

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 3605, 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 January 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. Since new California grant program applicants must apply by March 2, we strongly encourage all applicants to apply by this date.

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/>.

Applications are reviewed and aid awarded throughout the year based on available funding. To receive first priority evaluation of your eligibility for all financial aid programs, complete the FAFSA by March 2 and, by April 1, submit all financial aid documents requested. An application and documents submitted after these dates will receive second priority evaluation and aid awarded based on available funding at the time.

Cost of Living

San Diego State University establishes standard student budgets in coordination with the California State University system that meet federal requirements. Student budgets, updated annually to account for inflation are currently:

Costs of Attendance for the 2016-2017 Academic Year

	Living off Campus	Living on Campus	Commuting from Home
Basic tuition and fees.....	\$7,084	\$7,084	\$7,084
Books and supplies	1,818	1,818	1,818
Food and housing	12,050	14,812	4,231
Transportation	1,880	1,464	1,511
Miscellaneous/Personal	1,416	1,416	1,416
Total	\$24,248	\$26,594	\$16,060

The academic year basic tuition and fees for teacher credential students are \$7,960. Basic tuition and fees are \$8,350 for post-baccalaureate students, \$12,730 for education doctoral (Ed.D.) students, \$15,952 for nursing doctoral students, and \$17,760 for physical therapy doctoral students. Business students in selected degree programs pay an additional \$254 per unit (refer to the Professional Program Fee information). Nonresident tuition is an additional \$372 per unit.

All fees and costs are subject to change without notice.

The CSU makes every effort to keep student costs to a minimum. Fees listed in published schedules or student accounts may need to be increased when public funding is inadequate. Therefore, CSU must reserve the right, even after fees are initially charged or initial fee payments are made, to increase or modify any listed fees. All listed fees, other than mandatory systemwide fees, are subject to change without notice, until the date when instruction for a particular semester or quarter has begun. All CSU listed fees should be regarded as estimates that are subject to change upon approval by the Board of Trustees, the chancellor, or the presidents, as appropriate. Changes in mandatory

systemwide fees will be made in accordance with the requirements of the Working Families Student Fee Transparency and Accountability Act (*California Education Code* Sections 66028 - 66028.6).

Students will be liable for amounts that become due as a result of such change.

For updated information regarding the fee structure for 2016-2017, refer to the online *Class Schedule* or Student Account Services website at <http://www.sdsu.edu/sas>.

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 3605, 619-594-6323.

E-mail and the Internet

The SDSU Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships uses e-mail and the Internet to communicate with aid applicants about documentation needed, disbursement holds, and awards. Go to the SDSU WebPortal at <http://www.sdsu.edu/portal> and select E-mail/Address Update to make sure there is a valid e-mail address on record for you. The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships home page and secure website, *AidLink*, have been enhanced to streamline the application and award process for SDSU students. Use *AidLink* at <http://www.sdsu.edu/financialaid> to view your personal financial aid information, download and print documents you need to submit, activate your student loan, and more.

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 as many scholarships as possible.

Application materials and eligibility information can be accessed on the SDSU Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships website at <http://www.sdsu.edu/financialaid>. Deadlines vary and new scholarship opportunities are added to the website throughout the year. Students should check the website regularly to learn about continuing and upcoming scholarship opportunities, application and essay writing tips, and more.

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. Eligibility and application information is available on 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.