

Piedmont College Financial Aid Office

Doctoral Student Financial Aid Options

** To request financial aid, students may complete the steps below after acceptance to the Piedmont College Doctoral Program **

Application Process

STEP 1: Complete the FAFSA

Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) each year online at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>. Students must qualify to receive federal aid and application approval is not automatic. The annual FAFSA application is valid for fall, spring and summer semesters. The Piedmont College Federal School Code is 001588. To qualify for student loans, student must stay enrolled in at least six (6) semester hours.

Every year (after January 1st) students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the appropriate award year, if they wish to apply for federal financial aid (including federal student loans). Please complete the 2009-10 FAFSA using 2008 taxes in order to apply for federal student aid for fall 2009, spring 2010, and/or summer 2010 terms.

Electronic FAFSA Application – Students are strongly encouraged to electronically complete the FAFSA on the Web. We recommend web filers print and complete the FAFSA on the Web Worksheet from Section 1 of the FAFSA home page. Students who file via the web make fewer errors and the process is faster than filing the paper FAFSA.

Please be careful and use the official U. S. Department of Education website! There are numerous commercial sites with very similar Web addresses that charge a fee after the application is completed.

Provide student name exactly as it appears on the Social Security card! Do not use nicknames, abbreviations, or middle names as first names. The U. S. Department of Education requires the name on the FAFSA to identically match the name on Social Security Administration records. The process will be delayed, and additional documentation will be required, if there is a name conflict.

Deadline to Submit Free Application for Federal Student Aid and receive aid prior to term begin date:

Fall Semester: July 1

Spring Semester: December 1

Summer Semester: April 15

Applications submitted late may still be accepted; however, students must make payment arrangements with the Business Office. If loans are processed after the term begins, the loans may reimburse a student for some or all expenses paid at the beginning of the term.

STEP 2: Complete the Doctoral Financial Aid Award Letter

- This will be made available to **accepted applicants only**. Read carefully, complete, and return the letter to Financial Aid via fax to 706-778-0708 or mail to: Financial Aid, P.O. Box 10, Demorest, GA 30535.

STEP 3: Complete a Master Promissory Note

- Go to www.dlenote.ed.gov, select Complete New MPN for student loans, and choose the “**Subsidized/Unsubsidized**” option
 - **Do not choose the “Graduate Plus” option.**
- The Master Promissory Note can be completed only once and allows student loan funds to be disbursed up to 10 years.

STEP 4: Complete Entrance Counseling

- Go to www.dl.ed.gov and select the link for “Entrance & Exit Counseling”
- The Entrance Counseling only needs to be completed once while at Piedmont.

What happens next?

- After the Financial Aid Office receives the FAFSA information from the U.S. Department of Education and a signed award letter, the type and amount of each student’s loans will be calculated.
- Students receive an email notification of the loan types and amounts.
- When all requirements are completed, financial aid is considered to be processed and approved.
- The Department of Education sends loan funds directly to the college 30-60 days into each semester.
- Refund checks are mailed to students typically around mid-semester; however, this is just an estimate.

QUESTIONS: Contact the Financial Aid Office at fnaid@piedmont.edu or call 706-776-0114 or 1-800-277-7020. To resolve technical questions, please call 1-800-433-3243. Master Promissory Note or Entrance Counseling Technical Questions, please call 1-800-848-0979.

Revised 3.10.09