

55% of MSU students will receive financial aid

Students at Michigan State University will receive between \$40 million and \$45 million in financial aid this coming school year.

About 55 percent of the 45,000 students on campus will receive some kind of financial aid, whether it's a short term loan which must be repaid in a few months or a long term loan which doesn't have to be repaid until the student graduates.

Ronald L. Roderick, acting director of financial aid, said students can get help paying their school bills through four basic sources: grants, scholarships, loans and jobs, or a combination of sources. The money comes from private donors, the federal government, the state and MSU.

And this year students seem to need more help than ever, says Roderick. In one program alone — the Michigan Guaranteed Student Loan — applications are up 125 percent over last year, and they're coming in now at the rate of 300 a day.

"The economy and the layoffs, especially in Michigan, have made a tremendous impact on the number of students who will need and depend on aid

to attend school this coming year," said Roderick.

However, Roderick said that by using a number of alternatives, including a loan, a willingness to work part time and cutting back on personal expenses, there is a means for students to go to school.

One program which has helped many students is the Guaranteed Student Loan, which provides a maximum of \$2,500 in a single year. Students must start repaying the loan nine months after they graduate, including 7 percent simple interest.

The financial requirements to prove need are not as strict as in other types of loans, making it attractive to many students, said Roderick.

loans through their hometown banks. If they are turned down, they can apply to the state through the State Direct Student Loan Program at the state Department of Education and then to Michigan State.

When parents are no longer able to help out with school costs, students often turn to the Guaranteed Student Loan program for help, said Roderick, and that seems to be what's happening at MSU.

Going to school this year will cost the average student \$4,050, including \$705 for personal expenses — everything from toothpaste to travel home.

There have been two cutbacks in student grant and loan programs this year.

Oakway gets Hudson grant

Oakway Symphony Society will use a \$750 grant from the J.L. Hudson Co. to help cover expenses of its 1981 Young Artists Competition.

The third annual competition will be open to pianists under age 25 and singers under 30 as of next April 5, according to society manager Neida DiBiasi.

The competition will take place Feb. 5, and winners will perform with the Oakway Symphony Orchestra at its April 5 concert. Entry information is available from the orchestra at Box

171, Farmington 48024. It is open to residents of Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Livingston, Monroe and St. Clair counties.

Joseph P. Bianco Jr., Hudson's vice president for civic and governmental affairs, said the Detroit-based retailer annually allocates 5 percent of pre-tax profits to support charitable, cultural and nonprofit organizations. This year it will make 450 grants. The company's giving dates back to its founding in the 1880s.

What's my line?

The real L. Brooks Patterson, Oakland County prosecutor, entered and signed in with this comic sweatshirt at the state Republican Convention. It refers to a mental patient who won the GOP nomination for Congress in the 17th District running under the name of L. Patterson.



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