

SCHOLARSHIP CONNECTIONS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

NEW STAFF

REMINDERS

SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH ENGINE

SARAS HISTORY

FINANCIAL AID CORNER

SFS PARTNER PORTAL

PARTNER LIBRARY

MEET OUR NEW STAFF!

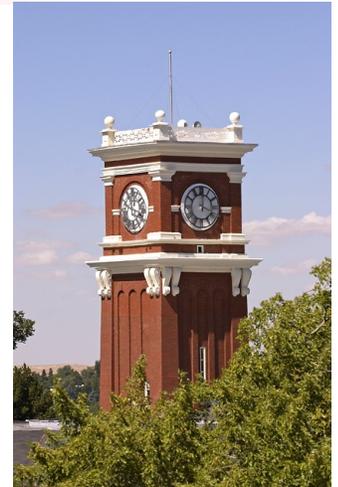


Meet Tara Williams!

Tara is one of our new SFS Advisors, specializing in College and Departmental Scholarship processing, and assisting with SARAS. Tara moved from Everett, WA in late November. She has previous experience with financial aid.

Meet Kalyn Spens!

Kalyn is also a new SFS Advisor, specializing in outside scholarship processing, and maintaining our new Scholarship Search Engine! Kalyn came to us with a strong commitment to student success from the University of Idaho Bookstore in late October.



DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **April 27th**—Last day to submit a departmental scholarship for guaranteed processing by the end of spring
- **May 4th**—Last day of spring semester.
- **August 1st**—priority deadline for fall scholarships to be submitted.

SCHOLARSHIP REMINDERS!

Please have all **spring Departmental Scholarship or Waiver Authorizations** submitted for processing in SARAS by April 27th. Why so early? After this date, we can no longer create new loans for students, if an adjustment to their current financial aid package is necessary. To allow for maximum funding opportunities, please have

them submitted by 4/27.

If you are awarding a surprise scholarship to a student during an awards banquet, you cannot pick up the actual check to present to a student. You will need to create a “presentation check” or certificate instead.

If you are submitting a Scholarship Authorization for

Summer 2018, please remember that summer is considered a “trailer” of the previous year, and choose “2017-18” for the awarding year.

You can submit your SARAS authorizations NOW for 2018-2019!

SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH ENGINE

Don't miss out on promoting your college and departmental scholarships through our online scholarship search engine! Students can filter through various options to look for both WSU and non-WSU funded scholarship opportunities. If you would like to include your College or Departments scholarship, please send an email to scholarships@wsu.edu, and we'll be happy to send you the template for submission.

A LITTLE SARAS HISTORY

The WSU Scholarships And Resources Authorizations Site was created in 2013, primarily out of a need to reduce the thousands of paper authorizations received by our office each year for processing scholarships and waivers, along with increased security for student information. The original version of SARAS allowed for access to submit individual or batch authorizations via spreadsheets. However, it quickly became apparent that we needed a more secure and enhanced version. The current SARAS allows us to give permissions to multiple SFS processing databases at the same time, electronic requests for item types, and online recordkeeping with multiple filter option, amongst other things. Departments did lose the ability to upload a batch of students at one time, but during our feedback sessions before going live decided that the new features made it easy enough to add authorizations individually. However, we continue to make improvements, so please keep providing feedback on this system! Suggestions may be emailed to scholarships@wsu.edu.

SFS PARTNER PORTAL LIBRARY

Have you had a chance to check out our Partner Library in the SFS Partner Portal? In the Library, we've not only provided resources for using SARAS and Scholarship Manager but a few other items that you might find useful for helping you to award your college and departmental scholarships. This includes our Payment Determination Flow Chart to help you determine whether funding should be considered a scholarship or a business expense, and the university's policy on Initiative 200. We are continuously updating this section, so please check back on it frequently.

STUDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES

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financialaid@wsu.edu

scholarships@wsu.edu



FINANCIAL AID CORNER

Did you know?

- ◇ We're already packaging financial aid for 2018-2019!
- ◇ We communicate with students via their WSU email every step of the way: if we need documentation, when their aid package is ready, how to complete the loan process, etc. (We pride ourselves on our extensive communication process!)
- ◇ If a student wants to use financial aid for summer, they need to have completed the 2017-18 FAFSA, and be enrolled in at least 6 credits (undergraduates) or 5 credits (graduates).
- ◇ Students will be notified of work-study eligibility in the middle of April this year!