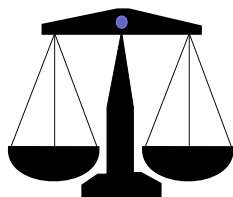


DON'T LOSE YOUR FINANCIAL AID!

UCLA STUDENT LEGAL SERVICES



Starting on July 1, 2000, you will lose your eligibility for all federal financial aid for an entire year if you are convicted of ANY drug related offense. If you are cited for possession of less than an ounce of marijuana and pay the fine, you have been convicted of a drug offense and you cannot receive any federal financial aid for one year from the date of your conviction. The period of ineligibility is even longer if you have more than one drug possession conviction or if you are convicted of sale of a drug.

All applicants for federal financial aid must answer the question on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) that asks if you have been convicted of a drug related offense. In addition, you must let your financial aid administrator know if you are convicted after you submit your FAFSA. You will be ineligible for federal financial aid and be required to pay back all of the aid you receive after the conviction. The federal government will be conducting random audits of students' eligibility status by checking their State and Federal criminal records; if you fail to disclose a drug conviction, you will be ineligible for federal financial aid indefinitely.

Possession of less than an ounce of marijuana is a misdemeanor, even though the only penalty is a fine. In addition to losing your financial aid, a conviction will become part of your permanent criminal record, which can affect your ability to attend graduate school, to obtain a State license (e.g., to be a physician, attorney, teacher, or accountant), or to secure certain types of employment.

For more information, please visit the Student Legal Services web site:

<http://www.studentlegal.ucla.edu>

The information contained in this article is of a general nature. If you have a legal problem, you should consult with an attorney. Currently registered UCLA students are encouraged to call Student Legal Services for an appointment (310.825.9894). Appointment hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.