Trouble with Student Accounts

Skip the Run-around

A remaining balance on your student account can be a big hassle. If you have outstanding fees on your student account when your enrollment date arrives, the university will put a hold on your KATS account, preventing you from enrolling for the next semester. Waiting until your enrollment date to handle something like this is not a good idea! Here are some things to keep in mind when dealing with scholarship debt.

Before You Pay...
Keep all of your billing statements and file them. Make memos on your checks for payments. Ask for receipts and staple them to billing statements. If you have a Housing bill...
What kind of room do you have? Are you in a suite or a single? Remember which option you signed up for! Make note of meal plan changes and keep tabs on improper checkout fees for breaks. If you believe that you are being overcharged...
Take billing statements, check copies and receipts to the office in question. Find out why you are being overcharged.

How do I pay?
Some people get emergency loans, which have to be paid back quickly (90 days). Others get jobs, but before you borrow from any lending institution, call the Office of Student Financial Assistance at 532-6420. Check out your options.

Who do I pay?
Housing & Dining is a separate entity from the Cashier’s Office. If you have a remaining balance you should call the Cashier’s Office to see if the balance is due to them or to Housing and Dining. If your fees are due to the Cashier’s office... You can pay them in 211 Anderson Hall (by mail or in person), by e-check, or with a credit card. If your fees are due to Housing and Dining... You can pay them in the Pittman Building in person, or send payments to 104 Pittman.

Note: Outstanding fees can lock your student account. Check your KATS account periodically to see if there has been a change to your student account balance. Call the Cashier’s Office for any questions. Don’t let an unknown fee prevent you from enrolling!

The Office of Student Financial Assistance: The Financial Aid office is located in 104 Fairchild Hall. Reach their offices by telephone at 532-6420 or visit http://www.k-state.edu/sfa/ for more information.

The student health center: Lafene Health center is located at 1105 Sunset Ave. (behind Marlatt Hall). You can find out more by visiting http://www.ksu.edu/lafene or calling 532-6544.

Student Cultural Organization Information: If you would like to know more, you can visit the Multicultural Student Organization Office on the second floor of the K-State Student Union, west of the Wildcat 91.9 station. You can find out more about any of the events, multicultural student unions and Black and Latino Greek Letter Organizations.

The REC Center: It is located in the Chester E. Peters Complex. It is north of Jardine Terrace Apartments on Denison Ave. You can find out more by checking out http://recservices.k-state.edu/ or calling 532-6000.

DSP Students

DATES TO REMEMBER

August 26th- DSP Fall Induction
September 16th- Faculty Reception
October 14th- TBA
November 11th- Rake & Run
November 11th- December 2nd- Adopt-a-Family (No actual meeting in December)
January 27th- Scholars for Cans (Winner announced at ToE)
February 18th- Target on Excellence Colloquium
March 30th- Nonviolence
April 20th- DSP Poster Symposium

Welcome Scholars,

It is with great excitement that we greet your arrivals! This is a great year to be a Scholar and we want all of you to have a wonderful experience with our program, your studies and all of your endeavors. Now is the time to accept the current of change. Those of you who are returning can probably look back and see the kinds of changes that happened to you over the last academic year. Perhaps you’ve become better at planning and prioritizing. Maybe you are more independent, observant or patient. DSP has been going through some changes too. Don’t worry; these changes are for the better. Try to start the year off right, and if you need any help throughout the process, come in and talk to us! We have lots of great things planned, so enjoy the year and your interactions.

Sometimes you can see the end results, but you have no idea what the means will be. You can see yourself receiving your degree or an award, but you’re not sure exactly how to get there. DSP can help. Not many students imagine themselves doing research their very first year in college, but that is just what happened to all of the current office staff, and many of you! You will find being a scholar very helpful, in ways that you probably don’t expect. Your name suddenly becomes visible in the sea of undergraduates, and university administration and faculty suddenly begin to know you. Being a Scholar shapes you, and illuminates your path. So, even if you don’t know where you’re going now, DSP may be able to guide you in the right direction.
Summer Success

Matt Martinez: Pathways Program at KU for Medical School

Matthew, a third-year scholar and pre-medical major, spent his summer as a participant in the Pathways program. The Pathways program, hosted at the University of Kansas, offers pre-med students assistance in preparing and applying for medical school. Matt had the opportunity to receive guidance in writing his personal statement, clarification of his medical school application process and even the materials to study for his MCAT! In addition to all of the great academic support Matt received throughout the Pathways program, he has also had the chance to make new connections with people who may one day be his colleagues.

Sammy Ornelas: NCORE & Activism

This summer, Sammy Ornelas, senior in Kinesiology, had the opportunity to attend the National Conference On Race and Ethnicity (NCORE). Sammy sat in on sessions about race in higher education, hosted by innovative thinkers. Recently, Sammy has made his own innovation; creating a film series for Kansas State University. Below are his thoughts concerning the development of his film series –El Grito Hispano: Defining a vision through Film and Dialogue.

“The anti-immigrant hysteria has taken its toll on the Hispanic pride. It seems as though the term “Mexican” has gained a negative connotation. It has reached a point where students have begun to deny their Hispanic heritage.

Through this film series, I plan to educate K-State students on the significant contributions of Hispanic leaders such as Cesar Chavez, Rodolfo “Corky” Gonzales, and Reyes Tijerina. I also want to look at the civil rights era and its icons in order to promote activism on our campus.

I also want to help students identify with current issues in order to raise awareness and understanding of current events. Issues such as immigration and bilingual education are critical and particularly affect the Hispanic community. When it comes time to defend or even take a stance on such issues we must not be ignorant or uninformed. The film series will ask the critical questions and provide a place to dialogue in order to empower the student activist in building a better future for all.

The series will also attempt to fill the gaps left by the education system which has neglected the Hispanic contributions to this nation. The idea for this film series sprang from attending an institute for promoting activism on campus at the NCORE.”

-Sammy Ornelas

Professional DSP Students

It’s a little different, being a Scholar. It’s more than academics. There are a lot of gut feelings that you will learn to interpret. At first, you might be a little unsure of yourself, which may make the program seem daunting. You won’t be unsure for the entire duration of the project. Once you hit your stride, the experience is amazing. Keep in mind that you don’t have to know your subject comprehensively at first. Just work on your subject and do it well. When you feel more comfortable, your mentor can usually tell when this happens and will encourage your growth. Eventually, you will begin to reach out on your own, searching for more knowledge.

This journey is meaningful, and you are one of the few people who have been hand-picked to experience it. Ask former Scholars what their experience means to them and you will certainly get variations in answers, but the dedication is always strong.

More than a Student

Being a scholar means to be so dedicated to my studies that finding me in the library on a Friday night wouldn’t be a bad hunch to go on. It means that I am serious not only about becoming a graduate from K-State, but becoming a graduate who has helped in changing the lives of many adults and children alike through research.

-Kristel Williams

Being a scholar means being willing to work for your advancement. It means being a representative of the new faces of intellect. Being a Scholar is knowing that others will look to you for a positive example, for support, for knowledge and for proof that underrepresented populations can function not just successfully, but exceptionally in higher education and accepting that responsibility.

-Elise Gaines

“Being a Scholar has helped me look beyond the realm of college life and start thinking responsibly about my future and my possible impact on those around me.”

-Clemente Jaquez Herrera

Our DSP Staff

Graduate Student Assistant: Clemente Jaquez-Herrera

Clemente is a former Scholar, who is now working toward his Master’s degree in Architecture and Design. Clemente studied abroad in Italy and has several informative (and definitely entertaining) stories from his trip. Check out his blogsite!

Student Office Assistant: Kristel Williams

Kristel Williams is a second-year Developing Scholar. She is currently a sophomore majoring in Elementary Education with a focus on English as a second language.

Student Office Assistant: Elise Gaines

Elise Gaines is a former Scholar, majoring in English/Creative Writing. She plans to attend graduate school and ultimately receive a Ph.D.

“I was with the first group of DSP (’04 Graduate). I truly had a great experience because I had the opportunity to meet and work with wonderful faculty at K-State. I can’t think of a specific time, but I truly appreciate the relationship I built with Dr. Donita Whitney. She has such a passion for students and she also taught a couple of my classes while I was a student in the College of Business. Her positive attitude and hard work inspired me throughout my time at K-State. K-State’s very fortunate to have her and hopefully she will continue with DSP.”

-Morgan Fisher