

Apply Early for Federal Student Aid with FAFSA

Applicants are encouraged to complete and submit early the 2008-2009 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which is the qualifying form for all federal grants and loans as well as many state and private student aid programs.

Each year, the department disburses more than \$80 billion in higher education grants and loans to students attending post-secondary schools, but to qualify, students must first complete the FAFSA. Each year, an estimated 14 million applicants apply and more than 10 million receive some type of federal grant or loan.

To determine aid eligibility, students and families should fill out the FAFSA as early as possible after Jan. 1 for the academic year beginning July 1. Factors contributing to a student's eligibility, besides income, include the size of the family and the age of the oldest parent. Completing the FAFSA online is the preferred method for most families, but there are other options.

Both online and hard-copy FAFSAs are available in English and Spanish at the Federal Student Aid Web site – www.federalstudentaid.ed.gov.

OHSU Diversity Programs

The pilot year of the **Post-Baccalaureate MD Conditional Acceptance Program** resulted in four of the seven participants matriculating into the 2007 entering medical school class. We revised the curriculum this year to further strengthen the program. Eligibility requirements also have been modified.

First, because of the funding change, the program will be open only to Oregon residents. We also have changed the scholastic requirements in order to narrow the achievement gap so we can support the most promising disadvantaged and underrepresented minority students to achieve the gains necessary to matriculate into the School of Medicine MD program.

A program overview, eligibility requirements and application can be found at www.ohsu.edu/ohsuedu/academic/som/diversity/diversity-achievement.cfm.

The application deadline is March 7, 2008.

The changed requirements include:

- Oregon residency
- Minimum total G.P.A. of 2.8
- Minimum score of 20 on most recent eligible MCAT

Biomedical Research

Please encourage your rising sophomores and juniors who are interested in biomedical research to look into the **Equity Summer Research Program**. Students get invaluable mentoring in a research laboratory.

We hope to identify underrepresented minority and disadvantaged students who might be considering a graduate program in research or the combined MD/PhD. program. The application and eligibility requirements are available at www.ohsu.edu/ohsuedu/academic/som/diversity/equity.cfm.

The application deadline is Feb. 15, 2008.

American Indian Physicians Scholarship Available

The Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP) is now accepting applications for the 11th Annual Patty Iron Cloud National Native American Youth Initiative, which will be held in Washington, D.C., on June 21-29, 2008.

American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) high school students age 16-18 who have an interest in health careers and/or biomedical research are encouraged to apply. The NNAYI scholarship pays for travel, lodging and most meals during the program.

NNAYI's curriculum is strategically designed to prepare students for admission to college and professional schools, as well as for careers in health and biomedical research.

To accompany the students, AAIP is accepting applications for counselors age 21 and older to serve as role models during the nine-day program. AI/AN college students and health professionals are encouraged to apply.

Feel free to share this information with other interested parties. Deadline for student applications is April 18, 2008, and March 21, 2008, for counselor applications. Please visit the NNAYI Web site – www.aaip.org/programs/nnayi/nnayi.htm – for more information and to access the online application.

AAIP's mission is "To pursue excellence in Native American health care by promoting education in the medical disciplines, honoring traditional healing practices and restoring the balance of mind, body and spirit."

Chemawa Indian School 128th Birthday Pow-Wow

Feb. 23, 2008 • Grand entries at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.

3700 Chemawa Road NE • Salem, Oregon

**Dancing, singing, fry bread, and crafts
Public welcome! Free admission!**

Vendor information contact: Karen Serna, 503-399-5721, ext. 225
General information contact: Crystal Boyd, ext. 260, or Sonya Olson, ext. 269

University of Oregon Opens Doors to Achievement with PathwayOregon

EUGENE, Ore. – University of Oregon President Dave Frohnmayer recently announced details of a promise to cover tuition and fees for lower-income Oregonians entering the university as freshmen next fall.

The promise, called PathwayOregon, guarantees that qualified Oregonians from lower-income families can attend the UO tuition-free by covering any remaining tuition costs not picked up by federal and state financial aid. It also provides students with comprehensive academic support and in some cases room and board. PathwayOregon is the first pledge of its kind at a public university in Oregon.

"At a time of fluctuating state support, escalating tuition and increased student debt, we are committed to providing more Oregonians than ever the financial boost they need to study at the state's flagship university," Frohnmayer said. "I am proud to present PathwayOregon as a cornerstone of that effort."

Lower-income Oregonians who are eligible for federal Pell Grants and are entering the UO next fall as freshmen qualify for the program, which ensures that a combination of federal, state and institutional grants and scholarships cover tuition and fees.

A handful of PathwayOregon students also will qualify for room and board bonuses, which provide annual grant funding equivalent to the cost of a double room and standard meal plan at a UO residence hall.

While PathwayOregon is the first such plan in the state, it's similar to programs

offered around the country. Few if any, however, offer the comprehensive academic and social support built into PathwayOregon, said UO Senior Vice President and Provost Linda Brady.

"PathwayOregon students will receive personal guidance from a PathwayOregon adviser, who will help them settle into the university, reach achievement goals and ultimately launch careers," Brady said. "By removing the burden of tuition and fees, we are providing these students with the chance to engage in their studies without additional financial concerns."

To qualify for PathwayOregon, Oregonians must be from lower-income families, be eligible for the federal Pell Grant, submit a completed admissions application by Jan. 15, be admitted as freshmen, have a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on file with the UO by March 1 and submit on time an application for one of two university scholarships.

Details on PathwayOregon can be found at www.uoregon.edu/~pathway/.

About the University of Oregon

The University of Oregon is a world-class teaching and research institution and Oregon's flagship public university. The UO is a member of the Association of American Universities (AAU), an organization made up of 62 of the leading public and private research institutions in the United States and Canada. Membership in the AAU is by invitation only. The University of Oregon is one of only two AAU members in the Pacific Northwest.

UNMC Offers Outreach to Future Dentists and Doctors

The Summer Medical and Dental Education Program at the University of Nebraska Medical Center is designed to identify, recruit and assist future dentists and doctors while providing outreach to underserved populations. This is achieved through a comprehensive six-week summer experience for talented rising sophomores and juniors.

The overall goal of the program is to provide each scholar the navigation tools necessary to reach their current and future goals, and to mentor them as they develop a more concrete work ethic.

The SMDEP program dates are June 2 - July 11, 2008. SMDEP has a rolling admission process that runs from Nov. 1, 2007, to March 31, 2008.

Visit the SMDEP Web site at www.unmc.edu/smdep or contact Giovanni Jones, SMDEP program coordinator, at 800-701-9665 for more information.