



## NEW DEADLINE TO PAY FOR CLASSES Important Change Pending

March 13, 2017

Dear West Students,

The Los Angeles Community College District campuses, of which West is a part, is changing the practice of allowing students to wait until near the end of a semester to pay for classes.

Instead, **payment will be due prior to the start of a semester, as early as August 1<sup>st</sup> effective for Fall 2017.** Failure to pay fees prior to the start of the semester will result in the student being dropped from classes.

**TAKE ACTION:** Be prepared for this change. Submit your FAFSA now to ensure that you receive the maximum award for which you are eligible and that you receive it by the time school starts. Completion of the FAFSA can also qualify you for a tuition fee waiver.

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### **WHEN WOULD THIS OCCUR?**

The new policy is scheduled to take effect for Fall 2017 at all nine LACCD colleges (WLAC, ELAC, LACC, LAHC, LAMC, LAPC, LASW, LATTTC, LAVC).

### **HOW WILL I KNOW FOR SURE IF THIS NEW POLICY IS IMPLEMENTED?**

You will receive notices via your LACCD student email and it will be posted in several places on the WLAC web site.

### **WHAT IF MY FINANCIAL AID IS NOT AVAILABLE BEFORE THE 1<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF CLASSES?**

The Financial Aid Office will flag the records of students who file their FAFSA prior to August 1st who are likely to receive some financial aid. The payment deadline for those students will be extended to the expected date of the receipt of their financial aid awards. Students who file the FAFSA after August 1st will be asked to pay their fees prior to the start of the semester then wait for reimbursement from their financial aid award when it arrives.

*NOTE: If a student does not receive the award expected, he/she must still pay the fee by the extended deadline or be dropped from classes.*

### **WILL THERE BE A PAYMENT PLAN?**

LACCD is considering the implementation of a payment plan. When a decision and details are ready, information will be emailed to you and posted on the WLAC web site.

### **WHAT IF I ADD A CLASS AFTER THE 1<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF CLASSES?**

Students may continue to add classes after the semester has begun. The fees for the added classes will be due within a few days of adding the course.

### **WHY WOULD THIS CHANGE BE MADE?**

Actually, full payment of fees prior to the start of the semester is common at community colleges around the country. LACCD would be joining the more standard business practice and becoming more compliant with strong accounting and accreditation recommendations.