It is a pleasure to inform you that you have been awarded financial aid.

READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CAREFULLY.
Keep this information and the Financial Aid Award Letter for your future reference.

If you have any questions concerning your financial aid award, please contact your campus financial aid specialist or the College Financial Aid Support Center at 703-323-3199 or by e-mail at finaidsupport@nvcc.edu.

A. SELECTION OF AWARD RECIPIENTS AND DETERMINATION OF FINANCIAL AID PACKAGE

Applicants for financial aid are evaluated on the basis of demonstrated financial need and standards of satisfactory academic progress. A student must be enrolled in a program leading to a degree or eligible certificate to qualify for financial aid. Financial need is defined as the difference between our cost of attendance budget at NOVA and your Expected Family Contribution (EFC), the amount you and your parents/spouse can contribute from income and assets. A student's cost of education is determined based on enrollment and residency status. Standard student expense budgets have been established which include average charges for tuition and fees and estimated allowances for books and supplies, room and board, transportation, and personal/miscellaneous expenses. The Expected Family Contribution (EFC) toward educational costs is determined using the results from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

At the time your application was evaluated, you were automatically considered for all types of assistance, including grants, loans, and employment. The College Financial Aid Office determined your eligibility for each type of aid and assigned a combination of assistance to meet your need. Your awards were initially based upon full-time (12 semester credits or more) enrollment plans unless you received your award retroactively after classes term census date. The specific components of your aid package are dependent upon the availability of funds and your demonstrated financial need. All awards are contingent upon federal, state and local appropriations for student aid programs and receipt by the College of these funds. Adjustments made to your award will be posted on NovaConnect after the Census date for the term, the last date to add or drop with permission. Adjustments may be made if you change your enrollment, drop your course(s) or fail to continue to meet standards for financial aid.

Your aid package has been constructed using all resources known at the time of the award. If you are eligible for financial aid from a source outside the College, and we know of it, an estimate has been provided on the Financial Aid Award Letter. If you receive additional assistance not indicated on your Financial Aid Award Letter, you can usually expect an adjustment in your financial aid package.

The College Financial Aid Office reserves the right to request documentation to verify any information used to determine eligibility for financial assistance.

All decisions concerning eligibility, awards and disbursement of financial aid are made by the College Financial Aid Office (CFAO) and subject to their review and/or approval. Offers are ultimately dependent on continued funding from Federal, State and all other sources.

B. RESPONSIBILITIES OF FINANCIAL AID RECIPIENTS AND RENEWAL APPLICANTS

You are required to notify the College Financial Aid Office of any additional financial aid you receive from sources outside NOVA. Receipt of additional financial aid may result in an adjustment of the financial aid offered. Students receiving financial aid who find it necessary to add, drop or audit classes, who have classes canceled, or who do not begin attendance in any classes for which they are enrolled must notify the College Financial Aid Office of such action immediately. Necessary adjustments and/or possible refunds will be handled at that time and there may be an effect on your ability to meet the standards of satisfactory academic progress for financial aid. Students who change state residency classification must also notify the College Financial Aid Office. The financial aid Return of Title IV Funds policy is printed in the Student Handbook and the Student Services Financial Aid Handbook.

You are required to notify the College Financial Aid Office of any change in your name, enrollment status, financial status or other changes related to your attendance at NOVA. Changes in your address should be reported to the Student Services Center or updated online using NovaConnect.

You are required according to federal regulations to sign a "Statement of Educational Purpose/Registration Compliance" that student assistance received will be used solely for expenses related to college attendance. This is found on the FAFSA.

Need-based financial aid for subsequent years will be considered only if all renewal application materials, including the need analysis application, are filed each year. Financial aid applications received by May 1 will be given priority consideration. Renewal awards are based on continued demonstrated financial need and satisfactory academic progress toward a degree or eligible certificate program.
C. ENROLLMENT

When you receive an official financial aid award notification via email from the College Financial Aid Office, your registered credits for the STANDARD 16-week semester are held if your award (anticipated financial aid) is sufficient to pay your institutional charges in full. If it is not, you must pay the additional amount to avoid being dropped. If you decide to drop a class, you must drop using telephone registration, NovaConnect Student Information System or go to the Student Services Center. If you do not take proper action to drop a class, you can be held financially liable for tuition and fees.

D. AWARD PROCEDURES

The steps outlined in the Financial Aid Award Letter allow you to view your yearly awards that are divided in equal amounts (unless specified otherwise) between the fall and spring semesters. All financial aid (except Work-Study) may be used to pay tuition. Check NovaConnect online to view award, disbursement and refund activities. The Federal Perkins and Federal Stafford Student Loan programs require a signed promissory note and entrance interview prior to disbursement. If the amount of your assistance is greater than your tuition, fees and book charges, a check will be mailed for the balance of your funds about 6 weeks after the first day of classes for the standard semester or a refund will be credited to the credit card which paid your institutional charges. Students who don’t have aid awarded nor all required documents in by the first day of classes, or whose classes have not yet started by the term census date, their awards will not be disbursed until award eligibility can be determined more clearly. You may purchase books and supplies against financial aid 10 days before the beginning of classes through the last day to add/drop with a tuition refund. No additional book purchases using financial aid can be applied to student accounts during the term.

E. SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS AND RENEWAL OF AWARDS

Federal regulations require that a student receiving federal financial aid make satisfactory academic progress in accordance with standards set by the College. These standards include all terms of enrollment whether or not aid was awarded or received. A revised NOVA policy will go into effect beginning with the evaluation of classes for the 2011-2012 academic year.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMS

FEDERAL PELL GRANT: The amount of this grant is determined using the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) and the payment schedule published by the U.S. Department of Education. The calculated grant award is based on the student's enrollment status (full-time (12+ semester credits), three-quarter-time (9-11 semester credits), half-time (6-8 semester credits) or less than half-time (less than 6 semester credits)), and the cost of education at NOVA. You may not receive Pell Grant simultaneously at more than one college.

FEDERAL PERKINS LOAN: It is necessary for the student to apply each year for this loan by completing the FAFSA, and the borrower must sign a promissory note and complete entrance interview requirements for each year that money is borrowed. Repayment begins after the borrower leaves school and must be completed within ten years. No interest is charged until the beginning of the repayment schedule. All graduating loan recipients are required to complete an exit interview. Should a borrower find it necessary to withdraw at any time, arrangements for an exit interview should be made at the time by calling 703-323-3032 or by e-mailing: argroup@NVCC.edu.

FEDERAL WORK STUDY/NOVA WORK-STUDY PROGRAMS: The amount of the work-study award is the maximum that student may earn during the academic year. The award is earned according to the number of hours the student works satisfactorily. Once placed in a job, students will submit time sheets online every two weeks and will be paid by direct deposit every two weeks for the hours worked in the pay period. A work-study recipient must monitor his/her wages earned and not earn more than the amount awarded for the year. Recipients should contact the campus work-study placement coordinator with questions. Students are required to apply for jobs at www.nvcc.edu and must complete employment forms prior to beginning employment.

FEDERAL STAFFORD LOAN PROGRAM (unsubsidized and subsidized): This need-based program allows students enrolled for at least 6 semester credits to borrow up to $3,500 for each academic year as a freshman and $4,500 as a sophomore. Under the unsubsidized Stafford Loan, dependent students may borrow up to an additional $2000 and independent undergraduate students may borrow up to an additional $6,000 per academic year contingent upon eligibility requirements. Repayment begins 6 months after graduation or termination of college enrollment on at least a half-time basis. Information is available from the College Financial Aid Office, the campus financial aid specialist, or Student Services Center. Borrowers are required to complete entrance and exit loan-counseling.

For additional information on other types of student financial assistance offered at NOVA, including scholarships, please visit www.NVCC.edu/finance.