

TUITION, FEES, AND COSTS

Ms. Traycee F. Martin

Interim Vice President for Finance and Administration

Valdosta State University is a unit of the University System of Georgia and receives a major portion of its operating funding through appropriations from the State of Georgia. This support enables the University to offer high quality educational programs at a minimal cost to its students.

Valdosta State University's academic year consists of two terms: Fall and Spring, as well as a series of Summer Sessions.

The University's tuition is set by the University System of Georgia Board of Regents each spring and is effective the following fall term. Mandatory Fees and Other Fees are proposed annually by the University, supported by a committee, half of whom are students, and ultimately approved by the Board of Regents. However, the University and the University System reserve the right to change fees at the beginning of any term.

FREE SCHEDULE

All charges are based on approved fees and are subject to change according to the policy of the Board of Regents.

Fee schedules can be found on the Web at <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/financial-services/students/services/tuition-and-fee-schedules.php>.

All new students who attend orientation programs will be charged \$50 to cover the related costs. All transfer students who attend an orientation program will be charged \$20 to cover the related costs.

VSU assesses mandatory fees each semester to students who are registered for 4 or more credit hours on the main campus. VSU's mandatory fees for these students include health fee, student activity fee, athletic fee, transportation fee, parking facility fee, and health facility fee.

Prorated amounts for athletics and student activity fees are assessed for enrollment below 4 credit hours. Students who register for 1-3 credit hours on the main campus and any additional off-campus hours (to include online courses) that put them at 4 or more total hours will pay the full athletic fee and full student activity fee.

All students are charged the following mandatory fees each semester regardless of campus or registered credit hours: technology fee, access card fee, and a Board of Regents Institutional fee.

All fees are tentative and subject to change according to Board of Regents policy.

AUDIT (NON-CREDIT) FEES

Fees for attending class on an audit or non-credit basis are calculated on the same schedule as regular academic fees.

OTHER FEES AND CHARGES*

*All charges are based on approved fees and are subject to change according to the policy of the Board of Regents. Figures shown here are approximations provided for readers' planning purposes. For current fees, go to <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/financial-services/students/services/tuition-and-fee-schedules.php>.

Late Registration Fee: Failure to register by end of regular registration.	\$75
Returned Check Fee: For each check.	\$25
<i>or 5% of the face amount of the check (whichever is greater).</i>	
<i>If the check is for tuition fees, an extra \$75 fee will be charged.</i>	
Excess check stop payment and reissue request processing fee	\$10
Music Lessons, including use of instrument for practice, per term:	
private lessons	\$60
group lessons	\$35
Art Studio Materials fee.	\$35
Science Laboratory fee (per laboratory)	\$30
Theatre Fee (THEA 2750 and THEA 3000)	\$30
Theatre Fee (THEA 3020)	\$50
eCore fee (per credit hour) (projected rate)	\$169
E-tuition (per credit hour)	
undergraduate	\$250
Orientation Fee:	
Undergraduates who attend fall, spring, or summer orientation program	\$50
Transfer students who attend spring or summer orientation	\$20
Fall orientation program guest fee (each) (limit 2)	\$20
Post Office Box per semester.	\$10
Key Replacement Charge.	\$50
Honors Program Course fee	\$20
Student Teaching fee	\$100
KPE Fitness Center Fee	\$5
Mandatory Insurance, Annual (Nursing majors, international students)	
Individuals 27 years of age and older	\$1782
Individuals less than 27 years of age	\$1381
Electronic transmission (Fax) of unofficial transcripts or certification forms/letters, per copy (Official transcripts cannot be Faxed).	\$10
Transcript Fees, 1-5 copies	no charge
6th and subsequent copies (each)	\$2
Electronic Transcript.	\$5
Priority Fee for Certification Forms/Letters/Transcripts, per copy	\$5
Graduation Fee: Bachelor's or Graduate Degree	\$25
<i>(Students who apply for graduation and who do not meet degree requirements must pay appropriate graduation fees again upon re-application.)</i>	
Parking Fee—Annual.	\$50

PAYMENT OF FEES AT REGISTRATION

Registration is complete only when tuition and fees are paid by the established deadline.

Students are responsible for determining account balances and securing payment by the established fee payment deadline. The University's web site is the most up-to-date reference for registration and fee payment deadline dates, but notices are also sent to University e-mail accounts. The VSU e-mail is an official means of communication with students.

Invoices are not mailed; electronic invoices (eBills) and are posted online each semester in the Online Student Account Center after the early registration period has ended. Generally, the invoice will reflect the amount owed, which is based on the courses selected, living arrangements on campus, the meal plan selected, and other student choices.

Financial Aid may be used to pay for tuition and room and board in accordance with federal regulations. However, if there are any other charges, a student must give the University consent to pay other charges with federal financial aid. This authorization is maintained in the Banner student system. A written statement is required to rescind the authorization and should be delivered to the Financial Aid Office in the University Center.

VSU accepts the following payment forms—all of them may be used to secure registration, but in all cases, full payment is required: cash, personal check, ACH direct payment (online webcheck), money order, traveler's check, online credit card (MasterCard, Discover, or American Express), university short-term loans (separate qualifications required), completed and fully authorized financial aid (meaning all promissory notes have been signed for loans). Credit card payments are accepted only online through the Online Student Account Center.

VSU does not accept the following payment forms: third party checks, credit card checks, starter checks, counter checks, or partial payments.

If full payment is not made by the fee payment deadlines, VSU reserves the right to take the following actions and will notify students of such action: cancel registration in progress, hold student records, prevent future registration, and pursue collection of debt.

Students who register but do not attend VSU for a given term must withdraw from courses paid for by financial aid in order to avoid unsatisfactory grades or financial accountability. A withdrawal from one class does not mean a complete withdrawal from the University.

Please refer to the following section for the University's Refund Policy.

Complete payment instructions are located on the Web at <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/financial-services/students/services/how-to-pay-fees.php>.

REFUND OF FEES

Students officially withdrawing from the University after paying fees for the term will be issued a 100% refund for tuition, mandatory fees, campus housing, and board meal plans, provided the official withdrawal occurs NO LATER THAN the official drop/add day for refunds. Students officially withdrawing from ALL classes AFTER the official drop/add day will receive a refund based upon the following official refund policy:

The refund amount shall be based on a pro rata percentage determined by dividing the number of calendar days in the semester that the student completed by the total calendar days in the semester. The total of calendar days in a semester includes weekends but excludes scheduled breaks of five or more days and days that a student was on an approved leave of absence. The unearned portion shall be refunded up to the time that the amount earned equals 60%.

Students who withdraw when the calculated percentage of completion is greater than 60% are not entitled to a refund of any portion of institutional charges. A refund of all non-resident fees, matriculation fees, and other mandatory fees shall be made in the event of the death of a student at any time during the academic session.

Housing fees, post office box fees, and music fees are non-refundable fees. Refunds of elective charges upon withdrawing from the institution during a term will be made on a prorated basis determined by the date of withdrawal. Flex charges and à la carte meal plans are refundable only to the extent they are unspent.

It is the student's responsibility to withdraw officially in accordance with university regulations, which are set out in this catalog. Students receiving funds and financial aid monies will have their refunds restored to the following programs in this precise order: outstanding balances on non-subsidized loans, subsidized loans, PLUS loans, Pell, SEOG, other Title IV student assistant programs, HOPE, private scholarships, and finally to the student.

No other refunds or reductions are allowed unless such reductions are necessitated by schedule changes initiated by the University. Students suspended or expelled for disciplinary reasons are not entitled to a refund of any deposits, tuition, or fees paid. Additionally, students who are asked to vacate their residence hall rooms as a result of disciplinary actions are not eligible for refunds.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS LOCATED ON THE WEB:

Registration dates and course schedules: www.valdosta.edu/it/eas/sis/

Fee Schedules: <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/financial-services/students/services/tuition-and-fee-schedules.php>.

Refund policies: <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/financial-services/students/services/refunds-and-withdrawals.php>.

THE 62+ PROGRAM FOR GEORGIANS 62 AND OLDER

Georgians 62 years of age and older are eligible to resume, continue, or even begin their college education without paying most of the normal fees or tuition. The program, as directed by Amendment 23 to the Georgia Constitution and approved by the Board of Regents, is designed to allow eligible applicants to register for college-level courses for credit or audit (same requirements as for credit), on a "space available" basis subject to the following requirements:

- Must apply, meet all applicable admission requirements for program of study, and be accepted
- Must be 62 years of age or older at the time of registration (proof of age is required)
- Must be classified as a Georgia resident in accordance with the Regents' Requirements for Resident Status

To receive the waiver of tuition and fees, applicants eligible for this program are required to register during late registration on a space available basis.

For undergraduate application information and deadlines, contact the Admissions Office located at 1413 N. Patterson Street. Graduate application information and deadlines are available at the Graduate School in the Psychology Building, Suite 3100, 1500 North Patterson Street.

RULES GOVERNING THE CLASSIFICATION OF STUDENTS AS IN-STATE RESIDENTS AND NON-RESIDENTS (OUT-OF-STATE)

A. UNITED STATES CITIZENS

1. An independent student who has established and maintained a domicile in the State of Georgia for a period of at least 12 consecutive months immediately the first day of classes for the term shall be classified as "in-state" for tuition purposes. It is presumed

that no student shall have gained or acquired in-state classification while attending any postsecondary educational institution in this state without clear evidence of having established domicile in Georgia for purposes other than attending a postsecondary educational institution in this state.

2. A dependent student shall be classified as “in-state” for tuition purposes if either: i) the dependent student’s parent has established and maintained domicile in the State of Georgia for at least 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the first day of classes for the term and the student has graduated from a Georgia high school; or ii) the dependent student’s parent has established and maintained domicile in the State of Georgia for at least 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the first day of classes for the term and the parent claimed the student as a dependent on the parent’s most recent federal income tax return.
3. A dependent student shall be classified as “in-state” for tuition purposes if a U. S. court-appointed legal guardian has established and maintained domicile in the State of Georgia for at least 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the first day of classes for the term, provided that appointment was not made to avoid payment of out-of-state tuition and the U.S. court-appointed legal guardian can provide clear evidence of having established and maintained domicile in the State of Georgia for a period of at least 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the first day of classes for the term.
4. If an independent student classified as “in-state” relocates temporarily but returns to the State of Georgia within 12 months, the student shall be entitled to retain in-state tuition classification.
5. If the parent or U.S. court-appointed legal guardian of a dependent student currently classified as “in-state” for tuition purposes establishes domicile outside of Georgia after having established and maintained domicile in the State of Georgia, the student may retain in-state tuition classification as long as the student remains continuously enrolled in a public postsecondary educational institution in the state, regardless of the domicile of the parent or U.S. court-appointed legal guardian.

B. NONCITIZENS

Noncitizens initially shall not be classified as “in-state” for tuition purposes unless there is evidence to warrant consideration of in-state classification. Lawful permanent residents, refugees, asylees, or other eligible noncitizens as defined by federal Title IV regulations may be extended the same consideration as citizens of the United States in determining whether they qualify for in-state classification. International students who reside in the United States under nonimmigrant status conditioned at least in part upon intent not to abandon a foreign domicile are not eligible for in-state classification.

A glossary defining the terms in the tuition classification policy can be found in the University System of Georgia Board of Regents Tuition Classification.

OUT-OF-STATE TUITION WAIVERS

- a. Academic Common Market. Students selected to participate in a program offered through the Academic Common Market.
- b. International and Superior Out-of-State Students. International students and superior out-of-state students selected by the institutional president or an authorized representative, provided that the number of such waivers in effect does not exceed 2% of the equivalent full-time students enrolled at the institution in the fall term immediately preceding the term for which the out-of-state tuition is to be waived.

- c. University System Employees and Dependents. Full-time employees of the University System, their spouses, and their dependent children.
- d. Medical/Dental Students and Interns. Medical and dental residents and medical and dental interns at the Georgia Health Sciences University (BR Minutes, 1986-87, p. 340).
- e. Full-Time School Employees. Full-time employees in the public schools of Georgia or of the Department of Technical and Adult Education, their spouses, and their dependent children. Teachers employed full-time on military bases in Georgia shall also qualify for this waiver (BR Minutes, 1988-89, p. 43).
- f. Career Consular Officials. Career consular officers, their spouses, and their dependent children who are citizens of the foreign nation that their consular office represents and who are stationed and living in Georgia under orders of their respective governments.
- g. Military Personnel. Military personnel, their spouses, and their dependent children stationed in or assigned to Georgia and on active duty. The waiver can be retained by the military personnel, their spouses, and their dependent children if the military sponsor is reassigned outside of Georgia, as long as the student(s) remain(s) continuously enrolled and the military sponsor remains on active military status (BR Minutes, February 2004).
- h. Border County Residents. Residents of an out-of-state county bordering a Georgia county in which the reporting institution or a Board-approved external center of the University System is located.
- i. National Guard Members. Full-time members of the Georgia National Guard, their spouses, and their dependent children. (BR Minutes, April 1998, pp. 16-17).
- j. Students enrolled in University System institutions as part of Competitive Economic Development Projects. Students who are certified by the Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Economic Development as being part of a competitive economic development project.
- k. Students in Georgia-Based Corporations. Students who are employees of Georgia-based corporations or organizations that have contracted with the Board of Regents through University System institutions to provide out-of-state tuition differential waivers.
- l. Students in Pilot Programs. Students enrolled in special pilot programs approved by the Chancellor. The Chancellor shall evaluate institutional requests for such programs in light of good public policy and the best interests of students. If a pilot program is successful, the tuition program shall be presented to the Board for consideration.
- m. Students in ICAPP® Advantage programs. Any student participating in an ICAPP® Advantage program.
- n. Direct Exchange Program Students. Any international student who enrolls in a University System institution as a participant in a direct exchange program that provides reciprocal benefits to University System students.
- o. Economic Advantage. As of the first day of classes for the term, an economic advantage waiver may be granted to a dependent or independent student who can provide clear evidence that the student or the student's parent, spouse, or U.S. court-appointed guardian has relocated to the State of Georgia to accept full-time, self-sustaining employment and has established domicile in the State of Georgia. Relocation to the state must be for reasons other than enrolling in an institution of higher education. This waiver will expire 12 months from the date the waiver was granted.

As of the first day of classes for the term, an economic advantage waiver may be granted to a student possessing a valid employment-related visa status who can provide clear evidence of having relocated to the State of Georgia to accept full-time, self-sustaining employment. Relocation to the state must be for reasons other than enrolling in an institution of higher education. These individuals would be required to show clear evidence of having taken all legally permissible steps toward establishing legal permanent residence in the United States and the

establishment of legal domicile in the State of Georgia. Students currently receiving a waiver who are dependents of a parent or spouse possessing a valid employment-sponsored visa may continue to receive the waiver as long as they can demonstrate continued efforts to pursue an adjustment of status to U.S. legal permanent resident.

- p. **Recently Separated Military Service Personnel.** Members of a uniformed military service of the United States who, within 12 months of separation from such service, enroll in an academic program and demonstrate an intent to become a permanent resident of Georgia. This waiver may be granted for not more than one year.
- q. **Nonresident Student.** As of the first day of classes for the term, a nonresident student whose parent, spouse, or U.S. court-appointed legal guardian has maintained domicile in Georgia for at least 12 consecutive months so long as the student can provide clear evidence showing the relationship to the parent, spouse, or U.S. court-appointed legal guardian has existed for at least 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the first day of classes for the term.

If the parent, spouse, or U.S. court-appointed legal guardian of a continuously enrolled nonresident student establishes domicile in another state after having maintained domicile in the State of Georgia for the required period, the nonresident student may continue to receive this waiver as long as the student remains continuously enrolled in a public postsecondary educational institution in the state, regardless of the domicile of the parent or U.S. court-appointed legal guardian.

Please Note: In order to avoid delay and inconvenience upon arrival for registration, any question concerning residence status should be clarified immediately upon receipt of acceptance of admission or not later than one month prior to the registration date. Questions for clarification should be addressed to Resident Committee, Office of Admissions, Valdosta State University, Valdosta, Georgia 31698.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Student Responsibility to Register under Proper Classification:** The responsibility of registering under the proper residence classification is that of the students. If there is any question of the right to classification as a legal resident of Georgia, it is the student's obligation, prior to or at the time of his or her registration, to raise the question with the administrative officials of the institution in which he or she is registering and have the classification officially determined. The burden always rests with the student to submit information and documents necessary to support the contention of qualification for in-state residency under Regents' regulations.
- B. Notification upon Becoming a Non-Resident:** Students who are classified as residents (in-state) must notify the proper administrative officials of their institution immediately of any change (out-of-state) in their residency status.

RECLASSIFICATION OF NON-RESIDENT STUDENTS

Those non-resident (out-of-state) students who believe they have met the resident requirements as previously set forth may complete a Petition for Residence Status, which is available in the Registrar's Office and must be completed and supported by the required documentation before an initial review of status can be conducted.

The initial review is conducted by a member of the Registrar's staff, who will rule on the basis of oral evidence and other documentation supporting the petition for in-state resident status. The results of the initial review, if unfavorable, may be appealed to the Residence Status Review Committee and ultimately to the president, if such action is required.

Such petitions and appeals must be completed no later than 60 days following registration for the academic term for which residence status is to be effected. If the petition is granted, reclassification will not be retroactive to prior terms.

Should it be determined that the student has misrepresented or omitted material facts which results in classification or re-classification as a resident student, retroactive charges for out-of state tuition will be made and must be paid prior to the close of the academic term in which they are levied.

VERIFICATION OF LAWFUL PRESENCE

The Board of Regents of University System of Georgia (USG) has recently instituted new policies that affect all applicants who seek in-state tuition at USG institutions. According to USG policy, individuals who apply for Fall 2011 and beyond must submit documentation of U.S. citizenship or permanent residency before being considered for in-state tuition.

The following documents serve as proof of lawful presence in the United States. One of the following is required before you are eligible for in-state tuition:

- Your completed FAFSA for the current or next financial aid year. Lawful presence can be determined through this process.
- A certified U.S. birth certificate showing the applicant was born in the U.S. or a U.S. territory. Photocopies are not acceptable.
- Copy of a current U.S. passport.
- Copy of a current driver's license issued by the State of Georgia after January 1, 2008.
- Copy of a U.S. certificate of naturalization.
- Copy of a U.S. certificate of citizenship.
- A U.S. certificate of birth abroad issued by the Department of State or a consular report of birth abroad.

Please note: Any applicant whose status cannot be verified is not eligible for in-state tuition regardless of how long he or she has lived in Georgia.

CHECK CASHING SERVICE

All checks and money orders must be payable through a United States bank. To accommodate students, the University will cash one personal check per day, per student, for \$50.00 or less at the Bursary. Bursary hours are Monday-Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Checks will not be cashed if the student has a "Hold" on his or her student account. Checks drawn for cash only must be made payable to "VSU-CASH." The University will not accept two-party checks for cashing. Parents who send their son or daughter spending money by check should make their check payable to VSU, with the student's name on the "for" section of the check.

Checks issued to the University in payment of fees, purchases of books, etc., or to be cashed for personal convenience must be paid upon presentation to the bank on which they are drawn. Checks returned to the University for insufficient funds, account closed, stopped payment, or for any other reason will be handled in accordance with the Collections Policy, below.

Additionally, the University can suspend the student from class and from any facilities of the University for a returned check of any reason. Suspension from class will not relieve the student from the obligation for payment of the returned check and fees.

COLLECTIONS

The University recognizes that circumstances may arise to create a balance due to the University. In the effort to protect the financial interests of the institution and the State of Georgia, VSU follows the *Business Procedures Manual* of the Board of Regents, chapter 10.0, regarding collection, due diligence procedures, and write-off.

Financial holds are placed on student accounts for balances due. These holds will not allow students to register, graduate, or receive official VSU documents until outstanding balances are paid. Students can check their account status and hold type by visiting the Banner Registration website.

Generally, student account balances and returned checks (NSF) that are past due 180 days will be turned over to the University's Collection Agency.

CANCELLATION OF STUDENT REGISTRATION FOR CAUSE

The University reserves the right to cancel the registration of any student who fails to meet his or her financial responsibility, according to the rules and regulations of the University. The rules and regulations provide that:

1. All fees are due and payable upon completion of registration. Students should not report for registration without having sufficient funds available to pay their fees. The payment instructions are located at <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/financial-services/students/services/how-to-pay-fees.php>.
2. Any check issued to the University in payment of fees, or to be cashed for personal convenience, must be paid upon presentation to the bank on which it is drawn. A student who issues a check on a bank without having sufficient funds on deposit in that bank has violated the statutes of the State of Georgia and may be prosecuted.
3. All fines for violations of the rules related to parking and traffic, and charges related to the library and other facilities such as laboratory breakage, etc., must be paid promptly. Those students having outstanding obligations will not be allowed to enroll in subsequent terms.
4. Misuse of an I.D. card may result in suspension from classes of all involved students.
5. Students who have secured short term loans must have this obligation paid in full according to the terms agreed upon with the Loan Officer to avoid suspension or possible cancellation of the term's registration.
6. Students who misrepresent the facts pertaining to their qualifications to live off-campus may be suspended from classes. In each instance, students will be given proper notice to comply with the housing regulations before action is taken to effect cancellation of their registration.
7. The University reserves and intends to exercise the right to withhold copies of education records and/or to cancel enrollment of students who owe the University money.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

*Scott Doner, Director
Oak Street Parking Deck, Level 2*

The Department of Public Safety is responsible for the protection of life and property for the Valdosta State University community. The department is located on the second level of the Oak Street Parking Deck and is open 24 hours a day. The emergency telephone number is 229-259-5555. For information, call 229-333-7816. For additional information about Public Safety: www.valdosta.edu/police.

ANNUAL SECURITY REPORT - CLERY ACT

The annual security report includes statistics for the previous three years concerning reported crimes that occurred on campus, in certain off-campus buildings or property owned or controlled by the university, and on public property within or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus. The report also includes institutional policies concerning alcohol and drug use, crime prevention, the reporting of crimes, sexual assault, and other matters. A copy of the report is available in the Department of Public Safety on the second level of the Oak Street Parking Deck and on the Internet: www.valdosta.edu/police/the-clery-act.php.

AUXILIARY SERVICES

*Director of Auxiliary Services
Oak Street Parking Deck, Level 2*

As a part of the Division of Finance and Administration, the Auxiliary Services Division is responsible for providing support services to students, faculty, and staff members of the University. The Division includes University Stores, Dining Services, ICard Services, Parking and Transportation, Vending, Health Services, Key Shop, Telecommunications, and Housing and Residence Life (financial management). Administrative offices are located in the Oak Street Parking Deck, on the second level. Telephone 229-333-5706; Fax 229-333-7419.

For information about ICard Services, the Bookstore, Dining Services, Health Services, Parking and Transportation, or Housing and Residence Life, visit our web page: www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/auxiliary-services.

Valdosta State University is defined by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia as a residential institution, and the University must provide on-campus housing and dining service. All undergraduate students who live in residence halls are required to participate in the meal program. The policy is a part of the total "Living-Learning" concept of the University and is supported by an amendment to the Georgia Eighteen-Year-Old Bill, which reads, "Nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit the powers of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia to adopt and enforce rules and regulations for the government, control, and management of the University System; nor shall this Act be construed so as to limit the authority of any institution in the University System of Georgia to adopt and enforce rules and regulations governing housing, conduct, discipline, and other related activities of the student body."

Following Regents' policy, the Auxiliary Services Division is totally self-supporting and receives no state allocations of funds.

HOUSING AND RESIDENCE LIFE

HOUSING APPLICATION AND CONTRACT

The Housing Application and Contract forms are available online at <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/auxiliary-services/housing/>. Once admitted, new students will receive a postcard invitation to apply for housing. All students applying for campus housing will be required to sign a contract with Housing for the academic year. Apartment residents must sign a 12-month contract. All students who plan to live in campus housing must pay an application fee of \$25 and a \$300 deposit when they submit their Housing Application and Contract.

The deposit is a one-time fee that will be refunded once the student fulfills the requirements set forth by the Housing contract or upon graduation from the University. The housing contract outlines conditions under which refunds may be made. Occupancy of a traditional-style or suite-style residence hall room is terminated at the end of each spring semester (9 months). Apartment contracts terminate at the end of summer term (12 months). Students currently enrolled should obtain an application for housing at the annual Room Selection Process held in March.

Please read the contract carefully, as it constitutes a fully binding legal agreement with the University. Requests for release from the housing contract prior to the conclusion of the academic year will be considered after the student resident completes a Request for Release from Contract, available online at the Housing website.

FRESHMAN RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Valdosta State University administers a Freshman Residency Program, which requires that all freshmen live on campus. To obtain an exemption from this requirement, a student must apply for exemption and meet one of the following criteria: (1) age 20 by September 1 of the current academic year; (2) married; (3) be a single parent; or (4) residing with parent(s), grandparent(s), or legal guardian within a 50-mile driving distance from Valdosta State University. Exemption forms are available online.

RESIDENCE HALL FEES

Housing charges are assessed on a semester basis and must be paid in full during the registration process at the beginning of each semester. Rates include all utilities. **Rates for the 2014-2015 academic years will be posted at <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/auxiliary-services/housing/> and available on campus once the rates have been established. All charges are based on approved fees and are subject to change according to policies of the Board of Regents. The University reserves the right to close any of its residence halls in any given semester or to reassign students to rooms at any time.**

The rates quoted below are for the 2013-2014 academic year. Please check the Housing website for rates for the 2014-2015 academic year. All rates are quoted with the Housing Activity Fee (\$20) and Post Office Box Fee (\$10) included.

Traditional residence halls offer double-occupancy rooms opening onto conventional hallways with community bathrooms. The rate of \$1,940 per semester for the 2013-2014 year was in effect for **Langdale, Brown, Lowndes, Reade, and Patterson Halls**. This rate is based on dual occupancy.

Suite-style facilities offer both private and semi-private rooms with a bathroom inside each unit. **Georgia Hall** and **Hopper Hall** are the suite accommodations, with Georgia used for freshmen and Hopper used for upperclassmen. The private rate for both buildings in 2013-2014 was \$2,430 and the semi-private rate was \$2,180.

APARTMENTS

Converse Hall and **Centennial Hall** apartments are available to upperclassmen. Converse Hall offers efficiency units with a bathroom and a kitchenette and one-bedroom (2-person) units with a bathroom and a full kitchen. Centennial Hall, an apartment-style facility, opened in 2005, features individual bedrooms, a kitchen shared by no more than four residents, one or two bathrooms, and a dining/living room area.

Converse efficiency (2013-2014 rate)	\$2,375
Converse one-bedroom (per person) (2013-2014 rate)	\$2,030
Centennial two-bedroom (per person) (2013-2014 rate)	\$2,545
Centennial four-bedroom (per person) (2013-2014 rate)	\$2,410

DINING SERVICES

Valdosta State University and Dining Services firmly believe that today’s hard-working student should be rewarded with a dining service that makes eating on campus palate-pleasing, healthy and entertaining. With 12 different dining locations in 8 different buildings and 2 on-campus convenience stores, there’s always a place to grab a bite to eat no matter where you are on campus. A VSU meal plan gives you the freedom to make your own dining decisions, with several plans to choose from, depending on your specific eating habits and lifestyle.

RESIDENT MEAL PLANS

The following meal plans for 2013-2014 were \$1,832 per semester. For a list of meal plans and their 2014-2015 cost, please visit our website at www.dineoncampus.com/valdosta.

Students living on campus are asked to choose from the following plans at registration. If you do not choose a plan, the Blazer Plus plan will be chosen for you.

- Blazer Plus:** Unlimited meals at Palms or Hopper + \$125 Blazer Bucks
- 14** Meals per week at Palms or Hopper + \$225 Blazer Bucks
- 10** Meals per week at Palms or Hopper + \$370 Blazer Bucks
- \$875** Declining Balance (only available to residents ranked sophomores or above)
- \$475** Declining Balance (students residing in Centennial or Converse only)

COMMUTER AND STAFF MEAL PLAN OPTIONS

The following list is of meal plans and prices for 2013-2014. For a list of meal plans and their 2014-2015 costs, please visit our website at www.dineoncampus.com/valdosta.

- 100** Meals per semester at Palms or Hopper + \$40 Blazer Bucks = \$645 per semester
- 75** Meals per semester at Palms or Hopper + \$20 Blazer Bucks = \$490 per semester
- 50** Meals per semester at Palms or Hopper + \$15 Blazer Bucks = \$350 per semester
- 25** Meals per semester at Palms or Hopper = \$190 per semester

Meals must be used at one of the residence dining facilities, Palms or Hopper, both of which are all-you-care-to-eat facilities. For a complete list of meal plan prices or a map of dining locations, visit our website at www.dineoncampus.com/valdosta.

HOW TO OBTAIN A MEAL PLAN

You can register for your meal plan online using your Banner account during class registration or visit the Meal Plan Office, located at VSU ICard Services. Any student living in a residence hall who does not register for a meal plan will automatically be assigned The Blazer Plus/Unlimited plan. The Meal Plan Office is located at VSU ICard Services, 1204 N. Patterson St. Call (229) 333-5988 or visit our website at www.dineoncampus.com/valdosta.

BLAZER BUCKS

Blazer Bucks are “dining dollars” that are reserved for purchases at dining locations. They are designed to give you the flexibility to dine at any of our eateries or to make a purchase at our 2 on-campus convenient stores, without carrying cash. Each time you make a purchase, the amount is automatically deducted from your VSU ICard. Any unused Blazer Bucks will be forfeited at the end of the semester. If you run out of Blazer Bucks, we recommend you load money on your Flex Account.

CONVENIENCE STORES

There are two convenience stores located on campus, Langdale Market and Sustella Street Market. Langdale Market is located on the first floor of Langdale Hall (west side) and Sustella Street Market is located on the first floor of Centennial Hall East. They provide a variety of snacks, grocery items, health and beauty items, and drinks.

UNIVERSITY STORES

The VSU Bookstore in the Student Union offers all required textbooks in addition to required supplies for courses. As the official campus store, the bookstore sells a multitude of VSU-imprinted clothing and gifts as well as a growing number of other types of gifts. The V-Store, also located in the Union, carries a variety of snack and sundry items. For students attending the VSU campus at Kings Bay Naval Submarine Base, there is a small store on that campus offering required course material and a few merchandise items.

The Tech Shop, an Authorized Apple Campus Store and Apple Authorized Service Provider, also in the Student Union, carries the latest products from Apple, with demonstration units so you can feel it before you buy it! Also at the Tech Shop, students are able to buy other technology products, including academically priced software, computer accessories, gaming consoles, and computer games and accessories. The store also offers services such as virus removal, system reformat, and installation of software.

For more information on the Bookstore, please visit online at <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/auxiliary-services/bookstore/welcome.php.com>. For more information on the Tech Shop, please visit online at <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/auxiliary-services/tech-shop/welcome.php>.

HEALTH SERVICES

The Student Health Center, located on Georgia Avenue at the end of the Pedestrian Mall, provides routine health care, along with some emergency care, for all students who have satisfied the health fee requirement. Health care is provided by a physician, nurse practitioners, a physician assistant, registered and licensed practical nurses, a pharmacist, a medical technologist, and office staff. All students living in campus housing are required to pay the health fee, regardless of the number of hours in which they are enrolled. There is also a new facility fee that is paid by all students.

All new students are required to provide evidence of inoculation for mumps, measles, and rubella. The University Health Service recommends additional inoculations for diphtheria, tetanus, polio, influenza, meningitis, and chicken pox. Various health screenings are provided throughout the year.

PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION

All motorized vehicles parked on campus must properly display a current parking permit at all times. Parking on campus is by permit only and is a privilege that may be withdrawn for cause at any time. All campus community members (students, faculty, staff, and visitors) are responsible for knowing and obeying parking regulations. Moreover, campus citizens are responsible for their guests and should ensure that they are well aware of regulations. A parking regulations brochure (available to students, faculty, staff, and visitors) may be obtained at the Parking and Transportation Department. Details about parking lots and instructions are also available at <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/auxiliary-services/parking/parking-dept.php>.

Campus parking and traffic regulations are enforced under the authority of Georgia Code, Section 20-3-21. Parking policies are in effect and uniformly enforced at all times. Citations are issued for infractions of parking policies. Fines may be paid at the Departmental Office, located in Level 1 of the Sustella Avenue Parking Deck (telephone: 229-293-PARK).

VSU operates a shuttle bus service. A Blazer Express Shuttle Guide, available at the Parking and Transportation Department, indicates stops, routes, and operating hours. Maps may also be found at each bus stop and at <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/auxiliary-services/parking/maps-stats.php>.

VSU 1CARD SERVICES

The VSU 1Card is the official Valdosta State University identification card and on-campus debit card. It allows access to your assigned plans and privileges, after payment has been made, through a swipe of the magnetic strip in a designated reader. The card is automatically assigned a FLEX Account, which allows you to deposit funds 24 hours a day, online via credit card. No deposits may be made via phone or Fax. Excess funds from financial aid can be applied to your FLEX account via the Banner Registration page, after all of your other fees are paid.

If you designate financial aid for FLEX and you still owe the University, you will not be able to use the FLEX/ 1Card to make purchases. A FLEX Account is non-transferable and may be used only by the cardholder. To obtain a VSU 1Card, all students must visit the VSU 1Card Office, be registered, provide two forms of identification, one of which must be a government-issued photo identification (such as driver's license, passport, military ID); and have a photograph made.

Replacement cards are \$15, and photo identification must be submitted prior to a replacement card being produced. Please visit our website at <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/auxiliary-services/1-card-services/welcome.php> for more information regarding the VSU 1Card.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

*Mr. Russell F. Mast, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students
Room 3106, Student Union*

The Division of Student Affairs is charged with responsibility for student life outside the classroom and includes the following departmental areas: Cooperative Education, Counseling Center, Alcohol and Other Drug Education, Student Conduct, Financial Aid, Housing and Residence Life, Health Promotions, Access Office, Orientation and Student Leadership, Career Opportunities, Student Life (Student Union, Greek Life, Homecoming, Parents' Weekend, Volunteer Services, and Student Organizations), Campus Recreation (Student Recreation Center, Ropes Challenge Course, IM Fields, and Outdoor Rental Center), Testing, Parent Programs, and Student Publications. It is the division's philosophy that students' non-academic experiences are important to both their formal education and personal development. The Vice President for Student Affairs coordinates the activities within the Division of Student Affairs. The Vice President's office is available to serve the needs of students as well as parents, alumni, and faculty and staff with student concerns. The Vice President for Student Affairs Office can be reached at 229-333-5941 and is located on the third floor of the Student Union. Valdosta State University is committed to the idea that total education involves more than academic pursuit. More information is available at <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/student-affairs/>.

STUDENT LIFE

The Office of Student Life is located on the third floor of the Student Union. Student Life offers opportunities to enhance our students' collegiate experience with co-curricular activities that include Greek Life, Campus Activities Board, Volunteer Services, and over 175 various clubs and organizations. This office is also responsible for annual events such as Parents' Weekend, Homecoming, Fall Explosion, and the Happening. Student involvement on campus can enhance students' academic and personal development. For more information on what is going on around campus and how to join or create a new organization, please visit Campus Connect and log in with your BlazeVIEW password or visit the Office of Student Life.

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

The Office of Volunteer Services provides numerous volunteer opportunities. The primary mission of the Volunteer Services program is to foster an active culture at Valdosta State University by promoting and facilitating opportunities for building partnerships between VSU and the community through service, while encouraging a sense of civic responsibility among students through critical engagement and participation in the Valdosta community.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

There is a diversity of clubs and student organizations at the University, including 10 national sororities, 13 national fraternities, various service organizations, honor societies, and department clubs. All students are members of the Student Government Association (SGA). The purpose of this organization is to work for the best interests of the students; cooperate with the VSU administration, faculty, and staff in all matters of common interest to the University; and provide a means of communication between the students and all areas of their University. Representatives are elected in annual campus elections and meet weekly.

CAMPUS MINISTRY ORGANIZATIONS

The following registered campus organizations form the core of VSU's campus ministry community: Baptist Collegiate Ministries, Campus Outreach, Episcopal Campus Ministries, Catholic Student Center, Christian Student Center, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Hillel, Latter Day Saint Student Association, Presbyterian Student Center, VSU Blazer Victory Ministry, VSU Mass Choir, Wesley Foundation (Methodist), and Xchange Ministries.

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The University also provides opportunities for experience in journalism through *The Spectorator*, the campus newspaper, and other student publications, which provide a forum for presenting current issues and also generate spirit within the student body.

CAMPUS RECREATION

The Department of Campus Recreation offers a variety of services, such as: aquatics, intramural sports, club sports, informal recreational outdoor programs, fitness consulting, and group fitness classes. All are based in the Student Recreation Center (SRC), located at 1300 Sustella Avenue. These activities are open to all students who register for four or more academic hours or who have a least one hour and have paid the student fees. The SRC is a state-of-the-art facility that includes three multipurpose basketball courts, an indoor jogging and walking track, a 9,000-square-foot weight room featuring free weights and cardiovascular equipment, an indoor pool, three racquetball courts, a large multipurpose aerobics room, and a 27-foot custom-built climbing wall.

The Intramural Sports program is designed to provide all students, faculty, and staff the opportunity to participate in organized recreational competitions. Structured leagues and tournaments are offered in a diverse array of sporting activities, such as flag football, softball, basketball, soccer, volleyball, tennis, racquetball, and ultimate frisbee. The Intramural Sports program offers over 40 different activities during the academic year.

Constantly growing to meet the needs of a diverse campus population, the Club Sports Program is designed to promote and develop the interests and skills of individuals in different sports and recreational activities. VSU currently has men's and women's soccer, ultimate frisbee, outdoor adventure, paintball, tennis, and triathlon club teams. Several other clubs will be organized in the near future. If there is any activity that we don't offer and you have the interest in starting, please come by and let's work on it.

The mission of Outdoor Programs is to provide access to outdoor activities that will foster the development of friendships in the campus community, to educate, and to promote outdoor recreation. There are four different areas in Outdoor Programs: ropes course, climbing wall, outdoor trips, and outdoor rental center. Outdoor programs provides a venue for VSU groups to work on their team development skills. It also offers another way for students to experience the outdoors while still being on campus. The 27-foot climbing wall is located inside the student recreation center and makes you feel as if you were climbing a real mountain. We offer belay certification and beginning and advanced climbing classes. The Outdoor Trip Program, working in partnership with the Outdoor Adventure Club, travels to places close to VSU. Trips have included rock climbing, whitewater rafting, canoeing, mountain biking, Nordic skiing, bouldering, back packing, and skydiving. The Outdoor Rental Center provides students with outdoor equipment for personal use.

The mission of the Department of Campus Recreation is to provide students, faculty, and staff the opportunity to enjoy lifelong activities while enhancing their well-being by promoting fitness and wellness as a positive outlet to relieve stress. For more information, see <http://www.valdosta.edu/student/rec-wellness/campus-recreation/welcome.php> or call 229-333-5898.

ACCESS OFFICE

The mission of the Access Office is to create an accessible, inclusive, sustainable learning environment, in which disability is recognized as an aspect of diversity that is integral to the campus community and to society. Our primary objective is to provide equal access to campus programs and activities for all students while upholding the academic standards of Valdosta State University. The Access Office is responsible for coordination of accommodations when necessary to remove barriers in the environment. Some examples of services available to eliminate barriers include classroom and testing accommodations, materials in alternate formats, and access to adaptive technology. The Access Office is located in Farber Hall. For more information, call 229-245-2498 (V), 229-375-5871(VP), 229-219-1348 (TTY), e-mail access@valdosta.edu, or visit the website at <http://www.valdosta.edu/student/disability/welcome.php>.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Valdosta State University understands the needs that university students have in determining their career goals. Career Opportunities offers a variety of programs to assist VSU students in choosing their majors, identifying career objectives, obtaining practical work experience, and seeking relevant employment upon graduation.

Individual career counseling is available for students who wish to explore how their abilities, values, and interests match particular career fields. Seminars on career-related topics are also offered each semester. Students may utilize the varied resources in the office including printed career materials, occupational videos, and computer-assisted career exploration programs.

Full and part time job listings are also posted. On-campus interviews are scheduled with employers interested in interviewing students/alumni for professional employment. Upcoming graduates are encouraged to register with the office two semesters before graduation so the office can best assist them in their job search.

For more information about our services or to schedule an appointment, students may call or drop by in person. The Office of Career Opportunities, Powell Hall-West, 2nd floor; telephone 229-333-5942; <http://www.valdosta.edu/student/student-services/career-services/welcome.php>.

COOPERATIVE EDUCATION

Valdosta State University offers students the opportunity to integrate their classroom instruction with practical work experience as part of their academic program. The Cooperative Education Office works with local, state, and national agencies and employers to give students an opportunity to complement their academic and vocational interests and to gain valuable experience in their chosen fields prior to graduation while also earning an income for their educational expenses. Students also develop professional work habits and can make valuable career contacts.

The co-op program is offered as an option for students. In order to be eligible, students must have completed a minimum of 30 semester hours and be in good academic standing. A minimum GPA of 2.0 is required. Students may work on a full-time basis during alternate semesters, a part-time continuous basis, or during a one- or two-semester internship. Opportunities exist to earn

academic credit as part of the co-op program. Interested students are encouraged to apply as early as possible in their university career to enhance the prospects of placement in the best possible position. The Co-op Office is located in Powell Hall-West, 1st floor; telephone 229-333-7172; <http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/services/cooperative-education/>. E-mail coop@valdosta.edu.

COUNSELING CENTER

The Counseling Center provides a broad range of mental health services to the university community aimed at maximizing the personal growth and development of its members. These services are free of charge.

Individual counseling is available for students who wish to discuss and explore their thoughts, feelings, behaviors, and lifestyles. In addition, group counseling provides an opportunity for students to grow in their communication, social, and interpersonal skills with others who have similar goals and interests. Counselors are available to conduct workshops or make presentations on specific topics for classes, residence halls, campus organizations, fraternities and sororities, or other student groups. The Center also provides consultation to students, staff, and faculty regarding issues of human functioning and development.

The Counseling Center is accredited by the International Association of Counseling Services, Inc. It is located in Powell Hall-East, 2nd floor. Appointments may be made in person or by calling 229-333-5940. When necessary, referrals will be made on campus or in the community so that all available resources are utilized.

OFFICE OF ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG EDUCATION

The Office of Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Education is dedicated to taking a pro-active approach in addressing the issue of substance use/abuse among the VSU community and its potential impact on academic, professional, and social development.

We provide assessments and accurate, up-to-date information in the areas of prevention, education, and referral. We encourage student involvement through Peer Education (KARMA, a for-credit class) and substance-free social programming (Natural High). Educational opportunities include presentations to classes and organizations as well as individual awareness via “Alcohol 101 Plus,” “Training for Intervention Procedures” (TIPS), and “Prime for Life: On Campus Talking about Alcohol.” Feedback regarding one’s personal use of alcohol is available through “Alcohol Check-UpToGo” and may be accessed through the AOD website. Videos and print resources are also available through our office.

AOD sponsors and participates in several campus awareness campaigns, including the National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week and Safe Spring Break Fair.

Our services are available free to students. We are located in Powell Hall-East, 1st floor, and may be contacted by phone at 229-259-5111 or e-mail at mwillia@valdosta.edu. Our web site is <http://www.valdosta.edu/student/student-services/counseling-center/aode/welcome.php>.

OFFICE OF TESTING

Numerous standardized tests are administered by the Office of Testing to assist students with their testing requirements. The VSU Office of Testing is responsible for administering tests to entering students for the purpose of admission and placement, to undergraduate students for proficiency, to teacher education majors for certification, and to graduate students for admission to specialized programs. Testing programs designed for students to earn college credit hours

by examinations are also available. As a designated national test center, the Testing Office administers testing programs for the Educational Testing Service, The Psychological Corporation, the Law School Admissions Council, The American College Testing Program, PearsonVUE, ATI Nursing, the State of Georgia, and the University System of Georgia, as well as for other education, government, and corporate agencies. Prospective registrants should check with the appropriate offices at VSU to determine the required tests needed for admission to a specific discipline and the deadline for test score submission.

Tests available to entering students are the SAT, ACT, and COMPASS Placement Exam. Tests for undergraduates include CLEP, eCore, Independent Study, GACE, PRAXIS, DSST, the TEAS for Nursing majors, and the Major Field Test for Biology majors. Tests required for graduate admissions include the MAT, GMAT, LSAT, and GRE Subject Tests. Credentialing exams are also administered through PearsonVUE and the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA). The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is administered on a national and institutional basis.

The Office of Testing is located in Powell Hall-East, Room 1131. You may contact U.S. by telephone at 229-245-3878 or online at <http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/services/testing/welcome.php>.

VETERANS AFFAIRS

The Veterans Affairs Office is part of the Office of Financial Aid. A full-time counselor assists all veterans in completing applications for benefits, making adjustments in payments, providing tutorial assistance, updating enrollment certifications, and with other services to assist veterans with their education. Veterans enrolled in physical education courses can be certified to the Veterans Administration for VA benefits when the courses will be credited toward the completion of their approved educational program. It must be documented that credit cannot be granted for the courses based upon prior military training or experience. Veterans should refer any problems to the Veterans Office for assistance. Telephone 229-333-5935 or visit our website at <http://www.valdosta.edu/admissions/financial-aid/veterans-affairs/>.

HEALTH PROMOTIONS

The Office of Health Promotions is located in Centennial Hall 135B. The mission of the office is to empower Valdosta State University students to make healthier lifestyle choices through prevention education. The goal is to provide wellness education through interactive formats and to assist students in connecting with various resources throughout the VSU community. For more information call 229-245-3896 or visit our website at <http://www.valdosta.edu/student/student-services/counseling-center/health-promotions/welcome.php>.

HOUSING AND RESIDENCE LIFE

The mission of the Office of Housing and Residence Life is to provide affordable, quality housing in a safe and secure environment. Our caring and competent staff members are committed to serving students by creating a holistic living and learning community that fosters education, diversity, civic engagement, recreation, and personal growth through programming and leadership opportunities.

Valdosta State University houses approximately 2,850 students on campus in five traditional residence halls, two suite-style halls, and two apartment communities. Traditional residence halls offer double-occupancy rooms and community bathrooms opening onto conventional hallways. Brown, Langdale, Lowndes, Patterson, and Reade are the traditional residence halls. The new

Georgia Hall and Hopper Hall are suite-style facilities that offer both private and semi-private rooms. Converse Hall, an apartment-style facility, offers efficiency units with a bathroom and a kitchenette or one-bedroom (2-person) units with a bathroom and a full kitchen. Centennial Hall, an apartment-style facility that opened in 2005, features individual bedrooms, a kitchen shared by no more than four residents, one to two bathrooms, and a dining/living room area.

National research shows that freshmen who live in the residence halls tend to experience greater academic and personal success during their college career. Our experience at VSU has been consistent with these findings. For this reason, VSU has a program for all incoming freshmen to live in the residence halls. After their first year, students may choose to live in Centennial Hall, Converse Hall, or Hopper Hall, if space is available.

Our Housing staff strives to pair students together, according to their preferences marked on the housing applications. Students also have the option of rooming with a friend who will also be attending VSU. All students have to do is to mutually request each other by placing their requested roommate's VSU e-mail address on their housing application. The Housing office does its best to accommodate all requests.

Where you choose to live during your college years is paramount in defining your college experience. Housing and Residence Life provides a distinctive and dynamic living and learning environment. Campus living is convenient, with all residence halls being just a short walk from classes, labs, the library, entertainment, and dining. But living on campus is about so much more than just proximity. It is about lifelong friendships, opportunities for involvement and employment, 24-hour staff support, and leadership development. We encourage you to explore all the benefits of campus living.

THE ROLE OF THE RESIDENCE HALL STAFF

The Complex Director, Residence Hall Director, and Resident Assistants in your residence hall have been chosen for their ability to facilitate learning and growth. Their primary duties are to encourage and stimulate meaningful activity; to assist residents in working out the problems that occur in group living; to provide information about campus services, activities, and residence hall and university procedures; to perform certain managerial tasks such as check-in, check-out, and property inventory; and to serve as an interested person when someone wishes to discuss matters of personal concern. The Complex Director and Residence Hall Director supervise the Resident Assistants and oversee the activities within the residence hall. All our live-in staff members are present to assist you with your overall residential experience.

HOUSING ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Specially equipped facilities for students with disabilities are available. Students requesting modified housing because of a disability must register with the Access Office in Farber Hall, telephone 229-245-2498. The Access Office will notify Housing and Residence Life of any reasonable accommodations required to meet a resident's housing needs.

RESIDENCE HALL OR APARTMENT CONTRACT

The application and contract contain items and conditions of occupancy for which you are legally responsible. Please see those documents for further details. Students are given a key to their room. There is a \$50 replacement charge for a lost key. The University recommends that all students keep their rooms locked. Residence halls are locked 24 hours a day, and guests must be admitted by the resident they are visiting.

Housing applications cannot be made until a student has been formally accepted by Valdosta

State University. An application fee is required of all students at the time they apply for campus housing. All students are also required to pay a deposit of \$300 by the deadlines established in the Housing Contract to reserve a room in the residence halls. The housing contract outlines conditions under which refunds may be made. All students applying for campus housing will be required to contract for housing for the academic year.

Apartments are available on a limited basis to students who meet the specific requirements. Two- and four-bedroom apartments are available. All utilities are provided. VSU maintains a list of available off-campus housing in the Office of Housing and Residence Life, located in Hopper Hall, telephone 229-333-5920. For additional information on Housing and Residence Life at Valdosta State, see the Web page at <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/auxiliary-services/housing/welcome.php>.

STUDENT CONDUCT CODE

All rules listed under Student Code of Conduct in the Student Handbook apply to residence hall living. All resident students must also abide by the Community Living Guidelines found on the Housing website and in the Student Success Planner.

The University reserves the right to remove any student from housing who is delinquent in the payment of bills to the University, has demonstrated an unwillingness to abide by the University Code of Conduct and Community Living Guidelines, violates any section of the Housing contract or published Residence Life rules and regulations, or exhibits behavior that is incompatible with the maintenance of order and propriety in the residence halls.

BUILDING SECURITY

The residence halls are locked 24 hours a day, beginning the first day of class each semester. You may gain admission to your residence hall by using your VSU identification card. For your own protection, nonresidents are not allowed in the halls unless they are guests of residents or are on official business. Students should be aware of this non-trespass policy and should assist the residence hall staff in maintaining the privacy and security of the halls. In order for guests to contact residents, they may call residents from the courtesy phones located outside each residence hall.

The University can assume no responsibility for missing or stolen articles. Parents' insurance policies may cover resident belongings while students are at college. Check with your insurance provider for more information. Students should leave family heirlooms and valuables at home and keep their room locked when they are not present.

The Office of Housing and Residence Life is located on the first floor of Hopper Hall; telephone 229-333-5920. For more information on Housing and Residence Life, please visit the website at <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/auxiliary-services/housing/welcome.php> or via e-mail at housing@valdosta.edu.

STUDENT CONDUCT OFFICE

The primary responsibility of the Student Conduct Office (SCO) is to oversee and conduct the student disciplinary process on campus. The SCO deals mostly with individual violators but is also called on to assist with groups that violate the Code of Conduct. The SCO is located on the third floor of the Student Union in the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students. The SCO assists students, staff, and faculty in the determination of the appropriate response to alleged violations of the Student Handbook's Student Code of Conduct. The SCO's primary mission is to get students back on track regarding the completion of their degree program. For more in-depth SCO information, please call 229-333-5941 or visit SCO's webpage at <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/student-affairs/student-conduct-office/welcome.php>.

REGULATIONS

General Expectations

Inasmuch as Valdosta State University is an institution committed to the quest for knowledge, truth, and wisdom, all students are expected:

- to examine critically and otherwise to evaluate themselves, their knowledge, and their society;
- to commit themselves to genuine enlightenment rather than to inflexible adherence to limited knowledge;
- to respect the regulation and order of the university community, which must exist for real learning to take place;
- to respect and obey the laws of the State of Georgia and the United States;
- to respect and obey the Code of Conduct as set forth by the Student Government Association in the University Handbook;
- to assume full responsibility for their individual and collective actions;
- to participate seriously and purposefully in campus life as both student and person;
- to make mistakes because they are “students,” but to profit from these mistakes by maturing eventually into fully participating, responsible, educated leaders in whatever careers they select.

Drugs

Valdosta State University, as a comprehensive university within the University System of Georgia and recipient of federal funds, supports and complies with the Drug Free Work Place Act of 1988, the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989, and the Drug Free Postsecondary Education Act of 1990.

Faculty, staff, and students of Valdosta State University are advised that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of illicit drugs and alcohol is prohibited, and violations of this policy will result in appropriate disciplinary action, to include suspension or termination.

Faculty, staff, and students are expected to adhere to the policies of the institution, observe the basic rules of good conduct, and observe all local, state, and federal regulations relative to illegal drugs and alcohol. Violations of such regulations, including misdemeanor or felony convictions during the course of one’s employment or enrollment, will result in appropriate disciplinary action. This policy is subject to modifications, and said changes will be publicized. Questions regarding this matter may be directed to the Office of Personnel or the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs.

Student Dissent

Valdosta State University will not permit any demonstrations or protests that would disrupt any academic or regularly scheduled non-academic pursuits. Dissent which is voiced in a constructive way and is manifested in an orderly and peaceful manner is acceptable. Threats, demands, and coercion are not acceptable. All students affiliated with Valdosta State University are expected to abide by the Student Code of Conduct.

Board of Regents Statement on Disruptive Behavior

The following is the policy of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia regarding disruptive behavior in any institution of the University System:

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia reaffirms its policies to support fully freedom of expression by each member of the academic community and to preserve and protect the rights and freedom of its faculty members and students to engage in debate, discussion, peaceful and nondisruptive protest and dissent. The following statement relates specifically to the problem described below. It does not change or in any way infringe upon the Board's existing policies and practices in support of freedom of expression and action. Rather, it is considered necessary to combat the ultimate effect of irresponsible disruptive and obstructive actions by students and faculty which tend to destroy academic freedom and the institutional structures through which it operates.

In recent years, a new and serious problem has appeared on many college and university campuses in the nation. Some students, faculty members, and others have on occasion engaged in demonstrations, sit-ins, and other activities that have clearly and deliberately interfered with the regular and orderly operation of the institution concerned. Typically, these actions have been the physical occupation of a building or campus area for a protracted period of time or the use or display of verbal or written obscenities involving indecent or disorderly conduct.

These actions have gone beyond all heretofore recognized bounds of meetings for discussion, persuasion, or even protest, in that: (1) acquiescence to demands of the demonstrators is the condition for dispersal, and (2) the reasonable and written directions of institutional officials to disperse have been ignored. Such activities thus have become clearly recognizable as an action of force, operating outside all established channels on the campus, including that of intellectual debate and persuasion which are at the very heart of education.

The Board reaffirms its belief that all segments of the academic community are under a strong obligation and have a mutual responsibility to protect the campus community from disorderly, disruptive, or obstructive actions which interfere with academic pursuits of teaching, learning and other campus activities.

The Board of Regents understands that this policy is consistent with resolutions adopted by the American Association of University Professors in April, 1968, by the Association of American Colleges in January, 1968, and by the Executive Committee of the Association for Higher Education in March, 1968, condemning actions taken to disrupt the operations of institutions of higher education.

The Board of Regents is deeply concerned by this new problem. Under the Constitution of the State of Georgia, under all applicable court rulings, and in keeping with the tradition of higher education in the United States, the Board is ultimately responsible for the orderly operation of the several institutions of the University System and the preservation of academic freedom in these institutions. The Board cannot and will not divest itself of this responsibility. Of equal or greater importance, such action of force as has been described above destroys the very essence of higher education. This essence is found in the unhampered freedom to study, investigate, write, speak, and debate on any aspect or issue of life. This freedom, which reaches its full flowering on college and university campuses, is an essential part of American democracy, comparable to the jury system or the electoral process.

For these reasons and in order to respond directly and specifically to this new problem, the Board of Regents stipulates that any student, faculty member, administrator, or employee, acting individually or in concert with others, who clearly obstructs or disrupts, or attempts to obstruct or disrupt any teaching, research, administrative, disciplinary or public service

activity, or any other activity authorized to be discharged or held on any campus of the University System of Georgia is considered by the Board to have committed an act of gross irresponsibility and shall be subject to disciplinary procedures, possibly resulting in dismissal or termination of employment.

Notification of Rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) for Post-Secondary Institutions Dealing with Student Educational Records

In accordance with the policy of the Board of Regents of the State of Georgia and under the provisions of The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), Valdosta State University maintains various educational records for each matriculating student. VSU affords students certain rights with respect to these educational records, and these rights include:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's educational records within 45 days of the day the University receives a request for access. Students should submit to the registrar, the dean of the appropriate college, the head of the appropriate academic department, or other appropriate official, written requests that identify the record(s) they wish to inspect. The University official will make arrangements for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. If the records are not maintained by the University official to whom the request was submitted, that official shall advise the student of the correct official to whom the request should be addressed. VSU's official contact person for such record requests is the Custodian of Official Records in the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs. There will be a nominal fee for the retrieval and reproduction of any record requests.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student's educational records that the student believes are inaccurate. Students may ask the University to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate. They should write the University official responsible for the record, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate. If the university decides not to amend the record as requested by the student, the University will notify the student of the decision and advise the student of his or her right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.
3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's educational records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the University in an administrative, supervisory, academic or research, or support staff position (including law enforcement unit personnel and health staff); a person or company with whom the University has contracted (such as an attorney, auditor or collection agent); a person serving on the Board of Trustees; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review a education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, the University may disclose education records without consent to officials of another school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

Directory information: Valdosta State University publishes student information in the form of directories, programs, etc. Students who desire that directory information not be released without consent should notify the Office of the Registrar. The following is considered directory information unless notification is received to the contrary:

Student's name, address (local and home), telephone listing, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, class schedule, photograph, full- or part-time status, e-mail address, and the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student.

Educational records may be furnished to a requesting party in compliance with a judicial order or pursuant to any lawfully issued subpoena.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failure by Valdosta State University to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202-4605, (202) 260-3887.

The following are exceptions within FERPA, and students should take note of them:

- a. Students do NOT have access to the financial records of parents of students.
- b. Students do NOT have access to letters of recommendation placed in records prior to January 1, 1975.
- c. Personal records of instructional, supervisory, and administrative personnel are NOT open for review and inspection by students.
- d. The professional records of the institution's medical staff are not open for review and inspection by students. However, physicians or other appropriate professionals of the student's choice can review these records.

STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

*Mr. Douglas R. Tanner, Director of Financial Aid
Room 4121, University Center*

The purpose of the student aid program is to help make higher education a reality for persons who would be unable to attend without financial assistance. However, financial aid is awarded only to eligible students who have been admitted to the University. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) may be submitted at any time.

Financial aid applications are accepted and processed throughout the academic year, but priority is given to those submitted by April 1.

This material was prepared in advance of the 2014-2015 academic year and is subject to changes in state or federal laws or regulations.

GRANTS

Federal Pell Grant. A Pell Grant is gift aid, with no repayment required, and is available to undergraduate students who show financial need and who have not received a bachelor's degree. A FAFSA is required.

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG). SEOG is gift aid, with no repayment required and is available to undergraduate students who show financial need and who have not received a bachelor's degree. First priority goes to students who also qualify for a Federal Pell Grant and have the greatest need. A FAFSA is required.

Vocational Rehabilitation Assistance. Vocational Rehabilitation provides assistance to students with physical limitations. Usually fees are paid for eligible students. Apply through your local Office of Rehabilitation Services.

OTHER FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Veterans Financial Aid Services. The Veterans Affairs Office, a part of the Office of Financial Aid, is located in the University Center. A full-time counselor assists all veterans in completing applications for educational benefits, making adjustments in payments, providing tutorial assistance, updating enrollment certifications, and with other services to assist veterans with their education.

Veterans Administration Assistance. Veterans, service personnel, and eligible dependents may qualify to receive benefits through the Veterans Administration. Applications may be made through the VSU Office of Veterans Affairs. Veterans enrolled in physical education courses can be certified to the Veterans Administration for VA benefits when the courses will be credited toward the completion of their approved educational program. It must be documented that credit cannot be granted for the courses based upon prior military training or experience. Veterans should refer any problems to the Veterans Office for assistance. Telephone 229-333-5935.

Post-9/11 GI Bill. The Post-9/11 GI Bill provides financial support for education and housing to individuals with at least 90 days of aggregate service on or after September 11, 2001, or individuals discharged with a service-connected disability after 30 days. You must have received an honorable discharge to be eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill. The Post-9/11 GI Bill became effective for training on or after August 1, 2009. The amount of support that an individual may qualify for depends on where they live and what type of degree they are pursuing. Approved training under the Post-9/11 GI Bill includes graduate and undergraduate degrees and vocational/technical training. All training programs must be offered by an institution of higher learning (IHL) and approved for GI

Bill benefits. Additionally, tutorial assistance and licensing and certification test reimbursement are approved under the Post-9/11 GI Bill. The Post-9/11 GI Bill will pay your tuition based upon the highest in-state tuition charged by an educational institution in the state where the educational institution is located. The Post-9/11 GI Bill also offers some service members the opportunity to transfer their GI Bill to dependents.

Montgomery GI Bill (Active Duty). This program of education benefits is for students who enter active duty for the first time after June 30, 1985. The student must, with certain exceptions, serve continuously on active duty for three years of a 3-year enlistment, or for a lesser benefit, two years of an initial active duty obligation of less than three years. A student also may qualify for benefits by initially serving two continuous years on active duty, followed by four years of Selected Reserve Service.

Montgomery GI Bill (Selected Reserve). This program of education benefits is for reservists of the armed forces as well as the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard. To be eligible for this program, a reservist must have a 6-year obligation to serve in the Selected Reserve, complete Initial Active Duty for Training, have a high school diploma or its equivalent, and remain in good standing in a drilling Selected Reserve Unit.

If a student has a parent who is a military veteran with a disability, the student may qualify for help from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Benefits may be awarded for pursuit of associate, bachelor, or graduate degrees at colleges and universities. Details are available in the Office of Veterans Affairs of Valdosta State University.

LOANS

The Federal Direct Stafford/Ford Loan. This loan allows students enrolled at least half-time to borrow money at low interest for educational expenses. There are two types of Federal Direct Stafford/Ford Loans: (1) Federal Direct Subsidized Stafford/Ford Loans and (2) Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford/Ford Loans. The Federal Direct Subsidized Stafford/Ford Loans is need based, and the Federal Government subsidizes and pays the interest on this loan while the student is in school and during the six-month grace period. The unsubsidized loan is not need-based. This loan was created for borrowers who do not qualify for federal interest subsidies. The student either pays the interest while in school and during the six-month grace period or it is added to the balance of the loan. A FAFSA is required.

VSU Short-Term Loans. Short-term emergency loans are available from the Office of Business and Finance each semester. Apply to the VSU Office of Student Accounts located in the Bursary.

Federal Direct Parent (PLUS) Loan. This loan is an educational loan for parents of dependent undergraduate students enrolled at least half-time. Financial need is not an eligibility requirement, but good credit is required. Loan eligibility is based on the cost of attendance minus other aid received. A FAFSA is required.

WORK

Federal Work-Study Program (FWSP). The University participates in the Federal Work-Study Program. Eligible students may work part-time during the academic year. To apply for and be considered for the FWSP, the students must complete and submit all required financial aid documents to the Office of Financial Aid. Priority is given to those students who have completed financial aid applications by April 1.

Student Assistant Program. On-campus jobs, financed by the University, are also available. Each department has its own funds for this program. Inquiries should be made to Student Employment, located in Langdale Hall West, or visit the web site at <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/human-resources/student-employment/welcome.php>.

Other Employment. The Job Location and Development Program, administered through the Office of Career Opportunities, Powell Hall West, 2nd Floor, assists students in obtaining part-time employment off-campus. Web site: <http://www.valdosta.edu/student/student-services/career-services/>.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Regardless of your family's income or your potential for a scholarship, complete all financial aid applications required by the VSU Office of Financial Aid. VSU General Scholarship Applications are due in the Office of Financial Aid by March 1 and are available online at www.valdosta.edu/financialaid. Other scholarship information is also available at this website.

STATE-WIDE SCHOLARSHIPS

The following scholarships, available to Georgia residents only, are awarded by state committees.

Wine and Spirits Wholesalers of Georgia Scholarship. Full tuition awarded throughout the State of Georgia on a rotating basis. Must be a Georgia resident undergraduate with superior academic achievement, good citizenship, and financial need. Apply to the VSU Office of Financial Aid by completing a VSU General Scholarship Application.

Ty Cobb. Awarded annually to rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors. To qualify, one must be a Georgia resident, demonstrate financial need, and possess at least a "B" average. Applications available from: Ty Cobb Foundation, P.O. Box 725, Forest Park, Georgia 30051, or by e-mail, tycobb@mindspring.com.

HOPE Scholarship (Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally) is funded by the Georgia Lottery for Education and is available to eligible Georgia 1993 or later high school graduates. HOPE provides funding to assist students in paying tuition.

HOPE Scholarship Eligibility Requirements

- Be a Georgia resident or receive a tuition waiver and be a graduate of a Georgia high school.
- As an entering freshman, have a final high school GPA of 3.0 or better as determined by the high school and reported to the Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC). The GSFC will submit to VSU a final list of the freshmen who are eligible to participate in the program in July.
- Regardless of high school graduation or high school grade point average, students with a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 at the 30th, 60th, or 90th attempted hour are eligible to participate in the Program if they were Georgia residents at the time they first enrolled in a post-secondary institution in Georgia.
- Maintain a 3.0 cumulative grade point average while in college. This requirement covers all prior colleges attended as well as VSU. The grade point average is reviewed at the 30th, 60th, and 90th attempted hour and at the end of each spring semester.
- The HOPE Scholarship Regulations for public institutions are different from those at the private and technical institutions.

If you lose the HOPE Scholarship at any checkpoint because your grade point average drops below 3.0, you are eligible to reapply for the HOPE at the 30th, 60th, or 90th attempted hour, provided your cumulative grade point average is a 3.0.

The HOPE Scholarship will not pay for more than 127 attempted hours at VSU and any other college(s) combined. Attempted hours include any letter grade for A, B, C, D, F, W, WF, I, IP, U, S, V. The HOPE scholarship is limited to 127 paid hours. Paid hours include all hours paid for by the Accel program, the HOPE grant program since summer 2003, the Zell Miller Scholarship, and the HOPE Scholarship Program.

Full-time enrollment is not a requirement.

All students who meet the HOPE Scholarship eligibility requirements and wish to apply for the HOPE Scholarship are required to complete the FAFSA and provide any additional documents as requested by the Office of Financial Aid for verification purposes or the Georgia Student Finance Commission's GSFAAPS Application.

For the complete HOPE Scholarship Program Regulations and the GSFAAPS Application, visit the Georgia Student Finance Commission website at www.gacollege411.org or if you have questions, you may contact the VSU HOPE Scholarship Coordinator in the Office of Financial Aid at 229-333-5935, or contact the Georgia Student Finance Commission at 1-800-505-GSFC.

Zell Miller Scholarships are funded by the Georgia Lottery for Education and are available to eligible Georgia high school graduates of 2007 or later. The Zell Miller Scholarship provides funding to assist students in paying tuition and fees.

Zell Miller Scholarship Eligibility Requirements

- Must be a Georgia resident or be receiving a tuition waiver and be graduated from a Georgia high school.
- Had a final high school GPA of 3.7 or better as determined by the high school and reported to the Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC) and earned a 1200 math/reading SAT or 26 composite ACT score. GSFC will submit to VSU a final list of the freshmen who are eligible to participate in the program in July.
- Maintain a 3.3 cumulative grade point average while in college. This requirement covers all prior colleges attended as well as VSU. The grade point average is reviewed at the 30th, 60th, and 90th attempted hour and at the end of each spring semester.
- Students who do not meet the high school requirements cannot earn the Zell Miller Scholarship.

If you lose the Zell Miller Scholarship after your freshman year because your grade point average drops below 3.3, you are eligible to reapply for the Zell Miller Scholarship at the 30th, 60th, or 90th attempted hour, provided your cumulative grade point average is a 3.3. If you lose the Zell Miller Scholarship for failing to maintain a 3.3 GPA, but you still maintain a 3.0 GPA, you can be awarded the HOPE Scholarship in its place.

The Zell Miller Scholarship will not pay for more than 127 attempted hours at VSU and any other college(s) combined. Attempted hours include any letter grade for A, B, C, D, F, W, WF, I, IP, U, S, V. The Zell Miller Scholarship is limited to 127 paid hours. Paid hours include all hours paid for by the Accel program, HOPE grant program since summer 2003, the HOPE Scholarship Program, and the Zell Miller Scholarship.

Full-time enrollment is not a requirement.

All students who meet the HOPE Scholarship eligibility requirements and wish to apply for the HOPE Scholarship are required to complete the FAFSA and provide any additional documents

as requested by the OFA for verification purposes or the Georgia Student Finance Commissions GSFAAPS Application.

For the complete HOPE Scholarship Program Regulations and the GSFAAPS Application, visit the Georgia Student Finance Commission web site at www.gacollege411.org, or if you have questions, you may contact the VSU HOPE Scholarship Coordinator in the Office of Financial Aid at 229-333-5935, or contact the Georgia Student Finance Commission at 1-800-505-GSFC.

UNIVERSITY-WIDE SCHOLARSHIPS

Valdosta State University offers academic scholarships each year to incoming freshmen. Various criteria are considered, such as SAT or ACT scores and high school grades. The Office of Admissions notifies eligible students of their selection and the amount of their scholarship. There is no application for these scholarships, as eligible students are automatically selected by the VSU Office of Admissions. The scholarships offered are as follows:

R. B. Whitehead Scholarship. Provided from funds donated to the University by the late Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Whitehead of Valdosta. The Whiteheads were enthusiastic supporters of the University, donating money not only to scholarships but to campus beautification. Selected by the VSU Office of Admissions.

John and Gertrude Odum Scholarships. Provided from funds donated to the University by the late John and Gertrude Odum. Mrs. Odum was a Professor of English at VSU for many years and a long-time supporter of academic excellence. Selected by the VSU Office of Admissions.

SCHOLARSHIPS WITH SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

Many VSU scholarships are designed for students with specific majors or who meet specific requirements. These scholarships require a student to apply for each scholarship for which they wish to be considered. Most scholarship applications should be submitted before March 1 of each year. On any scholarship in which financial need is a criteria for consideration, the student must have a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form on file with the Office of Financial Aid.

Scholarship requirements and application information are available at <http://www.valdosta.edu/admissions/financial-aid/scholarships.php>.

OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS

Air Force ROTC. Scholarships are available to students enrolled in ROTC at VSU and are based on performance, academic achievement, and leadership potential. Air Force ROTC offers 2- and 3-year scholarships to qualified freshmen and sophomores in any major. Apply through your Air Force ROTC detachment. Awards are for \$15,000 and \$9,000 scholarships. For further information contact the VSU Air Force ROTC Office at 229-333-5954 or visit their website at <http://www.afrotc.com/>.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

For scholarship information regarding a particular sport, contact the VSU Athletic Office.

Georgia Gulf Sulfur Athletic Scholarship. These scholarships were established to assist academically and athletically talented students who are members of the VSU Men's or Women's basketball team. Selection is made by the coaching staffs of the basketball programs and the athletic director.

Billy Grant Golf Scholarship. This scholarship was established in memory of Billy Grant, for his many contributions to the VSU Athletics Program. The scholarship is awarded to a member of the VSU golf team on the basis of recommendations from the golf coach and the athletic director.

Jessie F. Tuggle Scholarship. The Jessie F. Tuggle Scholarship was established as an endowed scholarship, to assist members of the VSU football team. Recipients of the scholarship must be in good academic standing. Selection is determined by the football coaching staff and the athletic director.

FINANCIAL AID ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

In accordance with the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, students must be making satisfactory academic progress ("SAP"), both in quality and quantity, to qualify for and continue to receive Title IV federal financial aid. The satisfactory academic progress standards for federal financial aid recipients at Valdosta State University are as follows:

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Qualitative: All undergraduate students are expected to maintain at least a 2.0 cumulative GPA for all courses taken at Valdosta State University, or which have been accepted for credit toward their program of study from a prior institution.

Quantitative: In addition to maintaining the specified grade point average, students receiving financial aid must complete their degree within an acceptable number of attempted hours and successfully complete a minimum percentage of credit hours each academic year.

To maintain financial aid eligibility at Valdosta State University, a student must complete his or her degree program by the time he or she has attempted 150% of the number of semester hours required to earn the degree. Examples: Students pursuing a degree that requires 120 semester hours may not receive financial aid after they have attempted 180 hours. If the degree requires 130 semester hours, students will be expected to have earned the degree after having attempted no more than 195 hours.

Students must successfully complete 67% of the courses for which they register at Valdosta State University or which have been accepted for credit toward their program of study from a prior institution. The grades of A, B, C, D, and S count as the successful completion of a course. The grades of F, W, WF, I, IP, U, NR, and V do not count as the successful completion of a course.

REMEDIAL COURSE WORK

No student may receive financial aid for more than 30 hours of remedial course work, which includes all College Preparatory Curriculum deficiencies and developmental courses.

MONITORING OF SATISFACTORY PROGRESS

All quantitative and qualitative academic requirements will be checked at the end of each semester and at the time the student applies for financial aid. Students who are found to be in violation of the 2.0 GPA rule and the 67% completion pace requirements will be placed on warning and receive a warning letter notifying them that they have one semester to graduate or come into compliance with all SAP requirements. Students who reach the maximum time frame or do not come into compliance with the 2.0 GPA and 67% completion pace requirements within one semester of being placed on warning will have their financial aid terminated.

The grade point average of students who apply during the academic year, the limitation on the total hours attempted, and the 67% completion pace requirement will be checked as of the end of the last semester attended.

SUMMER SEMESTER

Courses taken during the summer are counted exactly the same as courses taken during any other semester.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Transfer students will be considered as incoming freshmen for the initial awarding and disbursement of financial aid until transcripts arrive and are evaluated. Only grades earned at Valdosta State University will be used to determine the grade point average for financial aid eligibility. Hours transferred to Valdosta State University will be counted as total hours attempted for the maximum time frame.

REPEATED COURSES, REMEDIAL COURSES, WITHDRAWALS, AND INCOMPLETES

Students should be careful in repeating courses, as all attempts at a course are counted in the maximum hours allowed to obtain a degree. Students are also reminded that withdrawing from a course does not count as successful completion and does not count in the required 67% completion rate. Incompletes also do not count as the successful completion of a course, and excessive incompletes can result in the termination of financial aid. Students can receive financial aid for no more than 30 hours of remedial course work (including remedial courses and courses to satisfy deficiencies in the College Preparatory Curriculum). However, students required to take remedial course work may have their eligibility extended by the number of remedial hours taken, up to a maximum of 30 hours.

REINSTATEMENT OF AID

Reinstatement of Financial Aid depends upon availability of financial aid funds at the time of the application for reinstatement and other factors: students who lose eligibility for financial aid for failure to maintain the required 2.0 GPA or the required 67% completion pace can apply for reinstatement of their financial aid once they are in compliance with all SAP requirements. Students terminated from aid for failure to exit Learning Support within 30 semester hours may apply for a reinstatement of aid after exiting Learning Support.

APPEALS

Students wishing to appeal may do so by filling out a Satisfactory Progress Petition and presenting it to the Office of Financial Aid, along with any supporting documentation. The Financial Aid staff may take into consideration illness, death in the immediate family, or any other extenuating circumstances. Students will be notified, in writing, of the decision. Students wishing to appeal the decision of the Office of Financial Aid may do so by writing to the Student Financial Aid Committee.

ACADEMIC RENEWAL

The U.S. Department of Education does not recognize academic amnesty or academic renewal in relation to financial aid satisfactory academic progress. VSU is required to include all courses and grades in evaluating a student's satisfactory academic progress. However, if there were special circumstances involved, VSU may be able to approve an academic appeal and place a student on probation or an academic plan.

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS RESULTING FROM ACADEMIC LOAD CHANGES

Financial aid recipients who have loans and reduce their academic load to below half-time may have a financial obligation to the University. The undergraduate half-time load is six hours; the graduate half-time load is five hours. Students receiving a Pell Grant who drop classes to reduce their academic load may also have a reduction in their Pell Grant and thus incur a financial obligation to the University.

Students who add classes through the appeal process after the announced Drop/Add dates may incur a financial obligation, which is due upon receipt of the approval of the added classes. Classes added and not paid for are subject to cancellation.

All these financial obligations are due within five working days after the processing of the load changes and are payable at the Bursary.