Policy Name: Institutional Requirements

Purpose: This document contains the Office of Financial Aid’s current policies and procedures regarding its institutional definitions and administrative capability related to management of the Federal Title IV programs and other forms of student financial assistance.

Disclaimer: This policy is subject to change, without notice, in order to comply with administrative and regulatory requirements. All policies and procedures below are in accordance with Title 34; Subtitle B; Chapter VI; Part 668 of the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations (eCFR).

Policy Contents:

1.0 Institutional Mission
1.1 Institutional Facts
1.2 Map of the University of Mississippi Campuses
1.3 Federal Title IV Aid Eligibility
1.4 Office of Financial Aid Mission Statement
1.5 Financial Aid Facts
1.6 Approval to Participate in the Federal Title IV Programs
1.7 Current Institutional Accreditation
1.8 Financial Aid Organizational Chart

Definitions and Terms:

DOE – Department of Education
FAFSA- Free Application for Federal Student Aid
OFA – Office of Financial Aid
UM – University of Mississippi
Part 1.0 Institutional Mission

Name of Institution: The University of Mississippi    DOE ID: 002440-00

_The University of Mississippi’s mission is to create, evaluate, share, and apply knowledge in a free, open, and inclusive environment of intellectual inquiry._

_Building upon a distinguished foundation in the liberal arts, the state's oldest university serves the people of Mississippi and the world through a breadth of academic, research, and professional programs._

_UM provides an academic experience that emphasizes critical thinking; encourages intellectual depth and creativity; challenges and inspires a diverse community of undergraduate, graduate, and professional students; provides enriching opportunities outside the classroom; supports lifelong learning; and develops a sense of global responsibility._

Part 1.1 Institutional Facts

Chartered by the Mississippi Legislature in 1848, UM is a public, comprehensive, research institution committed to the creation, dissemination, and application of knowledge through a variety of undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs as well as public service activities. Also known affectionately as “Ole Miss”, the University was established in Oxford, MS, as a liberal arts institution. It now offers degree programs in the College of Liberal Arts and nine professional schools: School of Accountancy, School of Applied Sciences, School of Business Administration, School of Education, School of Engineering, Graduate School, School of Journalism and New Media, School of Law, and School of Pharmacy.

Today, the University also has 5 branch campuses. The Medical Center in Jackson houses schools of Medicine, Nursing, Health Related Professions, Dentistry, and Graduate Studies in the Health Sciences, and the University Hospitals and Health System. The other satellites are all within 70 miles of the Oxford campus: Tupelo, DeSoto County, Booneville, and Grenada. They work in conjunction with area community college partners to help students complete their college degree in bachelor's and master's degree programs. Junior, senior, and graduate-level college coursework is offered through day, evening, and online courses.

The University’s homepage is located at [www.olemiss.edu](http://www.olemiss.edu).

Federal regulations require universities to make information available to the public concerning each institution’s academic programs, retention and graduation rates, crime reports, student record privacy policies, costs of attendance, financial aid procedures, diversity statistics, and other important data. These “Student Consumer Information” disclosures are located at [www.olemiss.edu/info/disclosures/](http://www.olemiss.edu/info/disclosures/).
The Medical Center in Jackson has its own financial aid office, which is separately administered. For purposes of this document, the statistics and policies referenced below will apply to all campuses except the Medical Center.
Part 1.3 Federal Title IV Aid Eligibility

As a public university, UM qualifies as an “eligible institution of higher learning” for purposes of awarding Federal Title IV aid. It is authorized by the State of Mississippi to operate postsecondary educational programs. As required, the state has processes in place for reviewing and acting on complaints concerning the schools under its jurisdiction. (For more information on the complaint options, refer to the Student Consumer Information Disclosures website at [http://www.olemiss.edu/info/disclosures/](http://www.olemiss.edu/info/disclosures/).

Students who receive federal financial assistance must be degree-seeking at UM. (The UM Medical Center is the only campus approved to offer certificate programs for purposes of federal aid.) All academic degrees are offered through credit hour programs (no clock hour programs).

The academic calendar is comprised of semester-based standard terms, with a minimum of 30 weeks of instructional time (which include final examinations). The OFA defines the award year as comprised of: Fall (Fall Semester, Fall 1 mini-session, and Fall 2 mini-session) and Spring (Winter intersession, Spring Semester, Spring 1 mini-session, and Spring 2 mini-session). Summer is considered a trailer to the award year. It is a combined term that includes May intersession, First Summer mini-session, Full Summer mini-session, Second Summer mini-session, and August intersession. For more information about the academic calendar, please refer to the Office of the Registrars website at [http://registrar.olemiss.edu/academic-calendar-menu/](http://registrar.olemiss.edu/academic-calendar-menu/).

For an undergraduate student, full-time enrollment is set at a minimum of 12 hours per semester. However, in order to progress from one class level to another, students must earn 30 credit hours per year.

Part 1.4 Office of Financial Aid Mission Statement

The Office of Financial Aid at the University of Mississippi is committed to the institution’s goals of enrolling and graduating highly talented men and women of diverse social, ethnic, economic, and academic backgrounds.

Our student-focused staff helps students and their families maximize all possible resources available for financing the costs of attending the university. We provide efficient and effective access to programs and services through personalized attention and state-of-the-art technology.

We coordinate the administration of student financial assistance to ensure equity and regulatory compliance in the delivery of funds. We are dedicated to providing for the proper
stewardship of all university, government, and private funds that are utilized by our students to finance their education.

We aspire to negate financial barriers and minimize procedural barriers that can frustrate financial aid applicants. We work to ensure that our students learn to manage their financial affairs in a responsible manner by promoting money management and financial literacy. Our staff provides advocacy on issues relevant to student success.

**Part 1.5 Financial Aid Facts**

The OFA in Oxford serves the needs of students at the main campus as well as the 4 surrounding regional (satellite) centers. $237 million dollars was administered to approximately 17,000 students for fiscal year 2013-14 (as published in the Chancellor’s Annual Report).

In conjunction with the Medical Center, UM provides one combined FISAP (the annual “Fiscal Operations Report and Application to Participate” in the Federal Title IV programs) to DOE each year. (The DOE “Program Participation Agreement” applies to the entire institution – see Part 1.6.)

The OFA awards only admitted students as determined by the Office of Admissions, the Graduate School, or the Law School, as appropriate.

The FAFSA, which is available at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov), is used for determining not only Federal Title IV eligibility, but also eligibility for need-based institutional and state scholarships, grants, and loans.

In addition to administering federal and state aid programs, the OFA manages scholarships (which includes awarding, budget projections, reconciliations and/or reporting for athletic, endowed, institutional and outside awards), Federal Work-Study (including the Family Literacy/Math Count programs), reporting functions (all internal/external requests for financial aid data, including outside surveys like IPEDs and Common Data Set), accounting functions (Return of Title IV Funds and FISAP), and the financial aid system (all programming to run ProSAM, a product of Sigma Systems, is done by the OFA). See the organizational chart in Part 1.8.
Part 1.6 Approval to Participate in the Federal Title IV Programs

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

FEDERAL STUDENT AID
SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY CHANNEL

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

Effective Date of Approval: The date on which this Agreement is signed on behalf of the Secretary of Education
Approval Expiration Date: December 31, 2019
Reapplication Date: September 30, 2019

Name of Institution: University of Mississippi
dba: Ole Miss
Address of Institution: 123 Lyceum Building
University, MS 38677-1848

OPE ID Number: 00244000
DUNS Number: 625231147
Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN): 646001159

The execution of this Agreement by the Institution and the Secretary is a prerequisite to the Institution's initial or continued participation in any Title IV, HEA Program.

The postsecondary educational institution listed above, referred to hereafter as the "Institution," and the United States Secretary of Education, referred to hereafter as the "Secretary," agree that the Institution may participate in those student financial assistance programs authorized by Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (Title IV, HEA Programs) indicated under this Agreement and further agrees that such participation is subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement. As used in this Agreement, the term "Department" refers to the U.S. Department of Education.
**UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI**

**Department:** Public

**Academic Calendar:** Clock Hours, Semester Hours

**Education Program Levels Offered:**
- Graduate/Professional (>= 300 hours)
- Bachelor's Degree
- First Professional Degree
- Master's Degree or Doctor's Degree
- Professional Certification

**Eligible:** Y

**Initial Approval Date:** 09/23/1975

**Certified:** Approved

**End Waiver Date:** 12/31/2019

**Title IV, V, VI, VII, XI, XII, XIII, XIV, XV**

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**Title IV Student Financial Assistance Programs**

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End of Section A
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL PARTICIPATION MANAGEMENT DIVISION

ELIGIBILITY AND CERTIFICATION APPROVAL REPORT

DATE PRINTED: 01/18/2015

ACCREDITATION SECTION

INSTITUTION NAME: University of Mississippi
OPE ID: 002440 00
INSTITUTION TYPE: Public

ACCREDITATION

ACCREDIATING AGENCY
Primary
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges
Institutional

SCOPE

EFFECTIVE YEAR
2009

NUMBER OF YEARS
10

**** End of Accreditation Section ****

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL PARTICIPATION MANAGEMENT DIVISION

ELIGIBILITY AND CERTIFICATION APPROVAL REPORT

DATE PRINTED: 01/18/2015

STATE AUTHORIZATION SECTION

INSTITUTION NAME: University of Mississippi
OPE ID: 002440 00
INSTITUTION TYPE: Public

STATE AUTHORIZATION

STATE AGENCY
MS Board of Trustees of State Institutions Of Higher Learning

**** End of State Authorization Section ****
**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**SCHOOL PARTICIPATION MANAGEMENT DIVISION**

**ELIGIBILITY AND CERTIFICATION APPROVAL REPORT**

**DATE PRINTED:** 01/18/2015  
**INSTITUTION NAME:** University of Mississippi  
**OPE ID:** 002440-00  
**INSTITUTION TYPE:** Public

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### OFFICIALS

**NAME AND ADDRESS** | **TITLE** | **PHONE** | **FAX** | **E-MAIL**
--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
Jewett, Dan W | Chancellor | (662) 915-7111 | (662) 915-5039 | chancell@
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P.O. Box 1848  
University, MS 38677-1848
Diven-Brown, Laura E | Financial Aid Director | (662) 915-3433 | (662) 915-1164 | ldivenbr@
257 Martin Luther King Center  
P.O. Box 1848  
University, MS 38677-1848
Sparks, Larry D | Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance | (662) 915-7200 | (662) 915-5786 | lsparks@
216 Lyceum Building  
P.O. Box 1848  
University, MS 38677-1848

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**End of Officials Section**
January 12, 2010

Dr. Daniel W. Jones  
Chancellor  
University of Mississippi  
123 Lyceum  
University, MS 38677

Dear Dr. Jones:

The following action regarding your institution was taken at the December 2009 meeting of the Board of Trustees of SACS Commission on Colleges:

The Commission on Colleges reaffirmed accreditation. No additional report was requested. Your institution’s next reaffirmation will take place in 2019 unless otherwise notified.

Please submit to your Commission staff member a one-page executive summary of your institution’s Quality Enhancement Plan. The summary is due February 15, 2010, and also should include: (1) the title of your Quality Enhancement Plan, (2) your institution’s name, and (3) the name, title, and email address of an individual who can be contacted regarding its development or implementation. This summary will be posted to the Commission’s Web site as a resource for other institutions undergoing the reaffirmation process.

All institutions are requested to submit an “Impact Report of the Quality Enhancement Plan on Student Learning” as part of their “Fifth-Year Interim Report” due five years after their reaffirmation review. Institutions will be notified one year in advance by the President of the Commission regarding its specific due date.

We appreciate your continued support of the activities of the Commission on Colleges. If you have questions, please contact the staff member assigned to your institution.

Sincerely,

Belle S. Wheelan, Ph.D.  
President

BSW:cp

cc: Dr. Marsal P. Stoll