
Consumer Information 2011-2012



University of Louisiana Monroe
Office of Financial Aid

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STUDENT FINANCIAL AID ASSISTANCE

Mailing Address

Office of Student Financial Aid
700 University Ave.
Monroe, LA 71209
Office: 318-342-5320
Fax: 318-342-3539

The Office of Financial Aid is located on the first floor of Walker Hall.

For information regarding:

- ◆ Financial aid eligibility
 - ◆ Types of aid
 - ◆ Terms and conditions
 - ◆ Awarding criteria
 - ◆ Methods & frequency
 - ◆ Rights & Responsibilities
 - ◆ Student loan information
 - ◆ Study abroad
 - *arrangement disclosures
 - ◆ Federal work study
 - ◆ Entrance & exit counseling
- Visit us @ <http://finaid.ulm.edu/>

To speak with a Financial Aid Counselor:

Counselor	Last name begins	Phone Number	Email
Stephanie Banks	A-C	318-342-3514	banks@ulm.edu
Amanda Garza	D-G	318-324-3497	agarza@ulm.edu
Shannon Manning	H-L	318-342-5874	smanning@ulm.edu
Jerry Norman	M-R	318-342-5330	norman@ulm.edu
Maggie Warren	S-Z	318-342-5325	mwarren@ulm.edu

FERPA (Family Education Rights and Privacy Act)

Regarding a student's financial aid

- ◆ See page 8 of this document for more information.

FEDERAL STUDENT AID PENALTIES FOR DRUG LAW VIOLATIONS

- ◆ See page 7 of this document for more information.

GENERAL INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

FERPA

For information regarding privacy of student records, including rights to review and request amendments of records, file complaints, disclosure and directory information, visit:

<http://registrar.ulm.edu/ferpa.pdf>



This site provides general institutional information to prospective and enrolled students.

Students with Disabilities

For more information regarding ULM's facilities and services available to students with disabilities, please visit:

<http://www.ulm.edu/counselingcenter/>

Student Body Diversity

For more information regarding ULM's student body diversity, including percentages of enrolled, full-time students categorized by male, female, racial or ethnic groups, and Pell grant recipients, visit:

<http://ulm.edu/upa/FactbookLarge/FB2010.pdf>

Tuition & Housing Fees

For the actual costs of attending ULM, visit:



Another site available is:

<http://www.ulm.edu/controller/sas/>

Cost of Attendance

The cost of attendance (COA) is an estimate of what it costs the typical student to attend ULM. The cost of attendance is based on full time status (12 hours for undergrad and 9 hours for graduate). The amounts cover your college tuition and basic living expenses. Visit the following site for ULM's COA:

<http://finaid.ulm.edu/costofattend.html>

Net Price Calculator

Visit: <http://finaid.ulm.edu/>

Refund Policy

Resignation Refund Policy:

<http://www.ulm.edu/controller/forms/refundpolicy.pdf>

Financial Aid Refund Information found on page 24 of the following site:

<http://www.ulm.edu/schedule/sumfall11/fall11.pdf>

Withdrawal Policy

Financial Aid:

<http://finaid.ulm.edu/withdrawal.html>

Medical Withdrawal:

<https://webservices.ulm.edu/policies/index.php?a=details&i=95754&backa=browse&backbc=>

University Withdrawal:

<http://registrar.ulm.edu/topics.html> or
<http://viewer.zmags.com/publication/30045162#/30045162/7>

Page 7 in the Student Handbook

GENERAL INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

Return of Title IV Funds Policy

<http://finaid.ulm.edu/rights.html#Return>

Textbook Information

<http://www.ulm.edu/ulmstudents/textbooks.html>



Academic Programs

The following sites will provide detailed information on current degree programs, facilities relating to the programs, faculty and other instructional personnel, and plans for improving academic programs:

<http://www.ulm.edu/majors/>

<http://www.ulm.edu/academics/>

<http://www.ulm.edu/assessment/>

Transfer of Credit Policies & Articulation Agreements

<https://webservices.ulm.edu/policies/index.php?a=details&i=73416&backa=browse&backbc=>

http://ulm.edu/prospectivestudents/transfer/Master_Matrix_2010.pdf

Accreditation, Approval or Licensure

www.ulm.edu/upa/09Factbook/ULM09FactBook.pdf

Copyright Infringement

<http://www.ulm.edu/computingcenter/>

Study Abroad

Financial aid assistance may be eligible for students who participate in a Study Abroad Program. Contact a financial aid counselor for more details concerning a Study Abroad Program. For more information concerning Study Abroad Programs, click on the following link: <http://www.ulm.edu/studyabroad/>

TEACHER PREPARATION

PROGRAM

Program Report

For more information regarding ULM's Teacher Preparation Program, please visit the following link:

<http://www.ulm.edu/ncate/welcome.html>

STUDENT OUTCOMES

Retention Rates

For retention rates, visit:

<http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds>

Placement Rates



Types of Programs for Graduates



Completion, Graduation, & Transfer-Out Rates

<http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds>

Intercollegiate Athletes

<http://ope.ed.gov/athletics/>

Voter Registration

<http://www.ulm.edu/warhawkcard/info4.html>

HEALTH & SAFETY

Security Report

<http://ope.ed.gov/security/>



For information on crime statistics & daily crime log, visit: <http://ulm.edu/police>

For information on Emergency Response & Evacuation Procedures, visit: https://webservices.ulm.edu/policies/index.php?a=browse&budget_code=12690

Fire Safety Report & Fire Log



For fire drill information, visit: https://webservices.ulm.edu/policies/index.php?a=browse&budget_code=12690

Vaccination Policies

<http://www.ulm.edu/shs/>

Drug Abuse & Prevention Programs

<http://viewer.zmags.com/publication/30045162#/30045162/4>

<https://webservices.ulm.edu/policies/index.php?a=search&search=drug>

<http://ulm.edu/police/righttoknow.htm#DrugandAlcoholAbuseEducation>

Federal Student Aid Penalties for Drug Law Violations

A federal or state drug conviction can disqualify a student for FSA funds. Convictions only count if they were for an offense that occurred during a period of enrollment for which the student was receiving Title IV aid—they do not count if the offense was not during such a period. Also, a conviction that was reversed, set aside, or removed from the student’s record does not count, nor does one received when she was a juvenile, unless she was tried as an adult. The chart below illustrates the period of ineligibility for FSA funds, depending on whether the conviction was for sale or possession and whether the student had previous offenses. (A conviction for sale of drugs includes convictions for conspiring to sell drugs.)

	Possession of Illegal Drugs	Sale of Illegal Drugs
1st Offense	1 year from date of conviction	2 years from date of conviction
2nd Offense	2 years from date of conviction	Indefinite Period
3rd + Offense	Indefinite Period	

If the student was convicted of both possessing and selling illegal drugs, and the periods of ineligibility are different, the student will be ineligible for the longer period.

A student regains eligibility the day after the period of ineligibility ends or when the student successfully completes a qualified drug rehabilitation program. Further drug convictions will make the student ineligible again.

Students denied eligibility for an indefinite period can regain it only after successfully completing a rehabilitation program as described below or if a conviction is reversed, set aside, or removed from the student’s record so that fewer than two convictions for sale or three convictions for possession remain on the record. In such cases, the nature and dates of the remaining convictions will determine when the student regains eligibility. It is the student’s responsibility to certify to you that they have successfully completed the rehabilitation program.

When a student regains eligibility during the award year, the school may award Pell and Campus-Based aid for the current payment period and Direct loans for the period of enrollment.

Standards for a qualified drug rehabilitation program

A qualified drug rehabilitation program must include at least two unannounced drug tests and must satisfy at least one of the following requirements:

- Be qualified to receive funds directly or indirectly from a federal, state, or local government program.
- Be qualified to receive payment directly or indirectly from a federally or state-licensed insurance company.
- Be administered or recognized by a federal, state, or local government agency or court.
- ◆ Be administered or recognized by a federally or state-licensed hospital, health clinic, or medical doctor.

FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)

The FERPA is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. This privacy right is a right vested in the student. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education.

Why is this important?

The Office of Financial Aid WILL NOT release information about a student's financial aid records to any person who is not the student unless a signed FERPA release is on file. Parents who wish to discuss their child's financial aid should encourage their student to complete the FERPA release form.

How can I complete a FERPA release?

A student may choose to complete a FERPA release form in the Financial Aid Office indicating with whom financial aid information may be discussed. The student must complete the release in person. **The FERPA release is not available online and will not be faxed.** The release must be completed in person in the Financial Aid Office.

STATE GRANT ASSISTANCE

For information concerning Louisiana's State Grants, visit: <http://www.osfa.state.la.us/>

STUDENT LOAN INFORMATION

For student loan information published by the Department of Education, visit: <http://www.direct.ed.gov/>

NSLDS

Loans received through ULM's Office of Financial Aid are submitted to the National Student Loan Data System and are accessible by guaranty agencies, lenders, and schools determined to be authorized users of the data system.

http://www.nsls.ed.gov/nsls_SA/SaEcWelcome.do

ENTRANCE COUNSELING

Prior to the first disbursement, students must complete an entrance counseling session. For more information regarding Federal Direct Loans, visit:

<https://studentloans.gov/myDirectLoan/index.action>

EXIT COUNSELING

Shortly before a student borrower ceases at least half-time study at ULM, he or she must complete an exit counseling session. For more information regarding Federal Direct Loans, visit:

<https://studentloans.gov/myDirectLoan/index.action>

PRIVATE EDUCATION LOANS

For information regarding private education loans, please visit:

<http://finaid.ulm.edu/privateloans.html>



Code of Conduct

Purpose

This Code of Conduct is intended to ensure that the relationships between providers of education loans and other forms of financial aid to students of the University of Louisiana at Monroe with whom they deal are free from all conflicts of interest, actual and perceived. This code reiterates and reflects the University's continuing commitment to conduct financial aid practices with integrity, free from conflicts of interest, in the interest of students, and in compliance with applicable law.

All University of Louisiana at Monroe financial aid professionals will adhere to those principles set forth by the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators and will abide by the following University of Louisiana at Monroe Financial Aid Code of Conduct:

- ✦ The Department of Education has defined "gift" as "any gratuity, favor, discount, entertainment, hospitality, loan or other item valued at more than a de minimus amount."
- ✦ No University of Louisiana at Monroe Financial Aid officer, trustee, director or employee will solicit or accept gifts or anything of more than nominal value on his or her own behalf or on behalf of another from or on behalf of a lending institution. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, any payment or reimbursement by a lending institution to a university employee for lodging, meals, or travel to conferences or training seminars. However, staff will be allowed to participate in meals, refreshments, and receptions in conjunction with professional association meetings, trainings, or conference events *open to all attendees*.
- ✦ The University shall not arrange with a lending institution to provide any opportunity loans, if the provision of such opportunity loans prejudices any other borrower. The University also may not accept or solicit any funds to be used for private educational loans or opportunity pool loans in exchange for providing a lending institution with a specified number of federal loans, a specified loan volume or a preferred lender arrangement.
- ✦ The University of Louisiana at Monroe will not enter into any revenue-sharing arrangement with any education loan provider. The University also may not accept or solicit staffing assistance from a lending institution, including but not limited to, call center staffing or financial aid office staffing.
- ✦ The University of Louisiana at Monroe is committed to educating our families and students on available loan products and services. Every student has the right to use a lender and guarantor of his/her choice. Financial Aid staff will not assign a first-time borrower to a particular lender, nor refuse to certify, or delay certification of, any loan based on the borrower's selection of a lending institution.
- ✦ The University prohibits any officer, trustee, director, employee, or agent of the university from receiving any remuneration for serving as a member or participant of a lending institution's advisory board or from receiving any reimbursement of expenses for so serving, provided, however, that participation on advisory boards that are unrelated in any way to higher education loans shall not be prohibited by this Code of Conduct
- ✦ Individuals employed in the financial aid office and employees or officers who otherwise have student lending responsibilities are prohibited from consulting or providing other contract services for a lending institution. Employees of The University of Louisiana at Monroe are free to pursue part-time employment outside of their scheduled work day. However, employees must report any outside employment for which a salary, retainer, fee, or other form of remuneration is paid. Additionally, all Financial Aid Office staff members will disclose to his or her immediate supervisor if an assigned task could create a perceived or real "conflict of interest" in the eyes of the public.

Nothing in this Code of Conduct shall be construed to prohibit any officer, trustee, director, employee, or agent of the university from conducting non-university business with any lending institution.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have questions concerning general school information, contact the Admissions Office @ 318-342-5430.

For questions concerning completion or graduation rates, contact the Admissions Office @ 318-342-5430.

For school security policies and crime statistics questions, contact the ULMPD @ 318-342-5350.

For questions concerning the ULM Office of Financial Aid Consumer Information, please contact 318-342-5320 or send questions to <http://finaid.ulm.edu>.