponement.

### Refund Policy

Information concerning the refund policy of San Diego State University for the return of unearned tuition and fees or other refundable portions of institutional charges is available from the Student Account Services, Student Services West, Room 2536, 619-594-5253.

Information concerning San Diego State University policies regarding the return of unearned aid to the federal Title IV student assistance programs is available from the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, Student Services West, Room 3615, 619-594-6323.

### Financial Aid Portal: AidLink

The SDSU Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships uses AidLink, an online financial aid information system, as the main mode of communication with students. Students log in to AidLink at <http://www.sdsu.edu/financialaid> using their SDSUid or Red ID and password. Through AidLink, students can access financial aid award information, activate loans, identify holds, view requests for documentation, and more. If students have additional questions about financial aid, counselors are available by phone or on a walk-in basis at the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships.

## Scholarships

San Diego State University awards scholarships to students to recognize and encourage individual talents, academic achievement, leadership skills, and the determination to succeed in spite of significant hardships. Scholarships are also awarded to students to support participation in SDSU approved study abroad programs, community service programs, and faculty approved conference attendance that is part of a student's SDSU curriculum. All students, regardless of grade point average, area of study, citizenship, or residency status are encouraged to apply for SDSU scholarships.

The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships coordinates the SDSU scholarship application and awarding process with the committees from the various departments and organizations responsible for selecting recipients. Scholarship funds are provided by private donors, corporations, professional associations, and SDSU alumni. In addition to SDSU scholarships, the Marshall, Fulbright, Rhodes, and Rotary Scholarships are prestigious international scholarships that are given annually to students pursuing educational goals outside the United States. To apply for scholarships, visit the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships website at <http://www.sdsu.edu/financialaid>.

## Other Scholarship Resources and Links

The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships website also lists resources and links to outside scholarship information and free scholarship search websites.

## Fellowships Administered by Departments

Students may receive fellowships or traineeships through the various departments on campus. Federal, state, and private industry programs of this nature are largely directed to students pursuing graduate studies or to students preparing for a specialized occupation. Students who have decided on a particular area of study should check with an adviser in the department of their major to determine what fellowship support might be available to them.