Preparatory Coursework Information

If you are <u>required</u> to take certain preparatory coursework as a prerequisite for admission to an eligible program you may be eligible for loans through the federal Direct Stafford Loan programs (or a parent may apply for a Direct PLUS Loan on behalf of a dependent student). A student must be enrolled in a degree seeking program to be eligible for financial aid, except in specific cases where admission to the program is dependent upon completion of certain preparatory coursework. If you are taking required preparatory coursework, and would like to apply for federal Direct Loans only, you will be expected to meet all other eligibility criteria for financial aid. These requirements include applying using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), and a minimum of half-time (6 credits) enrollment. Your eligibility is limited to a single 12 consecutive month period.

To be eligible for loans under this exception, you must be taking classes that are a prerequisite for admission. If you are only taking courses to raise your grade-point average in order to be admitted, you will not be eligible.

We will ask you to secure a statement from your academic or admission advisor indicating the degree you plan to pursue and the courses you will take that are <u>required</u> prerequisites for admission.

If you feel the courses you are taking meet the above requirement, you will want to speak to a Financial Aid Counselor to obtain the Preparatory Coursework Form. You will need to submit the completed form with all of the requested information and signatures for the document to be processed. Your request must be submitted well in advance of the start of the quarter (approximately three weeks). You may choose to register for the courses you feel you need. However, submission of the form is not an indicator that your request is approved. Having an aid offer set up based on the submission *and* approval of this form is an indicator of eligibility.