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 2019-2020 FAFSA use 2017 tax information
    • To complete the 2020-2021 FAFSA use 2018 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 form 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

December

☐ General Scholarship Application Closes on December 1st

January

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

February

☐ 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
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