



Financial Aid Update

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

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financialaid.syr.edu

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THE
SYRACUSE RESPONDS
INITIATIVE

Syracuse Responds to Students in Need

In response to the current economic climate's affect on many of our students and families, the University created the Syracuse Responds Initiative to assist students in financial need.

As of the first week of the spring semester, over \$830,000 has been raised for the Syracuse Responds Initiative, enabling the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarship Programs to assist students in financial need.

We are thankful to the Chancellor, alumni, Trustees, faculty, staff, and friends for their generosity and response to the urgent need of our students.

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It's time to file for 2009-2010 financial aid

Before April 1, 2009

returning students applying for 2009-2010 financial aid must complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Students may complete their FAFSA online at

www.fafsa.ed.gov (SU code

002882). If you have

previously filed a FAFSA online, you will be asked if you would like to use an application that has been "pre-filled". A PIN number is required for the student and his/her parent to complete the FAFSA online. Students may apply for a PIN at www.pin.ed.gov.

Students who entered Syracuse during the 2008-2009 academic year and wish to apply for financial aid are also required to complete the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE. Applications may be filed online at www.collegeboard.com (SU code 2823).

Check the Task List tab of the Financial Aid Portfolio, available on [MySlice](#), to determine if our office has received your completed form(s). On-time filers may view their financial aid award on the Financial Aid Portfolio in June.



Are your "tasks" completed?

The 2009-2010 Financial Aid Portfolio is now available on [MySlice](#). Check your 2009-10 Portfolio to be certain all your tasks are completed so that we may process your financial aid.

And don't forget to check out our handy Financial Aid timeline to be certain that you are not missing any important steps as you apply for financial aid for next year.

ATTENDING SCHOOL THIS SUMMER?

Summer 2009 financial aid applications will be available mid-March online. Summer aid consists of loans (Federal Stafford, Federal PLUS and Alternative Loans). To be considered for summer financial aid, you must:

- Be matriculated in a program leading to a degree, certificate or diploma at Syracuse University
- Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen
- Be enrolled for six (6) or more credit hours for the summer
- Not be in default on any previous federal student loan or grant

HOW TO APPLY

STEP 1: If you have not already completed a 2008-09 FAFSA, you must apply before June 30, 2009. The FAFSA may be completed online at: www.fafsa.ed.gov.

STEP 2: Complete the 2009 Undergraduate Summer Financial Aid Application. For further details visit [our web site](#) beginning in mid-March.

STEP 3: Register for summer classes through University College/Summer at Syracuse, 700 University Avenue. Questions? Call 443-4135.

GETTING TO KNOW US



Congratulations to **Christopher Cartmill** on his new position of Associate Director of Scholarship Programs. Chris has been in the Scholarship Office for 3 years, and now oversees the office. He also manages the Haudenosaunee Promise and Coronat Scholars programs. Chris has a Bachelor's degree from St. Bonaventure University.

Welcome to **Benita Rodriguez**, Assistant Director of Scholarship Programs. Benita administers SU academic scholarships and supports the administration of merit-based scholarships. She earned her MBA at the Whitman School of Management and received a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from St. John Fisher College.



Welcome also **Theresa Jenkins** who returns to our office as a financial aid counselor. Theresa may be a familiar face to many of you as she has previously worked in the Registrar's Office and Carrier Dome. Theresa is an SU alumna with a Bachelor's degree in Child and Family Studies, and a Masters in Teaching and Leadership Special Education.

Notes from the BURSAR'S OFFICE



102 Archbold North
Bursar@syr.edu
 (315) 443-2444

ON LINE ACCOUNT INQUIRY

You may view your Bursar account and request refunds online at MySlice.syr.edu. Anticipated financial aid information is also available. **You may give a third-party shared access to your Bursar account and Financial Aid Portfolio by setting them up with their own NetID and password. See Student Services in MySlice for instructions.**

BILLING STATEMENTS

Updated billing statements for the spring 2009 semester charges will be mailed on February 13, 2009 for all main campus students including those on a payment plan. The due date of this bill is March 6, 2009. Please remember that summer 2009 registration begins on March 18, 2009 and early registration for fall 2009 begins on April 3, 2009. In order to participate in either registration, this bill must be paid in full. If you are on a payment plan, you must be up-to-date on your payments to participate. Once you receive your billing statement, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact our office. You may reach us by e-mail at Bursar@syr.edu or by telephone at (315) 443-2444.

MONTHLY PAYMENT PLANS

If you wish to participate in the monthly payment plan for 2009-2010, you may submit an application anytime prior to July 1, 2009. You may print an application from the web after April 1, 2009 at <http://bfasweb.syr.edu/bursar/BsrMPP.html> and return it to our office at 102 Archbold North. There is a \$65 **non-refundable** application fee charged. Please contact an account representative at (315) 443-2444 for assistance or send an e-mail to Bursar@syr.edu.

LAST DAY TO DROP WITHOUT FINANCIAL PENALTY FOR SPRING 2009 IS FEBRUARY 2, 2009.

Visit our web site at <http://bfasweb.syr.edu/bursar> for additional information.



Money Matters: Identity Theft

Are you being used? Sure, from time to time we all feel a little unappreciated from our friends, family or coworkers, but is someone pretending *to be* you? According to howstuffworks.com, 10 million Americans become victims of identity theft each year. Identity theft occurs when someone steals your name, social security number and credit to assume your identity i.e. become YOU. Primarily, a thief will steal your identity to obtain credit cards and/or loans in your name for their use. This can wreak havoc on your credit score and damage your future borrowing power. This edition of Money Matters will provide you with tips on how to avoid becoming a victim of identity theft and offer guidance on what to do if someone has stolen your identity.

Avoid Identity Theft

Tip #1 – What’s in Your Wallet?

If you carry your driver’s license, school ID, social security card and passport in your wallet/purse, you are carrying too much. Leave your social security card and passport at home in a safe or locked desk drawer and only carry them when you need to use them. Also, if you have more than one credit card or debit card, determine which card you will absolutely use during the day. Only carry that card with you and leave the rest at home with your other important documentation. The more personal identification you carry with you in your wallet/purse, the more likely you are on becoming a victim of identity theft if your wallet/purse is lost or stolen.

Tip #2 – Shred, Shred, Shred

Keep track of each and every receipt you receive. Once you are done with the receipt you should send it to the shredder. Many companies will only list the last 4 numbers of your credit/debit card on the receipt but be aware, some still list the full account number. Also, remember to shred any non financial receipts you may receive, such as doctors or professional slips. These receipts may contain your name, address and social security number, a thief’s dream come true. A small home office shredder can be purchased for a minimal price or you can search your community for agencies who will shred and recycle your documents for free!

Tip #3 – Internet Protection

Never, ever (repeat) ever, provide your name, social security number, account number or address on an internet site that does not have “https” in the url. The site is not safe and anyone can gain access to your personal information. Also, confirm the safety and website protection disclaimer on all websites you log on to. This is usually found at the bottom of the website under “privacy policy” section. If you are comfortable the website is safe, always close your browser as an added safety measure when you log out of the website. In addition, run a firewall, spy ware or antivirus software on your computer to detect or prevent anyone from hacking in to your personal files. Also, never share your log on ID and/or password with anyone, no matter how much you trust them.

Victim of Identity Theft

Tip #1 – Pick Up the Phone

If you have discovered you are a victim of identity theft you must report the theft immediately to your creditors. Contact all creditors you have and cancel your accounts immediately. In addition, contact the three credit reporting agencies Equifax, TransUnion and Experian to report the theft. Also, you should contact the Social Security Administration to see if a new social security number is warranted due to the theft. You should notify the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) as the FTC has an online theft complaint form that can help them gather information about the theft which may lead to law enforcement actions.

Tip #2 – Be Patient

Once you are a victim of identity theft it may take weeks, months or even years to clear up your accounts with your creditors and credit reporting agencies. Be patient with the process and keep all documentation through out the proceedings. Follow up with your creditors and credit reporting agencies from time to time to make sure progress is being made on your behalf.

Identity theft can happen to any of us that have a name, address and/or social security number. However, taking steps to avoid and prevent identity theft from happening will decrease the chances of someone else of becoming the unique, wonderful you that you are!