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 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 normally available on October 1st of each year; but for the 2024-2025 academic year the FAFSA will not be available until December 2023 due to FAFSA Simplification.
    • Once it is available, complete your FAFSA for the appropriate academic year as soon as possible to ensure maximum aid eligibility
    • To complete the 2023-2024 FAFSA use 2021 tax information
    • To complete the 2024-2025 FAFSA use 2022 tax information
  ▪ Make sure you put Southern Illinois University Carbondale’s Federal 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 FAFSA Submission Summary
    • The FAFSA Submission Summary condenses all the information on your FAFSA for you to review
    • Carefully check for errors and make corrections to your FAFSA if 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
    • Signed copy of your Federal Tax Return
  ▪ Check your email frequently
  ▪ Check your SalukiNet for all outstanding requirements

December

☐ Make Sure You Have Completed the General Scholarship Application

February

☐ Financial Aid Offer Notices Are Issued  
  ▪ New and transfer students will receive their offer notice through SalukiNet
  ▪ Students selected for verification and have outstanding requirements will receive an estimated offer (subject to change with completion of verification)

☐ 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 classes begin
  ▪ SalukiNet shows all outstanding requirements

☐ Sign Up for New Student Orientation  
  ▪ Register online at orientation.siu.edu

May

☐ Read and Accept the Terms and Conditions of your Financial Aid Offer
☐ 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 studentaid.gov
July

☐ Review your Bursar Bill
  ▪ Bills 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 for which you are eligible to deposit directly 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; do not include this amount when comparing charges to financial aid offers
  ▪ 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 studentaid.gov
      ➢ If approved, your parent needs to fill out a Master Promissory Note online at studentaid.gov
    • For All Students: Private Loan – A preferred lender list is available on the Financial Aid Office website: fao.siu.edu

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!