

## **INSTRUCTIONS AND TIPS FOR COMPLETING THIS PACKET**

### **Section 1, Determine Which Pages You Should Complete**

1 Are you an Independent or Dependent Student?

See top of first page of this Packet. Enter status here: \_\_\_\_\_

2 Determine your Verification Category. Your SAR should YOU tell which category you fall into: V1, V4 or V5. (note V2, V3 and V6 have been discontinued). If your SAR is silent on this matter, then assume you are Category V1 (Standard Verification Group). Or you may contact the school for further clarification.

Enter your category here: \_\_\_\_\_

3 Are you applying for the Local Scholarship? Enter Yes or No here: \_\_\_\_\_

4 Are you applying for a Pell Grant? Enter Yes or No here: \_\_\_\_\_

5 Are you applying for a Direct Loan? Enter Yes or No here: \_\_\_\_\_

6 At the bottom of each page is a note explaining exactly which type of student (ex: Independent V1, Dependent V4, etc.) should complete that page. Using the information you determined above, look at the bottom of each page and place a check mark next to note of each page you should complete.

7 Complete only the pages you have check marked. Ignore the pages you have determined should not be check marked.

**NOTE: THE ABOVE ITEMS ARE IMPORTANT FIRST STEPS. NOT FOLLOWING THE ABOVE INSTRUCTIONS EXACTLY WILL DELAY THE SCHOOL'S DETERMINATION OF WHICH AND HOW MUCH FINANCIAL AID YOU WILL RECEIVE.**

8 Carefully follow the instructions on each page. Take your time. It is not difficult and should take about 1 hour to complete.

### **Section 2, Helpful Hints**

1 How much should I borrow? The quick answer is as little as possible. But to give you a better idea go through this simple exercise:

Take the Total Tuition of \$19,500 and if you qualify for the Local Scholarship, subtract \$2,000 (an estimate) from your tuition. Have you completed your FAFSA? That should tell you how much Pell Grant you qualify for. Subtract that amount from your tuition. Finally, subtract whatever amount you plan to pay out of pocket at this time. The remaining amount is how much you still owe. This should help you determine how much in combined loans you should borrow.

2 Do I need to turn in everything at the same time? The packet must be complete before you turn it in, but you don't need have other application items done at the same time too. You are encouraged to turn in each piece of the Financial Aid (this packet is 1 piece) and application items as soon as possible.

3 You can turn in this packet without having completed the Entrance Counseling and MPN parts of the Direct Loan Process. But you will need to tell us how much you want to borrow. If you are accepted, you will be prompted to complete the Entrance Counseling and MPN at a later date.

### **Section 3, Deadline**

1 Double check that you have completed everything you need to complete.

2 Double check that you have included any supporting documentation that the packet has requested.

3 You may turn in, mail or email your completed packet. The quicker you turn in the packet, the quicker you will know how much financial aid you qualify for!

### **Section 4, the 2024-2025 FAFSA**

1 Please note that the 2024-2025 FAFSA (which uses your 2022 Tax Return) will need to be completed to determine your Pell Grant for the second half the program that starts March 31, 2025.

2 A new Verification packet (on orange paper) will be supplied at a later date.