

## **SOUTHERN MISSEs You - Frequently Asked Questions (Check back for answers to additional FAQs)**

### **Why should I register now?**

The sooner you register, the better your selection of both classes and class schedules. You can register through August 19 without any late fee. If you register between August 20 and August 29, there is a \$50 late fee

### **If I register now, when will I have to pay tuition and fees?**

A billing and payment schedule is posted at <http://www.usm.edu/bizserv/billingsched.htm> . A minimum payment is due by August 18.

### **Can I register if I owe a balance?**

Yes, you can register as long as the balance is not an old amount in collections or write off. This is indicated by an "ALL" services hold on your account. If you have an "ALL" hold, please contact Business Services in Hattiesburg (at 601.266.4137) or on the Gulf Coast (at 228.865.4520).

### **Will I be charged a \$100 late fee if I don't pay my minimum amount due by the due date (August 18th)?**

You will not be charged the \$100 late payment fee unless you owe charges from the prior semester (Spring 2008 or Summer 2008). There is no late fee on new registration charges; however, your classes may be dropped at a later date if the minimum is not paid.

### **I cannot register because I have a Perkins Hold on my account. What do I need to do?**

Please contact the Perkins Loan Department at 601.266.5921 or 601.266.4139. It may be due to missing exit paperwork or simply fixed by changing your status to "in school."

### **When I try to register, it says I have the following hold: "Do Not Release Transcript - Balance Due." What do I do?**

This hold will not prevent you from registering. Please continue with your registration process.

### **I need financial aid. Where do I start?**

The first step in applying for federal financial aid is filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov> . Remember, you will need a copy of your parents' tax returns from the previous year to complete this process.

Once you complete the FAFSA, you can have it sent electronically to The University of Southern Mississippi's Office of Financial Aid to determine if you qualify for federal grants or federal student loans. The priority deadline for applying for federal financial aid is March 15 of each year, but aid may still be available after that date.

For more information, visit the Southern Miss financial aid web site at <http://www.usm.edu/financialaid> or the Office of Financial Aid and Veterans Affairs (on the Gulf Coast) at <http://www.usm.edu/gc/gcfinancialaid/index.html>.

**I don't know what classes to take.**

Contact an advisor in your department. Telephone numbers for departments are listed at <http://www.usm.edu/itech/telephoneServices/images/USMQuickRefGuide.pdf>. If you are unsure of a major, contact an advisor in the Division of Undergraduate Studies at 601.266.5003 or online at <http://www.usm.edu/undergradstudies/>.

A listing of classes for the Fall 2008 semester is available online at [http://www.usm.edu/registrar/class\\_schedule\\_guide/index.php](http://www.usm.edu/registrar/class_schedule_guide/index.php).

**I cannot register through SOAR.**

Start with your department to see if they can solve the problem. You can also contact the Office of the Registrar in Hattiesburg (at 601.266.5006 or [registrar@usm.edu](mailto:registrar@usm.edu)) or the Department of Customer Service on the Gulf Coast (at 228.865.4565).