

**Diablo Valley College**  
Financial Aid Office  
*Student Loan Policy*

In an attempt to decrease the number of student loan defaults and lower the level of student loan indebtedness, Diablo Valley College (DVC) is implementing the following student loan policy:

**DIABLO VALLEY COLLEGE STUDENT LOAN PHILOSOPHY**

While DVC believes that student loans are an integral part of the federal aid programs, we are deeply concerned about student loan default and high student loan indebtedness. Therefore, whenever possible, we will encourage students to select work-study or off-campus employment instead of student loans. In addition, we will encourage students to borrow as little as possible at the community college level – where educational costs are lower than at four-year colleges and universities.

**LOAN APPLICATION: CASE-BY-CASE**

DVC will now require loan applicants to submit a written request for student loans. Loan requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis and a year-by-year basis. Research has indicated that a student's academic progress is an indicator of their ability to repay their loans, and this will play a substantial part in the determination of the loan request. In some cases, the student's request may be approved, but the amount of the loan may be reduced.

**LOAN APPROVALS**

Students whose loan requests are approved will be sent a letter and a loan application. The letter will direct the student to attend a loan entrance interview. At the loan entrance interview, a Lender Representative will provide the student with essential repayment and deferment information regarding the loan. In addition, a financial aid staff member will accept the student's completed loan application. The loan application will then be certified by the DVC Financial Aid Office and sent to the lender.

**LOAN EXIT INTERVIEWS**

In order to ensure that student borrowers are fully informed on loan repayment and deferment issues, loan recipients will be required to have a loan exit interview each semester that they remain enrolled at DVC.

**ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES**

1. Students, whose loan requests for a Stafford Loan are approved for the academic year in the Fall Term and then go on Financial Aid Probation for the Spring Term (before their loan applications are certified), will not have loan applications certified. They will need to resubmit a "Student Loan Request Form."
2. *First time* Stafford Loan borrowers in the *first year* of their academic program must wait 30 days into their first semester to receive their first check. In addition, they will be required to have a special "first time borrower" loan information meeting with the Director of Financial Aid before the first check will be released.
3. Students at DVC who have accumulated \$10,000 or more in student loans will be required to have an intervention session with the Director of Financial Aid.