

<p>FINANCIAL AID INSTRUCTION FOR STUDENTS GETTING MARRIED DURING THE SUMMER</p>

DO NOT complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as an unmarried student if you wish to be considered as a married student for financial aid purposes.

Federal regulations do not allow your marital status to be changed after the initial processing of the FAFSA. If you file as a dependent student you will remain a dependent student, and you will have to provide parental information.

- Complete the paper FAFSA or FAFSA worksheet as if you are already married. **Do not sign or date the FAFSA.** Estimate the asset section for you and your spouse to reflect the actual day you intend to sign the FAFSA.
- In the student income section of the FAFSA, *be sure to combine your adjusted gross income, your taxes paid, and all other information along with your future spouse's information, as if you have filed a joint tax return.* Remember to include both **your and your fiancé's** income earned from work and Title IV exclusions.
- Photocopy the completed (but unsigned) FAFSA or FAFSA Worksheet and **submit it to the Whitworth Financial Aid Office.** Attach a letter indicating your name, fiancé's name, and the date of your wedding. We can provide you with a *TENTATIVE* award based on the photocopied information. This will be sufficient in meeting the May 1 financial aid deadline.
- Electronically complete the FAFSA at www.fafsa.gov as soon as possible **after** your wedding. You will need your federal PIN to sign the document. If you do not have a PIN, you can obtain one at www.pin.ed.gov. Be sure to use the information you provided us when completing the FAFSA, but update the assets section.
- Be sure to make the proper name changes on legal documents as soon after you are married as possible, especially driver's license, and social security card.
- If you borrowed a Stafford Loan in the past and will be changing your name, please contact the holder(s) of the loan(s) and provide them with a copy of your marriage license. If you need lender names, or addresses, please contact our office for assistance.
- If you and your spouse will both be Whitworth students, please follow the steps outlined above for each person.

Please note: Federal law requires the financial aid office to have current FAFSA data for students in the work-study program. **Since you are unable to file the FAFSA until after you are married, we will not be able to award you summer work-study.** Please plan accordingly.

If you have any questions, be sure to call your financial aid advisor at 509.777.3215. **The above procedures apply only to Whitworth University.** Other schools may have different procedures.