
AUGUST & SEPTEMBER 2017 UPDATES

FALL START-UP RECAP

As fall semester is well underway, our office was pleased to be a part of One Stop and assist students not only in our main office, but also at Bronco Express. With our early efforts in reaching out to students to complete their financial aid requirements before the fall term, we were able to see a shift in students' needs. Our office worked diligently to process paperwork more efficiently, with a quicker turnaround time and were able to assist over 400 students at One Stop. A huge thank you for the collaboration of other departments on campus to make our students' financial needs a priority!

2018-19 FAFSA

Oct. 1 is approaching fast and is the time to file the 2018-19 FAFSA for the upcoming school year with a Michigan priority deadline of March 1. Visit www.FAFSA.ed.gov to securely file.

PLUS LOAN INFORMATION

When a parent borrower applies for a PLUS loan, the borrower is REQUIRED to also complete PLUS Counseling if a credit denial was ever part of the credit decision. This includes obtaining a credit worthy endorser, or when a credit appeal is requested and is later approved. In both scenarios the original credit decision was denied.

DACA

With the U.S. Attorney General's DACA message the other day, our office is working to create communications to students who will be directly impacted from the announcement. For more information, please visit <https://wmich.edu/news/2017/09/42361>.

BILINGUAL DOCUMENTS

After participating in our first Bilingual CAMP Parent Orientation for the 2017-18 academic year, Student Financial Aid is taking initiatives to explore ways on how Financial Aid and Financial Literacy can be delivered to the Latin@ population. Our main focus will be on advising Latin@ students to succeed at WMU from the first day they step on campus to their graduation day. Currently, we are researching on how other institutions are targeting this population and delivering written financial aid information. We will create bilingual marketing pieces, to be able to help Spanish speaking parents feel informed and comfortable guiding their children through college. We tend to recognize that our Latin@ students are navigating their educational journey alone, with limited parental support due to the linguistic barriers that exist. We also are going to create a bilingual piece, similar to our Financial Aid Information handout we currently use to include WMU resources that are available for particular populations, such as Division of Multicultural Affairs, CAMP, etc.

OFFICE ADDRESSES

WMU announced new addresses to better assist with GPS directions, emergency responders, and non-U.S. Postal Service deliveries - effective Aug. 18. New addresses for both Student Financial Aid and Bronco Express:

Student Financial Aid – Faunce Student Services: 2455 W Michigan Ave

Bronco Express – Bernhard Center: 1816 W Michigan Ave

NOTE: Due to a time-lag for incorporation into GPS mapping software, the new addresses may not be recognized for several months.