



Student Financial Assistance

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2005-2006

I. Unit Title: Student Financial Assistance
Division: Student Affairs
Unit Administrator: Ann Margaret Mullins

II. Educational Program Learning Outcome Assessment Plan

A. Learning Outcome

Students participate in Financial Awareness Week and become knowledgeable about personal financial affairs.

B. Data Collection and Analysis

Students register and complete an evaluation form at each session during the week.

C. Results of Evaluation

Evaluations were evaluated and the sessions that were most helpful for students will be repeated in future sessions. Attendance increased from 402 participants to 425.

This is the second year of Financial Awareness Week. Results will be more apparent as students graduate and manage their finances – which includes repaying student loans in a timely fashion.

D. Use of Evaluation Results

This is the second year of Financial Awareness Week.

III. Department Goals for 2005-2006

- A. **Goal # 1: Work with lenders and change institutional procedures in order to receive Parent PLUS loan funds through electronic funds transfer rather than by paper check.**
- B. Institutional Goal 12: "Provide administrative services and auxiliary enterprises... which are effective and efficient in the support of the institutional mission."
- C. Expected Results: Students and parents will receive loan funds from their lender more quickly.
- D. Evaluation Procedures: Evaluate the amount of time that elapses from time of loan approval to disbursement to student account.
- E. Actual Results of Evaluation: Students and parents received funds approximately one week earlier since the actual loan check did not have to be forward to the parent for endorsement before disbursement to the student account.
- F. Use of Evaluation Results: We will continue to receive PLUS loan funds through EFT.

- A. **Goal # 2: Secure the support of one of our lender partners to professional print a list of alternative loan lenders for our students.**
- B. Institutional Goal 14: "Expand the pursuit of external funding for ... student financial assistance, and other needs."
- C. Expected Results: Professionally printed materials will be available for our students.
- D. Evaluation Procedure(s): Materials are printed and paid for with outside funding.
- E. Actual Results of Evaluation: Materials were received and distributed to students.
- F. Use of Evaluation Results: Students received professional materials that included all contact information on our alternative (private) loan lenders.

IV. Data and Information for department

Mission Statement

The goal of the financial aid office at Delta State University is to provide the opportunity for its students to secure funding to assist with paying for their education.

Office Location

The financial aid office is located in Suite 144 of Kent Wyatt Hall. The first floor of Kent Wyatt Hall serves as a "one stop shop" for student's interaction with Student Business Services, Financial Aid, Admissions, and the Registrar.

Responsibilities and Activities of the Financial Aid Office at Delta State University

1. Provide federal and state financial aid applications to students.
2. Provide counseling to students and parents with regard to securing funds to pay for their education.
3. Under federal guidelines, make federal financial aid awards to students. This would include Pell Grants, FSEOG, Student Loans, & Federal Work Study.
4. Identify potential recipients and award SLEAP federal emergency grant funds to students affected by hurricanes in the year 2005.
5. Serve as a “clearinghouse” for all institutionally awarded scholarships.
6. Electronically transmit loan application date to lenders.
7. Receive electronic funds from lenders and distribute to appropriate student accounts.
8. Electronically return funds to lenders for students who do not enroll, withdraw, or decline funds.
9. Provide loan counseling to all students before receipt of their first loan funds.
10. Provide loan counseling to all students at graduation or withdrawal.
11. Collect income data to verify accuracy of student’s financial aid applications data.
12. Electronically make corrections to financial aid applications for students.
13. Conduct workshops for high school senior and their parents regarding financial aid that is available.
14. Attend training sessions 3-5 times a year to ensure we are aware of all changes in federal and state awarding guidelines.
15. Receive funds for state scholarships and distribute to appropriate student accounts.
16. Report academic data to IHL each semester for all scholarship recipients.
17. Have daily contact with lenders regarding loan application and disbursement issues.
18. Manage small institutional emergency loan fund. (Bland)
19. Assist Bursar’s office with balancing loan funds account.
20. Monitor grades of all students receiving financial aid each semester.
21. Notify students of financial aid academic probation or suspension status.
22. Contact instructors of students with all non-passing grades each semester to determine last date of attendance so that an unofficial withdrawal date can be determined and financial aid funds adjusted if necessary.
23. Complete and submit the Fiscal Operations Report and Application to Participate (FISAP) with the assistance of the Accounting office each year to the Department of Education. This secures financial aid funding for the next academic year.
24. Serve as a standing member of the Enrollment Management Task Force
25. Entertain lenders on campus that come to share their services with students.
26. Provide ad hoc financial aid reports for on and off campus sources as requested.
27. Work closely with recruiting and admissions to enroll students.
28. Serve as a standing member of the Administrative Staff Council.
29. Serve as an officer and/or trainer in the Mississippi Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators. (MASFAA)
30. Send letters to all applicants notifying them of date that is required before financial aid awards can be made.
31. Send letters to all applicants notifying them of their financial aid awards.
32. Maintain student files for five years after a student’s late date of attendance.
33. Electronically receive and upload to the BANNER system federal financial aid applications for all students who list Delta State as their intended school.
34. Create and have printed numerous forms that must either be completed by the student to secure financial data or are sources of information for students.
35. Assist students with completing financial aid applications.

36. Respond to thousands to inquiries yearly from students and parents by phone, in person, and by e-mail.
37. Maintain a yearly filing system of approximately 4000 students with an average of ten new **confidential** documents per student each year.
38. Provide a scholarship bulletin board for students in our building.
39. Notify financial aid students on academic probation of the services and workshops provided by the Academic Support Lab. Serve as a monitor at these workshops.
40. Speak to parents and students at each Orientation session in the summer.
41. Staff members serve as instructors in GST emerging scholar's classes.
42. Manage the Federal Work Study program on campus. This includes notifying departments of positions, monitoring payroll data, and notifying students of eligibility.
43. Make professional judgment decisions, within Title IV guidelines, regarding a student's dependency status.
44. Make professional judgment decisions, within Title IV guidelines, regarding changes in student's and parent's income data provided on the federal application.
45. Serve as recruiters for Delta State University.
46. Work closely with the athletic department to ensure NCAA regulations are being followed with regard to athletic scholarships.

Report of Financial Aid Awards for 2005-2006

Total Aid Accepted All Types – Unduplicated (As of June 27, 2006)

YEAR	# of Students	Amount
2005-2006	3467	29,245,409
2004-2005	3449	\$25,674,415
2003-2004	3280	\$ 23,880,747
2002-2003	3296	\$ 22,873,375
2001-2002	3151	\$ 20,058,641
2000-2001	3238	\$ 18,901,053
1999-2000	3134	\$ 17,394,804
1998-1999	3312	\$ 16,091,945
1997-1998	3218	\$ 15,135,242
1996-1997	3238	\$ 14,721,506
1995-1996	3118	\$ 13,558,994

Total Title IV Accepted	2919	22,897,157
Total Institutional Schol.	708	3,911,981
Total State Scholarships	1040	1,290,675
Total Outside Sources *	753	1,145,596
TOTAL		29,245,409

Loan Information

	# of Stu	TOTAL	Fall 2005	Spring 2006	Summer 2006
Subsidized Stafford Loans	2138	9,665,066	4,441,756	4,797,935	425,375
Unsubsidized Stafford Loans	1645	6,675,441	3,023,636	3,179,521	472,284
Parent PLUS Loans	101	589,699	295,932	285,667	8,100
Perkins Loans	200	391,725	62,355	68,105	261,265
TOTAL Loans		17,321,931			

Grant and Work Study Information

	# of Stu	TOTAL	Fall 2005	Spring 2006	Summer 2006
Pell Grants – Disbursed	1520	4,270,690	2,212,891	1,991,119	66,680
SEOG	229	136,150	42,200	35,050	58,900
LEAP	32	21,665	500	4,450	16,715
SLEAP	70	652,682	5,000	608,762	38,920
Federal Work Study Awarded	332	494,039	223,551	233,634	36,854
Average Pell Grant Award/Year		\$ 2,809			

Institutional Scholarships/Funds

State Scholarships

FUND	# of Students	Amount	FUND	# of Students	Amount
Academic	375	1,084,007	Critical Needs	48	352,594
Athletic	244	1,074,271	HELP	12	45,144
Music	162	381,461	MTAG	898	631,300
Foundation	287	278,953	MESG	31	76,250
Other Service **	183	429,180	Nursing	36	135,387
Dependent	59	102,733	William Winter	15	50,000
WIA	123	319,126			
Delta Educ Init	17	93,600			
Delta Init Educ	11	81,500			
Hearin Fellows	9	31,150			
C'land Sch Dist	5	36,000			
TOTAL		3,911,981	TOTAL		1,290,675

* Total Outside Sources Includes: MAMP, GI Bill, National Guard Benefits, Vocational Rehabilitation, Alternative Loans, and Off Campus Scholarships.

** Other Service Includes: Graduate OOS, Art, Cheerleader, Gooch, SGA, Student Union, Student Editors, Dorm, Miss DSU, Vice President, & Student Affairs.

Average Financial Aid award per student for 2005-2006 **\$ 8,435**
 (\$29,245,409 / 3467 = \$ 7,444)

Total Actual cost for a dorm student at Delta State in 2005-2006 **\$ 8,225**
 (\$ 4463 dorm/meal fee + \$3762 tuition)

Estimated cost of attendance for 2005-2006 at Delta State University

Item	Dependent	Independent
Tuition	3762	3762
Books	700	700
Room/Board/Transportation/Miscellaneous	9450	9450
Self Supporting Allowance	-0-	1000
TOTAL	13912	14912

Financial Aid Application Report

	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006
March 1	481	509	649	884	1019	1037	966	959
April 1	1378	1416	1601	1857	1935	2071	1915	1901
May 1	2334	2118	2318	2729	2882	2913	2813	2838
June 1	2853	2821	2925	3418	3656	3560	3513	3645
July 1	3348	3359	3459	4040	4240	4291	4334	4500
August 1	3775	3836	3976	4561	4914	5062	5117	5401
Sept 1	3808	4242	4468	5155	5508	5573	5778	5968
October 1	4072	4427	4620	5333	5679	5721	5937	6196
Nov 1	4196	4510	4722	5431	5779	5814	6038	6283
Dec 1	4267	4599	4833	5561	5904	5948	6157	6417
January 1	4451	4681	4931	5683	6030	6116	6266	6534
Feb 1	4529	4766	5034	5801	6138	6277	6402	6704
End of Yr	4653	4912	5178	5931	6257	6412	6547	6704

V. Personnel:

Noteworthy activities and accomplishments:

The Financial Aid Director served as a member of the board of Mississippi Higher Education Assistance Corporation (MHEAC).

The Financial Aid Director served the second year of a two year term as Treasurer of the State Financial Aid Organization (MASFAA).

A Counselor served on the MASFAA High School Relations Committee.

The Assistant Director will serve as chairperson for the MASFAA State Aid Committee.

Financial Aid staff members served on the Delta State attendance committee.

The following workshops were attended by one or all of the SFA professional/support staff during 2005-2006. These provided the continued training necessary in new and proposed financial aid regulations.

MASFAA (State Association) Fall training

Financial Aid Officer's Workshops sponsored by USA Group

MASFAA Spring Conference

Financial Aid Training for new Financial Aid Professionals sponsored by MASFAA

NASFAA (National Organization) Training

Financial Aid staff served as presenters and/or organizers of the following:

IHL Sponsored Recruiting Day in Jackson

Financial Aid Workshop at Murrah High School, Jackson

Financial Aid Workshop at Grenada High School

Financial Aid Workshop at Kirk Academy, Grenada

Financial Aid Workshop at Lee Academy, Clarksdale

Financial Aid Workshop at Pillow Academy, Greenwood

Financial Aid Workshop at Bayou Academy, Cleveland

Gear Up Kids for the Delta Center for Culture and Learning

MASFAA Spring Conference – Presenter

Instructor for GST class on campus

New positions requested: None

Recommended change of status: None

VI. Department Goals for 2006-2007

- A. **Goal # 1: Work with software provider to offer exit loan counseling on-line for students leaving school or graduating at specific times of the year.**
- B. Institutional Goal: The university community will benefit from better communication, effective operational and administrative systems, an optimal work environment, and a performance-responsive reward structure.
- C. Expected Results: Students will be able to complete the required loan counseling in a more timely manner with less adverse affects.
- D. Evaluation Procedures: Evaluate whether or not fewer students have university holds due to required loan counseling.
- E. Use of Evaluation Results: Determine whether or not to continue use of the on-line product.

- A. **Goal # 2: Work with lender partners to security PLUS loan and alternative loan funds electronically rather than by paper check.**
- B. Institutional Goal: Students will enroll in greater numbers and a larger percentage will persist to graduation.
- C. Expected Results: Students will receive loan funds in a shorter amount of time.
- D. Evaluation Procedures: Evaluate if students receiving PLUS and alternative loan funds receive those funds in a shorter period of time.
- E. Use of Evaluation Results: Determine whether or not to continue receiving funds electronically.

- A. **Goal # 3: Continue to work towards lowering our student loan default rate.**
- B. Institutional Goal: The university community will benefits from better communication, effective operational and administrative systems, an optimal work environment, and a performance-responsive reward structure.
- C. Expected Results: Students will repay student loans in a timely manner and our default rate will fall.
- D. Evaluation Procedure(s): Monitor default rate on a yearly basis.
- F. Use of Evaluation Results: Determine if additional default prevention measures are necessary.