2015 - 2016 FINANCIAL AID POLICIES AND INFORMATION

❖ Parent Responsibility

Williams believes that parents have the primary obligation in meeting the costs of undergraduate education and that the College's financial resources should be used to assist students whose family means are clearly lacking. Consequently, the College normally does not acknowledge a student's financial independence and expects both natural parents, whatever their marital or legal status, to finance undergraduate costs according to their financial ability.

❖ Changes in Family Circumstances

We expect you to report significant changes in your family's financial circumstances in Section P of the CSS Financial Aid PROFILE or via mail or email directly to the Office of Financial Aid. Examples include an increase in income or assets of greater than $3,000; changes in reported college/graduate school attendance of a sibling; outside scholarships not previously reported to the Office of Financial Aid, etc. Failure to update or report this information may result in a reduction of aid during the current year or in the following year. Likewise, we would like to know of any unexpected financial difficulties your family encounters.

❖ Student Contribution Expectations for 2015 – 2016

The college believes that all students receiving financial aid also benefit from contributing to their Williams education. This can include a student's own assets, summer and campus earnings, and in some cases a student loan. The campus job amount has increased to reflect the pay rate increase for all student jobs. Following are our standard expectations for the coming year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of 2016</th>
<th>Summer Income*</th>
<th>Campus Job</th>
<th>Student Loan*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class of 2017</td>
<td>$1,950</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class of 2018</td>
<td>$1,950</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* These amounts are reduced for students with low parent contributions.

Students may elect to take out additional student loan for various circumstances, such as to purchase a computer; replace their campus employment opportunity (especially if studying away); make up a short-fall in summer earnings; or help contribute to their parents' contribution. Please consult with a financial aid officer if you are considering increasing your student loan.

❖ Federal Verification

If your FAFSA data is selected by the processor for federal verification, you may be required to submit additional documentation. We will contact you directly if any additional documents are needed.

❖ Summer Earnings Relief

A one-time reduction in the summer earnings expectation may be possible for students involved in:

- On-campus research, travel fellowships, or competitive Williams (e.g. Mead, Mellon, Alumni) or external internships;
- Course deficiency make-up (first-year students only);
- Volunteer public service positions at non-profit organizations.

Detailed information regarding these opportunities and the application form are available on our website at http://finaid.williams.edu/?p=4831. This form must be submitted to our office by May 25, 2015, the last day of finals.
Study Away during the 2015 - 2016 Academic Year

Study abroad programs such as Williams-Exeter Programme at Oxford, Williams-Mystic, Twelve College Exchange, or any other program approved by the Committee on Academic Standing can be funded with Williams and federal financial aid.

Please attend the annual Financial Aid for Study Abroad meeting on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at 7:00PM in Griffin 3

Applicants planning on studying abroad for the entire 2015 - 2016 academic year or one semester MUST take the following steps to receive financial aid for their study abroad program:

- Complete and submit the following items to the Office of Financial Aid:
  1. Study Away Budget Form, available for download at the Office of Financial Aid website
  2. Program acceptance letter
  3. Official documentation of program expenses – printed from the program’s website or requested directly from them.

More information and specific deadlines are available on our website at: [http://finaid.williams.edu/study-abroad/](http://finaid.williams.edu/study-abroad/)

Other Scholarships or Grants

All applicants are expected to initiate or renew all local, regional, or national scholarships. Residents of Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont must make certain that their state scholarship applications are filed by the appropriate deadline. It is your responsibility to notify the Office of Financial Aid directly of all outside scholarships, prizes, and/or grants you receive.

Federal Pell and state grants are considered entitlements and, as such, will be fully subtracted from your Williams Scholarship. Scholarships and prizes not based on entitlement will first reduce your student loan and/or campus employment, then your Williams Scholarship. No student's total award may exceed his/her established need for assistance. This is a federal regulation.

Living Off Campus or in College Co-op Housing

A living allowance equal to standard room and board charges assessed by the College will be included in your financial aid budget. Consequently, your financial aid award will be the same as it would be if you were charged for the full 21-meal plan and campus housing. Contact Mary Kate Shea, the Bursar, at mks1@williams.edu, with any questions regarding the effect this will have on your student account and possible credit balances.

Award Notification

Assuming your application is complete by the deadline we expect to notify you via your Williams email address of your 2015-2016 eligibility in early July. Once complete, your award is available for viewing on your Williams Student Records account.

Special Circumstances and Contact Information

If you need to send correspondence or documentation directly to the Office of Financial Aid, please write your name, class year, and Williams ID on everything you submit. It is not necessary to send any documents by overnight mail or special delivery.

If you have any questions about forms or would like help completing them, please contact the Office of Financial Aid:

Office of Financial Aid
Williams College
P.O. Box 37
Williamstown, MA 01267-0037
Tel (413) 597-4181
finaid@williams.edu
http://finaid.williams.edu/