

April 1, 2014

Dear Student,

The Financial Aid Offices at El Camino College and El Camino College Compton Center would like to inform you of important updates for the 2014-2015 Award Year.

### **Higher One**

El Camino College and El Camino College Compton Center have entered into contract with Higher One to disburse federal student aid for the 2014-2015 Academic Year. Students will have three options to receive their financial aid.

#### **1. ECC Debit Card**

Students who have been awarded financial aid will automatically be sent an ECC Debit Card via the U.S. Postal Service. The ECC Debit Card allows for financial aid funds to become available the same business day disbursements are made. Students may utilize the on-campus ATMs free of charge at both El Camino College and El Camino College Compton Center. ECC Debit Cards may be used anywhere MasterCard® is accepted. Students are advised to review the fee schedule which is available on Higher One's banking website at <https://www.higheroneaccount.com/studentaccount/feeschedules.do> to avoid paying unnecessary fees. Students may be asked to verify their identity, in accordance with the USA PATRIOT Act, within 21 days of activating their ECC Debit Card. Students must select this option by activating their ECC Debit Card at [www.ECCDebitCard.com](http://www.ECCDebitCard.com).

#### **2. Direct Deposit**

Students may request to have their financial aid disbursements deposited into an existing bank account of their choosing. Financial aid funds become available to the student two (2) to three (3) business days after disbursements are made. Students are required to provide a bank account and routing number then mail a signature page to Higher One prior to the first direct deposit. Students must select this option at [www.ECCDebitCard.com](http://www.ECCDebitCard.com).

#### **3. Paper Check**

Students may request to receive a paper check. Checks are mailed via the U.S. Postal Service and usually arrive five (5) to seven (7) business days after disbursements are made. Students must ensure that El Camino College or El Camino College Compton Center has their correct mailing address on-file to avoid delays. Students must select this option at [www.ECCDebitCard.com](http://www.ECCDebitCard.com).

For more information on Higher One, please visit the El Camino College Financial Aid Office webpage at <http://www.elcamino.edu/student-services/fao/> or the El Camino College Compton Center Financial Aid Office webpage at <http://www.compton.edu/student-services/financialaid/index.aspx>.

### **Consortium Agreements**

El Camino College and El Camino College Compton Center will no longer sign consortium agreements for students concurrently enrolled at other colleges or universities either as a primary or secondary institution. Students who need to verify their enrollment status at El Camino College or El Camino College Compton Center must request an Enrollment Verification from the Admissions & Records Office.

## **Financial Aid Shopping Sheet**

El Camino College and El Camino College Compton Center will be introducing the Financial Aid Shopping Sheet in order to provide prospective and current students with a financial aid award letter that will facilitate the comparison with award letters issued by other colleges and universities that have adopted the Financial Aid Shopping Sheet provided by the U.S. Department of Education.

## **Financial Aid Priority Deadline**

El Camino College and El Camino College Compton Center have instituted a financial aid priority deadline of June 1, 2014, for the Fall Semester 2014. Students that file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), submit all required documentation to the Financial Aid Office by June 1<sup>st</sup> and meet all eligibility requirements will be disbursed financial aid during the first week of the fall semester. Students who apply or submit their documentation after June 1<sup>st</sup> will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis.

## **Financial Aid Television**

El Camino College and El Camino College Compton Center have posted Financial Aid Television (FATV) on their Financial Aid Office webpages. FATV are free online videos that highlight financial aid information for prospective and current students. Specific emphasis is given on how to apply for financial aid, maintaining financial aid eligibility, grants, scholarships, financial aid for military veterans, preventing identity theft, and financial literacy.

## **Financial Aid Online Fillable Forms**

El Camino College and El Camino College Compton Center Financial Aid Offices have posted fillable online forms on their webpages. Most financial aid documentation may now be typed utilizing a computer with Internet access. All forms must be printed, signed, dated, and accompanied by appropriate documentation for submission to the Financial Aid Office. The fillable online forms may be accessed by visiting the Financial Aid Office webpage at <http://www.elcamino.edu/student-services/fao/>. Adobe Acrobat software is required to utilize the fillable online forms. The software may be downloaded free of charge from [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com).

## **Financial Aid Office Computer Lab**

El Camino College and El Camino College Compton Center have fully functioning computer labs with printers to allow students to print financial aid documentation free of charge for submission to the Financial Aid Office. The computer labs are staffed with financial aid personnel and Student Ambassadors who are available to assist with financial aid related matters. Please see posted office signage or visit the Financial Aid Office webpages to learn of the hours of operation.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact or visit the Financial Aid Office at El Camino College or El Camino College Compton Center.

Sincerely,

Financial Aid Offices  
El Camino College & El Camino College Compton Center