



ALTERNATIVES TO ASSIST IN FINANCING YOUR EDUCATION 2002-2003 Academic Year

FEDERAL DIRECT STUDENT LOANS

Federal Direct Stafford Loan Program- This is a need-based loan program. Students must file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to determine eligibility. Eligible, degree-seeking students may borrow money through this long-term educational loan authorized by the federal government. Eligible students may borrow up to \$2625 each academic year as freshmen and \$3500 as sophomores. Repayment begins after graduation or upon termination of studies on at least a half-time basis. The interest rate is variable and capped at 8.25%. Interest on the loan is paid by the federal government while the student is in school. Prior borrowers will be subject to the interest rates under which they previously borrowed. Guarantee and origination fees up to 3% are deducted from each disbursement of the loan. Repayment begins 6 months after graduation or termination of studies on at least a half-time basis. Completion of a promissory note is required. Enrollment on a half-time basis is required for this loan. A loan entrance interview is required for the initial loan.

Federal Direct Stafford Unsubsidized Loan Program- The Federal Direct Stafford Unsubsidized Loan is available to borrowers who do not qualify for the subsidized Direct Stafford loan program. The combination of subsidized and unsubsidized loans may not exceed the annual and aggregate loan limits under the Federal Direct Stafford program: \$2625 for freshmen and \$3500 for sophomores. Eligible independent undergraduate students enrolled at least half-time may borrow an additional annual amount of \$4,000. The interest rate is variable and capped at 8.25%. Students are required to pay interest during in-school and deferment periods; however, interest may be allowed to accrue and be capitalized. An origination and insurance fee of up to 3% is deducted from each loan disbursement. Unless specified in the promissory note, the terms and conditions of the subsidized Federal Direct Stafford loan apply. Applicants must complete the financial aid application process including completion of the FAFSA to determine eligibility. Completion of a promissory note is required.

Federal Direct PLUS Loan Program- Effective as of July 1, 1993, this federal loan program enabled credit-worthy parents to borrow up to the cost of education less any estimated student financial assistance for each child enrolled in a post-secondary institution. The variable interest rate, established each July 1, is capped at 9%; repayment begins on the day the loan is disbursed. An origination fee of 4% will be deducted from the loan disbursement. Submission of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and loan application are required.

Loan requests must be received no later than April 15, 2003 to be originated for the 2002/2003 academic year, including summer terms. Information is available at your campus Financial Aid Information Service or counseling center.

Loan Counseling- Federal regulations require student borrowers receiving a loan for the first time to attend an entrance counseling interview prior to the delivery and endorsement of the first loan check received for each loan program. First-time freshman

borrowers may not have the first loan check released until 30 days after the start of classes. Students are also required to attend an exit counseling session prior to graduation for information on loan responsibilities.

Loan Rebate Incentive- A repayment incentive of 1.5% of the gross loan amount borrowed is in effect for Federal Direct Stafford Subsidized and Unsubsidized loans, and Direct PLUS loans for borrowers who make 12 consecutive, on-time payments beginning with loans made for the 200-2001 award year.

Student Employment- Full-time and part-time (at least 6 credits/semester) students are eligible under the NOVA Work-Study Program. Students are paid an hourly wage for working in campus offices and facilities. Information is available from the campus Financial Aid Information Service or Counseling Center.

Scholarship Opportunities- During the course of the year a number of privately donated scholarships may become available. Generally, scholarship candidates must have a processed FAFSA and a NVCC Financial Aid Application on file with the College Financial Aid Office. As scholarships become available, each campus Financial Aid Information Service will post notices describing the application requirements, criteria for selection, and deadlines. Scholarships are posted to the College Financial Aid Office web page at www.nvcc.vccs.edu/finance/sch.htm.

Information and Applications

Call the Counseling Center or Financial Aid Information Service on campus:

Alexandria	703/845-6350
Annandale	703/323-3200
Loudoun	703/450-2537
Manassas	703/257-6635
Woodbridge	703/878-5725

Or

**College Financial Aid Office
Forbes Office Center
Annandale, Virginia 22003-3796
(703) 323-3199**

Websites:

NVCC - www.nvec.vccs.edu FAFSA on the

Web - www.fafsa.ed.gov

Direct Loans - www.ed.gov/DirectLoan

US Department of Education PIN- www.pin.ed.gov