

## UNIVERSITY RULE

### 13.03.99.M1 Scholarships & Financial Aid

*Approved January 28, 1999*

*Revised April 15, 2008*

*Next Scheduled Review: April 25, 2011*

[Supplements System Policy 13.03](#)

#### 1. GENERAL

- 1.1 Any student meeting the eligibility requirements established by the federal and/or state governments, the Texas A&M University System (System), or Texas A&M University, may receive financial aid through the University. These requirements include, but are not limited to, financial need and acceptable scholastic and conduct records.
- 1.2 Financial aid, which includes loans, grants, scholarships, and student employment, is a means of covering a portion or all of the cost of a college education. Aid is available from a variety of sources, including federal, state, and institutional funds, as well as private sources such as educational foundations, and industrial or civic organizations.

#### 2. GUIDELINES

- 2.1 Scholarships & Financial Aid will be directly responsible for, or will work directly with the responsible parties in, all phases of student financial aid. The Assistant Provost of Scholarships & Financial Aid will establish the policies and procedures for the office, which shall follow applicable federal, state, System and University regulations and requirements.
- 2.2 The Assistant Provost of Scholarships & Financial Aid will publish and make available convenient, comprehensive, up-to-date information on student financial aid. The information will include:
  - (1) types of aid available;
  - (2) qualification and eligibility requirements;
  - (3) general rules and regulations; and
  - (4) methods of applying for aid.
- 2.3 Each applicant will be assessed on a fair and equal basis with all others. The main objective will be the determination of eligibility and/or demonstrated need.

### 3. TYPES OF AID

- 3.1 Loans. Student loans are a form of self-help that enables students to borrow funds for education-related costs. Loan sources, eligibility requirements, and terms for repayment vary. Some qualify for forgiveness.
- 3.2 Grants. Grants are gift funds that do not have to be repaid and are awarded only on the basis of financial need. A student's financial aid offer will include grants whenever guidelines and funding levels permit.
- 3.3 Scholarships. Scholarships are awarded either on the basis of academic criteria or any combination of academics, financial need, campus/community activities, leadership positions, and work experience. Additionally, some scholarships are awarded on the basis of a special talent or skill. Scholarships are designed to reward, encourage, and assist students in pursuing academic excellence and leadership roles.
- 3.4 Part-time Employment.
  - 3.4.1 Part-time employment is the fourth type of financial aid available to students. Students seeking part-time employment may review job listings for on-campus, off-campus, and Federal/State Work Study, which are posted by Scholarships & Financial Aid at <http://jobsforaggies.tamu.edu>. It is the student's responsibility to contact the hiring departments listed to secure employment.
  - 3.4.2 An assistantship requires the performance of services and the costs thereof are charged as an expense of the department in which the work is performed. Graduate students may be hired as assistants and work ten to twenty hours per week. Graduate students interested in acquiring an assistantship should contact their graduate advisor for help. Graduate assistants are paid either bi-weekly or monthly, and the hiring department will provide information regarding fringe benefits.

### 4. FILES

- 4.1 A financial aid record is maintained on all financial aid recipients. With the exception of Perkins Loan records and unresolved audit or program review questions, all records for a particular award year must be maintained in accordance with the provisions of Title IV regulations and the [Texas A&M University System Records Retention Schedule](#) (To view retention provisions for Financial Aid Audit Documents and Financial Aid Program Records click here.)

4.2 All types of records may be maintained in paper or electronic form.

OFFICE OF RESPONSIBILITY: [Scholarships & Financial Aid](#)