ENROLLMENT NOTICE:
STUDENTS CONVICTED OF POSSESSION OR SALE OF DRUGS & FEDERAL STUDENT AID

GENERAL INFORMATION

Federal Student Aid (Title IV) regulations require the College to distribute this information to all students upon enrollment as a courtesy announcement:

Conviction of selling or possessing drugs can affect a student's eligibility for federal student aid. During the completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the applicant must answer Question #23, which inquires about drug convictions. Failure to answer this question automatically renders the applicant ineligible for federal student aid.

Please note that convictions only count if they were for an offense that occurred during a period of enrollment for which the student was receiving Federal Student Aid—they do not count if the offense was not during such a period. Also, a conviction that was reversed, set aside, or removed from the student's record does not count, nor does one received when she was a juvenile, unless she was tried as an adult. Students convicted of a federal or state offense of selling or possessing illegal drugs that occurred while they were receiving federal student aid should still complete and submit the FAFSA because they may be eligible for federal aid, and even if they are not, they may be eligible for state or institutional aid.

The chart below illustrates the period of ineligibility for federal student aid, depending on whether the conviction was for sale or possession and whether the student had previous offenses. (A conviction for sale of drugs includes convictions for conspiring to sell drugs.)

	Possession of illegal drugs	Sale of illegal drugs
1st offense	1 year from date of conviction	2 years from date of conviction
2nd offense	2 years from date of conviction	Indefinite period
3+ offenses	Indefinite period	Indefinite period

If the student was convicted of both possessing and selling illegal drugs, and the periods of ineligibility are different, the student will be ineligible for the longer period. A student regains eligibility the day after the period of ineligibility ends or when he successfully completes a qualified drug rehabilitation program or passes two unannounced drug tests given by such a program. Further drug convictions will make him ineligible again.

Students denied eligibility for an indefinite period can regain it after successfully completing rehabilitation program (as described below), passing two unannounced drug tests from such a program, or if a conviction is reversed, set aside, or removed from the student's record so that fewer than two convictions for sale or three convictions for possession remain on the record. In such cases, the nature and dates of the remaining convictions will determine when the student regains eligibility. It is the student's responsibility to certify to the Financial Aid Office that she has successfully completed the rehabilitation program. When a student regains eligibility during the award year, Pell grant and Campus-based aid can be awarded for the current payment period (as determined by need) and Direct loans for the period of enrollment.

STANDARDS FOR A QUALIFIED DRUG REHABILITATION PROGRAM

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

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

The student may be required to document (A) completion of the qualified drug rehabilitation program and (B) prove that the program meets the definition of a qualified program. If requested, the student will remain ineligible for federal student aid until the Financial Aid Office receives and verifies this documentation.