January 2013

Dear Physical Therapy Student:

We are pleased that you are interested in Central Michigan University’s Doctorate in Physical Therapy program. It is the responsibility of The Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid to assist you with identifying potential funding sources for your education and to process your financial aid application(s).

Due to the cost and intensity of the program, many Physical Therapy students find that it is necessary to apply for loans to cover their educational expenses. The current tuition rate for in-state students in a doctoral program is $548.00 per credit hour. Tuition rates for Fall/2013 semester have not been determined at this time but please consider the likelihood of an increase. When creating a Cost of Attendance budget (COA) for students, the federal and alternative loan programs permit universities to include the cost of a student’s tuition and fees, as well as, an allowance for books and supplies, room and board, personal expenses, and transportation expenses. Your actual expenses may be more or less than the allowance covered by educational loans.

SUMMER 2013 AID Your first step in applying for financial assistance at CMU is to complete the 2012-2013 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.ed.gov. If you have already filed a 2012-2013 FAFSA, DO NOT file another one, but make certain that CMU is one of the schools requested by you to receive this information. You can add CMU’s school code, 002243 to your FAFSA by going to the FAFSA website. You will need your Federal PIN# to gain access to your information. If you are eligible for federal direct loans as a graduate student, you may borrow up to a maximum of $20,500 for the year or up to the COA minus any other aid available to you (i.e., scholarships, grants, etc.), whichever is the lesser amount each loan period. The CMU academic year starts in the fall semester and goes through the end of the summer semester. Example: If you have received up to $20,500 for the 2012-2013 academic year already, you will not have remaining federal direct loan eligibility for the summer semester. If you received your maximum undergraduate Federal Direct Loan amount of $10,500 in the 2012-2013 aid year, but are now entering the DPT Program, you will still have $10,000 of eligibility left to use for the summer semester. If your COA budget exceeds your eligible federal direct loan amount and you need to borrow up to the COA, a Graduate Federal Plus or an alternative loan are options available to you, however keep in mind that these two options are subject to a credit check.

If our office has received your FAFSA information, we will begin packaging your summer aid in mid-March.

FALL 2013/SPRING 2014 AID You must file a 2013-2014 FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov to be eligible to receive federal aid for the 2013/2014 academic year. Again, be certain that you have requested the information be sent to CMU, our school code is 002243. You may be offered federal direct unsubsidized loans up to $20,500 or the COA, whichever is less. If you have remaining federal loan eligibility for summer 2014, you will be offered the remainder for that summer semester. If your COA budget exceeds your eligible federal direct loan amount and you need to borrow up to the COA, Graduate Federal Plus or alternative loans are options available to you. Please note that beginning July 1, 2012 the federal government ceased providing subsidized federal direct loans to students in graduate level program. Any federal direct loan that you receive as a graduate level student will be unsubsidized.

Our office will begin packaging DPT students for the Fall/Spring loan period in mid July.

Please feel free to contact our office if you have any questions regarding available financial resources or the application process. You can reach me at directly at (989) 774-7424. My email address is pick11pm@cmich.edu.

Sincerely,

Patricia M. Pickler
Assistant Director
Special Programs