Student athletic scholarships are awarded by the Athletic Department to varsity athletes by LMU coaches in compliance with the policies and procedures of the university, the West Coast Conference, and the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). To view a listing of the intercollegiate sports offered at LMU, please visit the Athletic Department Website: http://www.lmulions.com/

Financial Aid Policy for Athletics: The Financial Aid Office is responsible for notifying student-athletes of their athletic awards and awarding other federal, state and institutional financial assistance. The Financial Aid Office is also responsible for notifying student-athletes of athletic award renewal offers and non-renewal notices. The Financial Aid Office coordinates the athletic appeals processes regarding institutional financial aid issues, non-renewals, violations of NCAA Rules, and denial of transfer releases.

**Athletic Grant-In-Aid Awarding**

Athletic awards can be full grant-in-aid that covers the costs of tuition, fees, books, and room and board or partial grant-in-aid for a fixed dollar amount; a specific charge such as tuition and fees; or a percentage of a grant-in-aid.

Each team is assigned a scholarship limit by the NCAA based on the total number of full grant-in-aid awards the sport is allowed to offer during the academic year. The head coach decides how to distribute the funds among the student athletes. All Athletic Grant-in-Aid or Scholarships awarded by the University based on athletic ability are awarded for a period of no longer than one year per NCAA Rules.

Full Grant-In-Aid athletic awards, as determined by the Athletic Department, will cover the following:

- Tuition and Mandatory Fees
- Required Course Fees
- Room and Board
- Course Related Books

It is important to note that a full athletic grant-in-aid value does not include the component of transportation and miscellaneous expenses which the institutional cost of attendance does include.
Therefore, a student receiving a full athletic award may receive certain types of financial aid to fill the gap. If you would like to be considered for additional funding, please complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). By completing this free form you will be considered for federal and state student grants, work-study, and loans. Partial grant-in-aid athletes are also encouraged to complete the FAFSA to be considered for funding to help supplement their athletic award.

Room and Board

If you reside on campus and receive full grant-in-aid or partial grant-in-aid directed for room and board, the Financial Aid Office will apply the room and board portion of your athletic scholarship for payment of housing/meal plan charges in your University student account. If you reside off campus, you will receive four stipend payments intended for your board and housing throughout each semester. A direct deposit refund will be sent to the bank account you have set up for direct deposit. The Office of Student Financial Services is responsible for processing monthly stipends for student-athletes.

Summer Athletic Grant-in-Aid Awarding

There is a limited budget available for Summer School Scholarships for student-athletes. Student-athletes must meet eligibility criteria for consideration for assistance. Student-athletes interested in applying for these funds must complete the Summer School Scholarship Application. Applications are available in the Associate Athletic Director of Business Affairs Office and must be completed and returned by February 15th to be given consideration for the award. These awards will be approved based on available funding, and approved awards may be lower than the requested amount. Student-athletes will be notified by the Associate Athletic Director of Business Affairs by April 1st if they have been selected. Once approved, the Associate AD for Business Affairs will work with the head coach, student-athlete, and the Financial Aid Office to finalize required paperwork and ensure compliance with NCAA rules. Student-athletes attending summer school are also encouraged to apply for Summer Financial Aid through the Financial Aid Office for consideration for Federal Grants, Loans, and Work Study.

Institutional Merit Scholarships

Institutional scholarships must be monitored to determine how they might impact individual and team count. A “counter” is an individual who is receiving institutional financial aid that is countable against the aid limitations in a sport. If you have been notified that you are the recipient of an institutional scholarship, please note that the Athletic Compliance Staff will also be notified and will confirm your eligibility for receiving such an award before it is disbursed.
You will be notified if the Athletic Compliance Staff has determined you are not eligible for an institutional scholarship per NCAA rules and regulations.

Endowed Scholarships

There is a limited budget available for several Athletics Endowed Scholarships including the Olivar, Weber, Buckley, and Werner Endowment Scholarships. Head Coaches will nominate eligible student athletes who meet the criteria for these awards by March 30th. Student-athletes who are selected for these awards will be notified by the Associate Athletics Director of Business by April 15th.

Outside Scholarships

There are very specific guidelines set by the NCAA regarding outside scholarships and how they are to be reported. If you have been notified that you are the recipient of ANY kind of outside scholarship, it is essential that you report it to the Athletic Compliance Staff immediately. It is important that you not accept any type of award until the Compliance Staff in the Athletic Department can determine how it may affect your individual financial aid limits and the team scholarship limits. Failure to report an outside scholarship could jeopardize your NCAA eligibility.

Renewal/Non-Renewal

The Financial Aid Office is responsible for communicating renewal or non-renewal of athletic aid to students on or before July 1 prior to the academic year in which it is to be effective. Per NCAA rules, no athletic grant-in-aid may be awarded in excess of 1 academic year and may be reduced or canceled during the period of the award if the recipient:

1. Renders him/herself ineligible
2. Fraudulently misrepresents any information on an application, letter of intent, or financial aid agreement
3. Engages in serious misconduct warranting substantial disciplinary penalty; OR
4. Voluntarily withdraws from a sport for personal reasons

Renewal/Non-renewal notices will be sent to the student’s permanent address on file with the University Registrar. Students who receive notice of the reduction, cancellation, or non-renewal of his/her athletic aid have the right to appeal this decision.

Athletic Award Appeals

A student who wishes to appeal the reduction, cancellation or non-renewal of his or her athletic aid will submit a written appeal to the Financial Aid Office within 10 calendar days from the
date the letter was sent. Notice of appeal by the student-athlete must be in writing and include the Financial Aid Athletic Appeal Forms. These documents may be received by mail, e-mail or fax. The Financial Aid Office notifies the Athletic Business and Compliance Officers that an appeal has been received. The Business and Compliance Officers will communicate the appeal request to the Head Coach who must submit a written statement to the Financial Aid Office explaining why the athletic aid has been cancelled or reduced. All appropriate documentation should be submitted within 15 calendar days. The Director of Financial Aid will review the information submitted by both the student and the Head Coach and determine whether or not a hearing is appropriate. If the Director of Financial Aid finds that there are grounds to have a hearing, one will be scheduled at the earliest convenience for all parties. Documentation outlining the specific hearing procedures will be provided to the student athlete and Head Coach prior to the scheduling of the hearing. Should the student choose to proceed with the hearing, the student athlete, Head Coach, and two witnesses for each party will be offered the opportunity to present their cases to the Athletic Appeals Committee.

The LMU Athletic Appeals Committee is comprised of the following members:

1. Director Financial Aid (Committee Chair)
2. Student Representative – Student Athlete Advisory Council (SAAC)
3. Faculty Athletic Representative
4. University Bursar
5. Admissions Representative
6. LMU Athletic Department Compliance Officer – (non-voting)
7. Hearing Recorder/Scribe (Financial Aid Athletic Coordinator) – (non-voting)

At the conclusion of the hearing, the appeals committee chair will convene the committee members to review the statements made by each party. Eligible members of the committee will vote on a decision. The Financial Aid Athletic Coordinator will send both the student-athlete and the head coach a written copy of the committee’s decision with 5 working days after the hearing. The committee’s decision is final.

**Employment**

Student-Athlete’s are permitted to earn legitimate employment income during semester or term time, on-or-off campus under certain conditions. The student-athlete MUST inform the Athletic Compliance Officer if they intend to engage in ANY TYPE of employment (this includes on campus work study, the resident assistant program, and off campus work). Student-Athlete’s must complete an employment approval form through the Athletic Compliance Office prior to engaging in work activities, and must abide by all NCAA rules regarding employment.
Student-Athlete Opportunity Fund

The NCAA has created a fund that is dispersed to LMU each year to assist student-athletes with demonstrated and verifiable special needs. Student-athletes must meet specific criteria in order to be eligible for funding. Funds are limited and are not guaranteed to be awarded to every student-athlete who meets the eligibility criteria for funding. Contact your head coach for more information. Funds are distributed by the Assistant Athletic Director for Compliance during the Fall semester of each academic year.

Helpful Links:

LMU Lions: http://www.lmulions.com/


NCAA Home: http://www.ncaa.org

West Coast Conference: http://www.wccsports.com/