

## **School of Education- Credentials Office**

### **Financial Aid Update for Credential and Graduate Students**

#### **Financial Aid Eligibility**

Students pursuing a Teaching Credential or Masters in Education may be eligible for financial aid in the form of grants and/or student loans. Financial aid can assist with University fees, book expenses and/or living expenses. To determine if you are eligible for any financial aid, you must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Assistance (FAFSA). It is free to file and you can do it online at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>. Visit the SSU Financial Aid website at <http://www.sonoma.edu/finaid/> for priority filing date information.

#### **Scholarship Information**

Scholarships at Sonoma State University are awarded on the basis of academic merit, usually without regard to financial need or state of residency. Students should contact the SSU Scholarship Office in Salazar Hall, (707) 664-2261, for an application. The application deadline is January 15. Off-campus scholarship information is available in the Scholarship Office in Salazar Hall. Good sites for scholarship searches on the Internet are: FastWeb, FinAid, and the California Student Aid Commission. Scholarship funding is taken into account when preparing a financial aid award package and may reduce other aid. Students are required to notify the Sonoma State University Financial Aid Office when they are awarded a scholarship.

#### **APLE Loan Forgiveness Program**

The APLE Program is available to candidates pursuing an initial Multiple Subject, Single Subject, Special Education or Reading Certificate/Specialist credential.

APLE awards forgive from \$11,000 to \$19,000 in student loans, depending on the credential being pursued. Applicants are required to complete 4 years of teaching service in a designated field or type of school as a part of APLE. Please see APLE brochure via the link listed below for information on eligibility criteria. Applicants must have student loans in good standing, have 60 or more completed undergraduate units and be enrolled at SSU to apply for APLE. An annual deadline of July 1st has been established, but applications have historically been accepted on a rolling basis. Applications are available at STEV 1078 or at <http://www.csac.ca.gov/doc.asp?id=111>. Please note that applications need to be returned to the APLE coordinator at STEV 1078 and then will be forwarded to the Student Aid Commission. Call the APLE coordinator at 707-664-2509 or email the Credentials Office at [credentials.office@sonoma.edu](mailto:credentials.office@sonoma.edu) with any questions regarding APLE.