

2007-2008 Financial Aid Application Information

MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY Office of Student Financial Aid

At Montclair State University, the only application required is the 2007-2008 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). FAFSA on the WEB (www.fafsa.ed.gov) is the fastest, most accurate and preferred way to apply for financial aid at Montclair State. We encourage you to use it! All you need is access to the Internet. You should apply as soon after January 1, 2007 as possible.

If you submit the FAFSA or Renewal FAFSA, you will be considered for all aid for which you are eligible including the Pell Grant, Tuition Aid Grant (TAG), Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG), Federal Work-Study, Federal Perkins Loan and Federal Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans and Parent PLUS loans.

Helpful Hints for Completing the FAFSA

- ☞ Make sure that you **have the necessary “tools”** to do the job. You’ll need copies of your and your parent(s)’ **2006 federal income tax returns** (IRS Form 1040, 1040A or 1040EZ). You will also need records of untaxed income or benefits and ~~current bank, savings or investment information. You don’t need to file your tax~~ return before you fill out this form.
- ☞ **Read and carefully follow the instructions** on the application form. Answer all applicable questions completely and accurately – don’t guess. Use black ink or a #2 pencil if you are completing a paper form.
- ☞ **Be certain that your social security number is *correct and legible*.**
- ☞ **Montclair State participates in the Federal Family Education Loan Program.** You do not have to contact or apply to a lending institution for student loans. If you want to be considered for student loans as part of your aid package, indicate your interest on your FAFSA/Renewal FAFSA (Question 33). Your award letter will show the amount you are *eligible* to borrow.

- ☞ Student financial aid from grants, scholarships or need-based work (Federal Work-Study) reported as income on your 2006 federal income tax return, may be excluded from your income for financial aid purposes. See Worksheet C.
- ☞ Be sure to designate Montclair State (**our school code is 002617**) as one of your school choices so we will receive your application information from the federal processor.
- ☞ Your information will be sent to the State of New Jersey, Higher Education Student Assistance Authority so that you can be considered for Tuition Aid Grant (TAG). You need to apply as early as possible so you don't miss out on this program! The application deadline for first-time recipients is October 1, 2007; for continuing students the deadline is June 1, 2007.
- ☞ **Keep a copy of all materials you submit.**
- ☞ Finally, and most important, **ASK QUESTIONS** about anything you don't understand.

FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION CHECKLIST FOR 2007-2008

As soon after January 1, 2007 as possible (but AT LEAST BY MARCH 1, 2007):

- Use **FAFSA on the Web** at www.fafsa.ed.gov – the fastest, surest and most accurate way to apply. Print certification page, provide all required signatures and mail or if you do not have a printer wait until your Student Aid Report is delivered, sign part 2 and return to federal processor. Or complete, sign and mail the Renewal FAFSA or a regular 2007-2008 FAFSA to the federal processor; an envelope is bound into the application booklet.

Date sent: ___/___/___

Our preferential **application date is March 1, 2007**. If your FAFSA is submitted to the federal processor by that date, you will not miss out any aid for which you are otherwise eligible.

Four/six weeks after submitting the FAFSA:

- You will receive your Student Aid Report (SAR). Date received: ___/___/___
(If you don't receive your SAR in four/six weeks, call 1-800-4-FEDAID.)
- If all items on the SAR are correct**, you don't need to do anything. Retain your SAR for your records. If you indicate Montclair State University, we will receive your information electronically. **Our Code is 002617**.
- If any item on the SAR is incorrect**, follow the instructions on Part 2 for making corrections. You can use the PIN sent to you by the Department of Education to make corrections online and have them processed in three days or less. Changes to student data will not require a separate signature.

Date returned to federal processor: ___/___/___

- Receive corrected SAR. Date received: ___/___/___
- If requested by Montclair State University, supply additional information, forms or documentation for Quality Assurance or to clear up questions about your application.

Date mailed: ___/___/___

After April 1:

- Receive Financial Aid award letter Date received: ___/___/___

- Reduce or decline loans and work study awards offered
Date mailed: ___/___/___

If you receive a private scholarship or grant:

- Notify the Office of Student Financial Aid; include a copy of the award letter or certificate.

If you have Special Circumstances:

- Complete the FAFSA using actual data. Then contact the Office of Student Financial Aid to determine if your family's financial changes can increase your eligibility and how to report the changes.