

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Section Five

A. FEES AND COSTS

All fees are payable before the beginning of each semester, and registration is not complete until these fees have been paid. Payment must be made by cash, check, money order, or credit card (cash advance to which bank will add interest and service charge). Registration is complete for students paying by check when the check clears the bank.

FEES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE PRIOR TO EACH SEMESTER

Application Processing Fee - A fee of \$20 must accompany each application for admission to credit and Learning Support courses. This fee is not refundable and does not apply toward registration or matriculation fees. No application fee is required for non-credit continuing education and community service courses. Online applications have a fee of \$25.00.

Matriculation Tuition - The tuition for 12 or more semester hours of credit or Learning Support courses is \$875 in addition to other fees. For less than 12 hours it is \$73 per semester hour. The cost to audit a course is the same as the cost to enroll for credit.

Persons enrolling in a non-credit continuing education or community service course will pay tuition as appropriate for the course.

Online-Only Tuition - For Online-Only students the tuition for 12 or more semester hours of credit is \$1,188 in addition to other fees. For less than 12 hours, it is \$99 per semester hour in addition to other fees. Online-Only students are exempt from Non-Resident Fees and Athletic Fees. Students who do not attend any classes on the main campus or at any off-campus class site and who reside outside the College's 14 county service area, including out-of-state students, are eligible for classification as Online-Only.

Non-Resident Fee - Students who attend classes on the main campus - or at an off-campus site - and who are not residents of Georgia will be charged a non-resident fee tuition. Non-resident students registering for 12 or more credit hours will be charged a non-resident fee tuition of \$3,495 per semester in addition to all other fees. Those registering for less than 12 hours will pay \$292 per semester hour in addition to all other fees. Online-Only students residing outside the Darton College service area are exempt from the non-resident fee - regardless of Legal Residence Status. (See Definition of Legal Resident in this catalog.)

Late Registration Fee - Students who do not register and pay fees at the time designated for registration in the College Calendar will be charged a late registration fee of \$25.

Applied Music Fee - A fee of \$150 per semester is charged for each one hour per week of private instruction in voice, organ, piano, or orchestral instrument for regularly enrolled part-time or full-time college students. A fee of \$75 per semester is charged for each 1/2 hour per week of private instruction in voice, organ, piano or orchestral instrument.

Athletic Fee - Each student taking credit or Learning Support courses of 4 hours or more will be charged an athletic fee of \$72 per semester. This fee is used to defray expenses of intercollegiate athletics. Online-Only students residing outside the Darton College service area are exempt from the Athletic Fee.

Laboratory Fee - A fee of \$10 to \$25 is charged to each student registering for a laboratory science course in Biology, Chemistry, Physical Science or Physics. This fee pays for the required consumable supplies, equipment maintenance, and specimens used in performing laboratory experiments.

Physical Education Fees - A fee of \$10 is charged to each student registering for PHED 1137 Basic Sailing and PHED 1133 Scuba. A fee of \$15 is charged to each student registering for PHED 1219 Introduction to Fly Fishing. A fee of \$20 is charged to each student registering for PHED 1143 Beginning Snow Skiing and PHED 1199 Snow Skiing II, and PHED 1191 Challenge Course. A fee of \$30 is charged to each student registering for PHED 1171 Bowling I and PHED 1172 Bowling II; PHED 1185 In Line Skating; PHED 1191 Ropes Course Management; and PHED 1154 Challenge Course Facilitator Training.

Information Technology Fee – Students will pay a \$48.00 fee which allows them access to campus computers, the Internet, e-mail, and library collections online.

Student Services Fee - Each student taking credit or Learning Support courses of 4 hours or more will be charged a Student Services Fee of \$50 per semester. This fee is used to defray expenses of various student services such as the College publications, music organization awards, social events, and other college activities and services for students. Students taking 3 hours or less may pay the \$50 fee if they desire full participation in student activities and services. Online-Only students residing outside the Darton College service area are exempt from the Student Services Fee.

Student ID Cards - All students are entitled to a student ID card. ID cards are made in the Cavalier Arena during registration hours and during other designated times throughout the semester. In order to maintain and support the ID card system, a \$10 fee is charged each semester to all currently enrolled students. A \$20 replacement fee is charged for lost or stolen ID's.

Parking - Each student enrolled at the College who drives an automobile to the campus must obtain a parking permit at the time of registration. There is no charge for this permit, and the parking fee is included in the Student Services Fee.

Books - Costs for textbooks and supplies will vary depending upon the number and kinds of courses taken. Nursing, Dental Hygiene, Medical Laboratory Technology, and other Allied Health program students will incur higher costs in this area and should seek specific information from their academic advisors as to probable costs for books and supplies. Other full-time students may expect to pay approximately \$500 per semester for books and supplies.

Returned Check Fees - Students whose checks to the College are returned by their bank due to insufficient funds or other reasons will be charged a service charge of \$15 or 5 percent of check amount, whichever is larger.

Graduation Fee - Candidates for graduation will be charged a \$35 fee to cover costs related to graduation. This is payable at the time the student applies for graduation, usually at the beginning of the semester in which graduation is anticipated.

Transcripts - Students who have discharged all financial obligation to the College are entitled to receive, or to have transmitted, transcripts of their academic record. There will be no charge for the first transcript. A charge of \$1 will be made for each additional transcript.

Physical Education Uniforms - No uniform is required of students enrolled in physical education classes. Appropriate dress will be discussed for each class.

Financial Obligations to the College - All educational records will be withheld for students who have a financial obligation to the College. These records will be released when the obligation is satisfied. Default on repayment of a student loan is an example of such an obligation.

Other Fees - Information concerning special costs associated with certain career programs such as Allied Health and Nursing may be found in the description of such programs.

Background Check - To satisfy JCAHO requirements, clinical affiliates of the program may require students to undergo a criminal background check and drug screen before accepting them for clinical rotations. Darton College intends to use a company call Pre-Check to furnish the required background check. The cost for this background check will be \$48.50 and students will be assessed this fee in their first semester in the program. The student signs a release form allowing Pre-Check to conduct the check. Results of the check released to the program are limited to informing the program the applicant is "Clear." In the event the report is not "clear" the student will be able to access the report from PreCheck and may possibly be able to clear up the record. Clinical facilities may or may not accept students with prior convictions depending on the circumstances. The clinical facilities decision is final. In this event, the program will attempt to assign the student to a different facility. Students should realize it is very likely all clinical facilities will have similar requirement.

B. SENIOR CITIZENS

Eligible Georgia residents 62 years of age or older may enroll for resident academic credit on a "space available" basis without payment of matriculation fees. Supply fees, laboratory fees, or activity and athletic fees are the responsibility of the student.

C. REFUNDS

The refund amount for students withdrawing from the institution 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 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 point in time that the amount equals 60%.

Students that withdraw from the institution when the calculated percentage of completion is greater than 60%, are not entitled to a refund of any portion of institutional charges. No refunds are issued for dropping individual courses. **Refunds will be mailed weekly.**

No refunds will be made to students who withdraw from the College without filing official withdrawal forms with the Registrar's Office, nor will refunds be made to students dropping individual courses after the last day to register.

Refunds for textbooks are processed through the college bookstore in accordance with policies published in the Student Handbook.

D. DEFINITION OF LEGAL RESIDENT

For fee payment purposes, Darton College is required, under the guidelines established by the Regents of the University System of Georgia, to determine the residence classification of all applicants/students of Darton College. The following rules have been adopted by the Board of Regents for this purpose:

1. If a person is 18 years of age or older, he or she may register as a resident student only upon showing that he or she has been a legal resident of Georgia for a period of at least twelve months immediately preceding the date of registration.
No emancipated minor or person 18 years of age or older shall be deemed to have gained or acquired in-state resident status for fee purposes while attending any educational institution in this State, in the absence of a clear demonstration that he or she has in fact established legal residence in this State.
2. If a person is under 18 years of age, he or she may register as a resident only upon showing that his or her supporting parent or guardian has been a legal resident of Georgia for a period of at least twelve months immediately preceding the date of registration.

3. A full-time employee of the University System and his or her spouse and dependent children may register on the payment of resident fees.
4. Non-resident graduate students who hold teaching or research assistantships requiring at least one-third time service may register as students in the institution in which they are employed on payment of resident fees.
5. Full-time teachers in the public schools of Georgia and their dependent children may enroll as students in the University System institutions on the payment of resident fees.
6. All aliens shall be classified as non-resident students provided, however, that an alien who is living in this country under an immigration status permitting permanent residence shall have the same privilege of qualifying for resident status for fee purposes as a citizen of the United States.
7. Foreign students who attend institutions of the University System under financial sponsorship of civic or religious groups located in this State may be enrolled upon the payment of resident fees, provided the number of such foreign students in any one institution does not exceed the quota approved by the Board of Regents for that institution.
8. If the parents or legal guardian of a minor changes his or her legal residence to another state following a period of legal residence in Georgia, the minor may continue to take courses for a period of twelve consecutive months on the payment of resident fees. After the expiration of the twelve-month period, the student may continue registration only upon the payment of fees at the non-resident rate.
9. In the event that a legal resident of Georgia is appointed as guardian of a non-resident minor, such minor will not be permitted to register as a resident student until the expiration of one year from the date of court appointment, and then only upon proper showing that such appointment was not made to avoid payment of the non-resident fees.
10. Career Consular officers and their dependents who are citizens of the foreign nation which their Consular office represents and who are stationed and living in Georgia under orders of their respective governments shall be entitled to enroll in University institutions on payment of resident fees. This arrangement shall apply to those Consular officers whose nations operate on the principle of educational reciprocity with the United States.
11. Military personnel and their dependents stationed in Georgia and on active duty, except military personnel assigned to System institutions for educational purposes, shall pay the same fees assessed residents of Georgia.
12. A nonresident student whose parent, spouse, or legal guardian who has been a legal resident of Georgia for at least twelve consecutive months immediately preceding the date of registration, shall pay the same fees assessed residents of Georgia.

The burden of proof of residency status rests with the student. The college reserves the right to require the documentation it deems necessary when a student feels that circumstances have changed to warrant reconsideration of residency status. It shall be the student's responsibility to submit a petition for review. To be guaranteed residency consideration, the petition should be submitted prior to the beginning of the semester that residency is requested.

13. Recently Separated Military Service Personnel – Members of a uniformed military service of the United States who, within twelve 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.

E. APPEAL OF RESIDENCY CLASSIFICATION

Students have the right to appeal their residency classification. Such an appeal must state the nature of the grievance and the desired outcome in writing and must be directed to the President of the College.

F. STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

Darton College offers a variety of financial aid programs which include grants, scholarships, loans and employment opportunities. To be considered for any type of financial aid, an applicant must (1) be admitted as a regular student and (2) complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA.) Financial aid awards are made on a rolling basis throughout the year. Students must re-apply each year to determine continued eligibility.

FEDERAL & STATE FINANCIAL AID

Federal Pell Grant - Largest federal aid program; based on need.

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) - Limited funds for students with exceptional need.

Federal Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG) – Additional funds available to PELL eligible students beginning with 2005 high school college prep graduates.

Federal Work-Study (FWS) - Opportunity to earn financial aid through work; based on need. To be considered for FWS, students should apply through the Career Development Center.

Federal Stafford Student Loans -

Subsidized loans – based on need; government pays interest while student is in school, during six months after student stops attending, and during periods of authorized deferment.

Unsubsidized loans – available to all students regardless of need; student is responsible for all interest which accrues during in-school, grace and deferment periods.

Federal Plus Loans - Parent loan.

Hope Accel Program - Available to high school students enrolled in college credit courses.

Hope Scholarship Program - Available to degree-seeking students with 3.0 or higher GPA.

Hope Grant Program - Available to certificate-seeking students.

Service Cancelable Loan Program - Repayable by approved service in a particular field annually identified by the Georgia Legislature as a "critical need."

STANDARDS OF PROGRESS

To receive financial aid, the successful student must make both qualitative and quantitative progress each term. At Darton College, Satisfactory Academic Progress has several components which are outlined in detail in the Student Handbook. The Standards of Progress policy is mailed to each student with the financial aid Award Letter.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Through the efforts of the Darton College Foundation, funding is available for eligible students through scholarships. To be considered for a scholarship, recipients must apply for financial aid and be admitted as a regular student. Additional requirements may include academic excellence, enrollment in specific fields of study, special talent in the arts, and financial need.

Scholarship applications are available from the Office of Financial Aid, Bldg A, Room 198. The priority deadline is April 1.

VETERANS AFFAIRS

Students who are eligible for benefits should complete the appropriate applications available in the Office of the Registrar located in Bldg. A, Room 160. Applications, supporting documents (i.e., DD-214), and enrollment verifications are forwarded to the V.A. Regional Office in Atlanta for processing of benefits.

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS

Federal law recognizes the student social security number as personally identifiable information. However, the law allows the University System of Georgia to request and use this information according to federal and state guidelines. Your social security number is required when you apply for financial aid, for educational tax benefits and employment, and it may be required for other purposes. Your social security number may be disclosed only under certain circumstances, including the following:

- to other institutional officials
- to representatives of state and local educational authorities
- in connection with financial aid
- for research purposes to improve instruction
- to collection agents in connection with university-related business
- pursuant to an order from a court of law
- other circumstances as required by state or federal law