# **Financial Aid**

# **Financial Aid Application Process**

Matriculated students pursuing a graduate degree at TCNJ may be eligible for some types of student financial assistance, including but not limited to student loans and assistantships.

To be considered for federal student loan programs, you must complete the <u>Free Application for Federal Student Aid</u> (<u>FAFSA</u>) or the Renewal FAFSA, list TCNJ in the information release section (TCNJ school code # is 002642), meet all eligibility requirements as stated on the application instructions and provide any additional documentation as requested by TCNJ.

Federal Student Aid identification (FSA ID) is required in order to electronically sign the FAFSA. You can apply for an FSA ID at www.fafsa

.gov or at www.fsaid.ed.gov. (The FSA ID replaces the PIN.) Failure to electronically sign the FAFSA may result in delays in processing your aid. If you are a previous FAFSA filer, you can file a Renewal FAFSA. The Renewal FAFSA will have all your previous years' information stored. Please review and make any updates to your information before submitting the form.

# Semester Enrollment Requirements for Graduate Students receiving financial aid:

- Full-time status = 9 or more credit hours
- Half-time status = 5 credit hours

Note: the above enrollment requirements pertain to individual Summer Session Enrollment as well.

Students taking courses through the Graduate School who have not yet been admitted into a program are not eligible to receive federal or TCNJ funding. You also must be enrolled for courses that are required for your degree; if you enroll for undergraduate level courses, you may have to provide supporting documentation to show that these credit hours are required by your department.

The receipt of some types of awards, including assistantships and tuition waivers, may decrease student loan eligibility.

#### **Federal Loans**

Graduate students are eligible for the unsubsidized Federal Direct Loan Program. The maximum loan limit for most graduate students in a degree program is \$20,500 per academic year. The current interest rate is 5.84% (subject to change).

# **Private/Alternative Loans**

In your research for alternative or private loans, TCNJ recommends that you use ELM Select as a tool to compare the different loans based on the options, benefits and services that each offer.

http://www.elmselect.com/?schoolid=87#/results

#### Veteran's Assistance

TCNJ participates in federal and state assistance programs for veterans. Please contact Dionne Hallback or Tom Foga, Associate Directors/VA Administrators in the Office of Student Financial Assistance at 609-771-2211.

### **Important Information**

Phone: 609-771-2211

Fax: 609-637-5154 osfa@tcnj.edu

Web: www.tcnj.edu/~sfs/aid Location: Green Hall 101

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm Address: P.O. Box 7718, Ewing, NJ 08628-0718

FAFSA School Code: 002642

### **Summer School**

Matriculated graduate students must be enrolled at least half-time (see above) to be eligible for consideration for federal student loans for summer session. The summer financial aid application becomes available March 1 of each year at www.tcnj.edu/~sfs/aid/summer.html.