

## MAY & JUNE 2018 UPDATES

### **ORIENTATION UPDATE – FA HOLDS**

With orientation well underway, our efforts in encouraging students to complete their financial aid outstanding requirements has been positive. We want to assist students to avoid future challenges and consequences that can come by not having aid when their university bills arrive, so we implemented a communication plan and temporary hold on incoming students accounts. As of July 1<sup>st</sup>, we have assisted and lifted all FA Holds for students who had financial aid outstanding requirements.

### **MICHIGAN’S STUDENT EMPLOYEE SUPERVISOR OF THE YEAR**

The Midwest Association of Student Employment Administrators has chosen its Student Supervisor of the Year for the state of Michigan, and the honor goes to a Western Michigan University staff member, Alexia Alexander. She is the interim associate director of financial literacy, planning and outreach in WMU's Student Financial Aid office. The award recognizes the outstanding leadership, professionalism and mentoring of student employment supervisors. [See Full Article.](#)

### **PREFERRED LENDER LIST – FAST CHOICE**

WMU has identified four private lenders to appear on our Preferred Lender List through FASTChoice. By visiting [FASTChoice](#), students will be able to compare various loan options from these lenders and apply for loans utilizing the FASTChoice website. WMU will work with any other lender, but students will need to contact them directly.

### **RETURNING STUDENT AWARDING**

Awards for returning undergraduate, graduate and transfer students began on June 13<sup>th</sup>. Students should check their GoWMU accounts to review their financial aid award packages.

### **FINANCIAL LITERACY, EDUCATIONAL PLANNING AND OUTREACH**

**106** total upperclassmen students received 1:1 financial literacy counseling and 3WEG retention funds during the 2017-18 (spring + summer 1) award year. Based on the results of the FLEPO 3WEG student interviews, it was determined that the 2017-18 3WEG retention funding had a direct and positive correlation on the student’s ability to either graduate or to persist towards degree completion.

### **FEDERAL LOAN RATES**

Federal Subsidized, Unsubsidized, Grad PLUS and PLUS loan interest rates and loan fees for the 2018-19 aid year are available at [www.wmich.edu/finaid/loans](http://www.wmich.edu/finaid/loans).