

FINANCIAL AID FAST FACTS

...what you need to know about college costs...

Fact #1: Like most things in life, college is not free. You and your family may help offset college expenses by applying for financial aid and scholarships.

Fact # 2: In order to be considered for federal or state need-based aid, you must file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). You must also submit any additional forms or documentation required by the financial aid office.

Fact #3: In addition to tuition, other expenses are to be expected when planning to pay for college. These include - additional required fees, books, supplies, transportation, room and board, and personal expenses. An estimate of these fees makes up your "Cost of Attendance."

Fact #4: Financial Aid is awarded based on the difference between the cost of attendance (as established by the college) and your expected family contribution (EFC) as determined by your FAFSA results.

Fact #5: Your FAFSA results must be received by the financial aid office before August 1st to ensure that financial aid will be available for fee payment for Fall.

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Estimated College Expenses:

Per Semester --

Tuition (last year's rates)	\$2,472.00
Technology Fee	\$160.00
Security and Parking Fee	\$30.00
Student ID Fee	\$10.00
<u>Matriculation Fee (one-time only)</u>	<u>\$50.00</u>
	\$2,722.00
 Books/Supplies	 \$503.00

The average incoming freshman at USCL will need approximately **\$3,225.00** before s/he steps foot into the classroom!

The maximum Federal Pell Grant for a full-time student is **\$2,675.00.**

So, even the neediest of students whom are eligible for the FULL Pell Grant will have to find additional sources of assistance to pay basic fees - or they must pay the difference out of pocket.

The best way to obtain additional funding is by applying for financial aid by the priority deadline of April 15th, 2009 AND by making sure that all requested documentation has been completed and returned to the financial aid office as soon as possible. Do not delay!

If you apply after the priority deadline, you will need to consider student loans for assisting with the additional expenses if you are unable to pay out of pocket.

AVOID THE **SHOCK** AT FEE PAYMENT ON AUGUST 17th AND 18th:

- ✓ BE PREPARED!
- ✓ APPLY EARLY!
- ✓ READ AND RESPOND!
- ✓ **SAVE YOUR MONEY!**