

# Information for Parents

Incoming students are automatically considered for an academic DSU scholarship as part of the admissions process. For a general overview of what other aid might be available to your student, please read about the various federal, state, and institutional programs found in this handbook. The following information may be of particular interest to parents:

## **Q. Why do I need to provide my financial information for my child to apply?**

Federal financial aid is based on the premise that families hold the primary responsibility for paying for college. Federal law specifies who can be considered independent for the purposes of financial aid. If your son or daughter can truthfully answer yes (and can provide documentation to verify their answer) to any of the following questions, they will be considered independent and parental information is not required:

- Were you born before January 1, 1994?
- As of today, are you married?
- At the beginning of the 2017-18 school year, will be working on a master's or doctorate program (MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, EdD or graduate certificate)? Note: Dixie State University does not offer any of these types of degrees.
- Are you currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed forces for purposes other than training?
- Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?
- Do you have children who will receive more than half of their support from you between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018?
- Do you have dependents (other than your children or spouse) who live with you and who receive more than half of their support from you, now and through June 30, 2018?
- At any time since you turned 13, were both your parents deceased, were you in foster care or were you a dependent or ward of the court?
- Are you or were you an emancipated minor as determined by a court in your state of legal residence?
- Are you or were you in legal guardianship as determined by a court in your state of legal residence?
- At any time on or after July 1, 2016, did your high school or school district homeless liaison determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless?
- At any time on or after July 1, 2016, did the director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless?
- At any time on or after July 1, 2016, did the director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless?

If none of the above applies to you (the student), federal law requires you to supply your parent(s) financial information on the FAFSA application – even if you no longer live with your parent(s); and/or your parent(s) no longer claim you on their taxes; and/or you consider yourself financially independent.

We do not share financial information with anyone outside the financial aid office.

**Q. Can I call you about my student's financial aid?**

Federal privacy law requires us to protect students' information. Your student can give us permission to discuss their aid with you by submitting a signed [FERPA](#) form.

**Q. How do I obtain a Federal Direct Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS) loan?**

All dependent students who apply for federal aid at Dixie State University will be offered a PLUS loan. If the parents decide to borrow the PLUS loan, they must complete the [PLUS Loan Information Form](#).

**Helpful Hints to a Successful Financial Aid Application**

Apply early! In order to have your money by the first day of class you must submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid ([FAFSA](#)) approximately 8 weeks prior to the beginning of the semester in which you would like to receive aid.

Make sure that you use the school code 003671 (Dixie State University) on the FAFSA.

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is only part of the required application materials. Verification worksheets, tax returns and other documentation may also be required.

Read all instructions carefully, especially anything you sign.

Make sure everything you submit to the Financial Aid and Scholarship Office has your name and Dixie student ID on it.

Double check your social security number on your FAFSA before you submit it. If it is wrong, you must start the application process over again.

Make sure the Dixie State University Records & Registration Office has your current address and phone number. Keep it updated.

Keep copies of everything you submit.

Check your [D-mail](#) account and financial aid requirements often. You can access these through [MyDixie](#). This is how we communicate with you.

If you have any questions, please check with the DSU Financial Aid & Scholarship Office. We are here to help with any questions or concerns you have as you work through the financial aid & scholarship processes.