

Fall 2017 Financial Aid Updates

Financial Aid Refunds

Financial aid disbursement and refunds will begin to be processed to eligible students by the Bursar's Office the first week of school. Classes begin on August 23, 2017. The refund will be the balance after payment of any outstanding University obligations (e.g., tuition fees, housing charges, etc.). Refunds will continue to be processed each week during the semester. If you receive a refund and then decide to withdraw from the University or drop units, you will be required to repay all or part of the financial aid received. For information on procedures to drop a course or to withdraw from the University contact the Registrar's Office at (408) 283-7500. Financial aid awards are based on full-time enrollment (12 units for undergraduate, credential and post-baccalaureate students and 8 units (200 level) for graduate students). If you enroll less than full-time, your awards may be adjusted. Print, complete and submit the Student Information Form to notify us of your enrollment changes sjsu.edu/faso/Forms

NOTE: If you have borrowed a Direct Loan or received the TEACH Grant, you have the right to cancel all or a portion of your loan. To do so, you must submit a written statement informing the Financial Aid Office within 14 days of disbursement so that the funds may be returned.

Direct Deposit

Want to receive your refund faster? With electronic refunds, refunds from SJSU and Financial Aid disbursements are sent electronically to your bank rather than mailing a check to you. Here's what you do:

- Log on to MySJSU.
- Click the "Enroll in Direct Deposit" link under Finances.
- You will be directed to a secure site hosted by our processing partner Wells Fargo Bank
- Follow the instructions to set up your profile and preferences.

You should be prepared with information regarding your checking or savings account including the bank routing number and your account number. It is critical that the information is accurate when you enter it.

If the information is not accurate, your refund will be delayed.

Charging Books at the Spartan Bookstore

Registered students can now charge books and supplies purchased at the Spartan Bookstore beginning on July 31 to their MySJSU student account up to \$900.00 per semester. The charge will be added to their student account and payment will be due by October 5, 2017 for the Fall semester. Students will be required to sign a release form indicating their consent to post the charges to their student account each time they make a purchase. This is an optional program and students who are registered for more than zero units and degree seeking are eligible to participate. Open University and transitory students, and Early Start summer only students are not eligible.

Check your MySJSU account for payment due dates or to determine if your financial aid (if applicable) will cover the charges.

Financial Education Workshops

The Office offers a number of workshops to empower all students to confidently navigate their finances in a way that supports their overall well-being. This program fosters financial literacy skills through workshops, coaching, and online educational efforts. Visit the website to view the sessions and RSVP to attend sjsu.edu/faso/literacy

Important Dates

Fall '17, First day of instruction:
Wednesday, August 23, 2017

Labor Day, campus Closed:
Monday, September 4, 2017

**Last Day to drop a Course
without "W":**
Wednesday, September 6, 2017

Last Day to add a Course via MySJSU:
Wednesday, September 13, 2017

Fall 2017 Census Date:
Thursday, September 21

**2018 – 2019 FAFSA and CA Dream
Application available:**
Sunday, October 1, 2017

**Last Day to Submit the Academic
Progress Petition:**
Thursday, November 9

**Last Day to Accept a Fall 2017
Only Loan:**
Friday, December 1

Last Day of Fall '17 Instruction:
Monday, December 11

2018-2019 Financial Aid Application & Deadlines

Beginning on October 1, 2017 you are able to complete, electronically sign and submit your 2018-2019 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by visiting fafsa.gov or the CA Dream Application at dream.csac.ca.gov. The priority filing deadline for the applications is Friday, March 2, 2018. To reduce possible mistakes and streamline the financial aid application process, students and parents may be eligible to use the IRS Data Retrieval process. This means when filling out your FAFSA you may be eligible to automatically retrieve your federal tax information directly from the IRS into your FAFSA!

The FSA ID replaces the FAFSA PIN. All students and parents must create a FSA ID. The FSA ID will be used to electronically sign the FAFSA and promissory notes, and complete the entrance and exit counseling. Create the FSA ID at <https://fsaid.ed.gov/npas/index.htm>

Parents who do not have a social security number will not be able to create a FSA ID and will have to sign their student's FAFSA by completing a signature page and mailing the page to FAFSA.

Required documents for the Fall 2018 – Spring 2019 Award Year will be assigned in MySJSU for students after completion of the FAFSA/CA Dream Application. Follow the instructions in the Document Request Letter regarding submission of the forms. The priority deadline to submit all requested documents is Friday, April 27, 2018. Only students that submit all required documents by June 29, 2018 will have their registration fees deferred. Students not meeting the deadline MUST pay their registration fees from their own resources by the payment deadline.

Apply Early! Submit your FAFSA/CA Dream Application before the March 2 deadline so that there is enough time for your application data to reach our office before the deadline. Don't make the mistake of assuming that financial aid is automatically renewed – students must reapply each year.

NOTE: To be considered for maximum funding, the FAFSA or CA Dream Application must be completed by no later than March 2, 2018 and all required documents submitted by April 27, 2018.

Stay Eligible for Financial aid

You will need to maintain satisfactory academic progress in order to continue receiving federal and state financial aid. In other words, you have to earn good grades, and complete enough classes to keep progressing towards successfully completing your degree.

Students who fail to meet the following criteria will be ineligible for federal, state, and/or institutional scholarship, grant and loan funds:

- maintain the required cumulative grade point average,
- successfully complete a minimum of 75% of cumulative attempted coursework,
- complete their program of study within the prescribed length of time.

Read about the quantitative and qualitative components you must meet to maintain your eligibility for financial aid at our website: sjsu.edu/faso/Policies/academicprogress

Withdrawing (W) or Failing (F) a Class

Be aware of how withdrawing (W or WU), failing a class (F) may affect a student's financial aid:

- Students are required to complete at least 60% of their period of enrollment in order for their financial aid to be considered "earned". If students withdraw or stop attending class before completing 60% of the semester, they may be required to return a portion of their financial aid depending on their last date of attendance.
If a student receives an F-grade in a class, the last date of attendance is used as well to determine if the student owes money back.
- Ceasing to attend class is not sufficient to dropping their classes. Students are encouraged to meet with a financial aid advisor before taking steps to drop or withdraw from their classes.



Why hasn't my financial aid disbursed?

Since financial aid is awarded based on full-time enrollment (12 units undergraduate/post-baccalaureate; 8 units graduate), aid will not automatically disburse if a student is enrolled in less than full-time units. Students must inform the Financial Aid and Scholarship Office of changes to their enrollment status by completing the Student Information Update form.

What if I change the number of units enrolled after receiving my financial aid disbursement?

If you receive financial aid and then drop units, you may be required to repay a portion of the funds. The repayment amount will be determined after the Add/Drop period has ended. Students should periodically view their MySJSU for payment notices.

Why haven't I received my award yet?

As a result of changes to the federal financial aid process, some awards have been delayed. The staff is working diligently to get these processed.