

WHAT'S NEW IN FINANCIAL AID

2017-2018

Board of Governors (BOG) Fee Waiver – New Eligibility Regulations Effective Fall 2016:

California Community College students receiving the BOGFW must meet minimum academic and progress standards to remain eligible for the BOGFW due to changes made by SB 1456 Student Success Act of 2012 to Title 5 of the California Education Code.

Students must:

- Maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 (Academic Standard)
- Successfully complete at least 50% of all units attempted (Progress Standard)

If a student is placed on academic and/or progress probation for two consecutive primary terms (fall or spring semester), they will lose eligibility for the BOG Fee Waiver as well as enrollment priority. For more information on this regulation and the conditions by which students can appeal, please see <http://smccd.edu/faprobation/>. Students are encouraged to utilize the numerous support services on campus to help them regain good academic standing.

BOGFW for the bachelor's program: Students eligible and accepted into the Bachelor of Science Respiratory Care program at Skyline College will pay \$130 per unit for upper division coursework and if eligible for the BOG, only \$46 per unit will be waived and total cost to student is \$84 per unit. To qualify, student must complete a FAFSA or a California Dream Act Application.

PELL Grant Updates: For 2017-2018, the Pell Grant award amount and the maximum Expected Family Contribution (EFC) for Pell eligibility has changed.

Pell Grant Updates	2016-2017	2017-2018
Pell Grant Award Amount	\$5,815	\$5,920
Maximum EFC	5234	5328

REMEMBER, students are limited to a 600% Pell grant lifetime eligibility (equivalent to 12 full-time semesters/6 years of full-time enrollment).

To view your Lifetime Eligibility Used (LEU), please visit www.nslsds.ed.gov

Direct Loan:

	2016-2017	2017-2018
Interest Rate	3.76%	4.45%

NEW! Loan Counseling Workshops

Beginning in the 2017-18 academic year, the SMCCCD Financial Aid Offices are participating in an experimental site initiative with the Department of Education related to loan counseling. If you are a repeat borrower **and** your Social Security Number ends in an **even number or 0**, you **must** attend an SMCCCD Loan Counseling Workshop before you funds will be disbursed. You can attend a [workshop](#) at any of the three colleges.

NEW! Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Online Workshops:

If you are required to appeal, please complete the online SAP Counseling Sessions through our Financial Aid TV website at <https://skylinecollege.get-counseling.com>. **IMPORTANT!** Make sure to print your certificate of completion once you successfully finish the session.

IRS Data Retrieval Tool Update

Please note that the IRS Data Retrieval Tool will be out of service for several months. To protect sensitive taxpayer data, the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT) on fafsa.gov and StudentLoans.gov will be unavailable until extra security protections can be added. The tool is expected to be back online in fall 2017, when the next Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) season begins. The IRS DRT provides tax data that automatically fills in information for part of the FAFSA as well as the income-driven repayment (IDR) plan application for federal student loan borrowers.

The IRS DRT was turned off following concerns that data from the tool could be used by identity thieves to file fraudulent tax returns. Once enhancements are made to encrypt or mask the sensitive data, the IRS DRT will be reactivated.