

Financial Aid Checklist

June-July-August

- Complete Admissions Application**
 - Many scholarships are automatically awarded based upon information provided when you apply for admissions (such as ACT/ SAT scores and grade point average)
- Complete the SIU General Scholarship Application**
 - Students must be admitted to the university to be considered for scholarship opportunities

October

- File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**
 - The FAFSA is available on October 1st of each year
 - Complete your FAFSA starting October 1 as soon as possible in order to ensure maximum aid eligibility
 - To complete the 2016-2017 FAFSA use 2015 tax information
 - To complete the 2017-2018 FAFSA use 2015 tax information
 - Make sure you put Southern Illinois University Carbondale's school code (001758) on your FAFSA
 - Three to ten days after completing your FAFSA (if you filed electronically) you will receive an email with a link to your Student Aid Report (SAR)
 - The SAR summarizes all the information on your FAFSA for you to review
 - Carefully check for errors and make corrections to your FAFSA in necessary
- Submit Verification Documents, if selected**
 - Verification is a process to ensure all the information on the FAFSA is accurate
 - Verification forms will be mailed through the United States Postal Service
 - Federal tax information will be required
 - Request Federal Tax Return Transcript from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) or
 - Complete your FAFSA using the IRS Data Retrieval
 - Check your email frequently
 - Check your SalukiNet for all outstanding requirements

January

- Financial Aid Award Notices Are Issued**
 - New and transfer students will receive their award notice through the United States Postal Service
 - Students selected for verification and have outstanding requirements will receive an estimated award offer (subject to change with completion of verification)

February

- General Scholarship Application closes on February 1st**
- Follow up with the Financial Aid Office Regarding Unsatisfied Requirements**
 - Documentation should be submitted as soon as possible so that you can be sure to have your financial aid when school starts
 - SalukiNet show all outstanding requirements

March

- Sign Up for New Student Orientation**
 - Register online at orientation.siu.edu

May

- Read and Accept the Terms and Conditions of your Financial Aid Award**
- Accept or Reject your Federal Direct Loans**
- Complete Entrance Loan Counseling and Master Promissory Note for Accepted Loans**
 - For the Unsubsidized and Subsidized Loans, this can be done at studentloans.gov
 - For the Perkins Loan, this can be done at signmyloan.com
- Submit Final High School Transcript**

- Speak with your high school to be sure that they send your **final, official** high school transcript to the SIU Undergraduate Admissions Office
 - Your financial aid cannot pay until transcript has been received

June

- Check out iGrad to Learn About Financial Literacy**
 - Tools available to help you understand the fundamentals of money management, your career, financial aid and student loans
 - iGrad is available through your SalukiNet on the Saluki Cents icon

July

- Review your Bursar Bill**
 - Bill are posted to SalukiNet the 15th of every month
 - Visit bursar.siu.edu for billing information
- Sign Up For Direct Deposit**
 - This can be done on Salukinet and will allow any refund you are eligible for to be directly deposited into your bank account
- If Needed, Consider Additional Financial Aid Options**
 - Compare charges to aid offered to see if you may need additional loans to help with the cost of attending SIU
 - Remember, Federal Work Study will not pay toward your bill, so do not include this when comparing charges to financial aid
 - If you do need additional loans, you have the following options:
 - For Dependent Students: Parent PLUS Loan – Your parent can apply for a Parent PLUS Loan online at studentloans.gov
 - If approved, your parent needs to fill out a Master Promissory Note online at studentloans.gov
 - For All Students: Private Loan – A preferred lender list is available on the financial aid website

August

- Pay Bill**
 - The bill will be due on August 10th.
 - Pay any remaining balance that was not covered by Financial Aid or sign up for the Payment Plan to avoid late fees
- The Saluki Family Welcomes you to Campus**
 - Check out the activities available during Saluki Start Up and the Weeks of Welcome