

# STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Education after high school requires time, money and effort. It is a big investment. Before making a commitment to a college, get complete information about the quality of academic programs, graduation rates, full cost of attendance, refund policy, and financial aid programs.

## Student Rights

**You have the right to ask a school:**

- What it costs to attend and about the refund policies for students who drop out.
- How the school determines whether students are maintaining satisfactory academic progress and what happens if they are not.
- What financial assistance is available, including all federal, state and school financial aid programs.
- What the deadline is for submitting each aid application and about the criteria used to select recipients.
- How each student's financial need is determined, including how costs for tuition and fees, room and board, transportation, books and supplies, and personal and miscellaneous expenses are considered in your budget.
- What resources—such as parental contribution, other financial aid, personal assets, etc.—are included in the need calculation, and how much of your financial need, determined by the school, has been met.
- To explain the various programs in your student aid package. If you believe you have been treated unfairly, you may request reconsideration.
- What portion of the financial aid must be repaid and what portion is grant aid.
- What is the interest rate, the total amount to be repaid, repayment procedures, the length of time to repay the loan, and the date when repayment begins.
- How to apply for additional aid if your financial circumstances change.

## Student Responsibilities

**It is your responsibility to:**

- Review all information about a school's program before enrolling.
- Pay special attention to your application for student financial aid, complete it accurately, and submit it on time to the right place. Errors can delay financial aid. Intentional misreporting of information on application forms for financial aid is a criminal offense subject to penalties. Aid awarded due to inaccurate information will have to be repaid.
- Submit all paperwork by the deadline.

- Submit all paperwork to the right place.
- Respond promptly and return all additional documentation, verification, corrections, and/or new information requested by the financial aid office or the agency to which you submitted applications.
- Read, understand, and keep copies of all forms that you sign.
- Notify the lender within 10 days of changes in your name, permanent mailing address, and school status.
- Repay the loan according to the repayment schedule. Payment is required even if you do not get a bill.
- Do not wait for the lender to contact you; write and request a repayment schedule.
- If you cannot make a payment or think no payment is due, contact your lender and request a deferment of repayment, forbearance, hardship extension, or in-school extension.
- Understand the school's refund procedures.