Federal Student Financial Aid Penalties for Drug Law Violations

A student who has been convicted of an offense under any Federal or State law involving the possession or sale of illegal drugs for conduct that occurred during a period of enrollment for which the student was receiving federal aid (including grant, loan, or work assistance) during the period beginning on the date of such conviction and ending after the interval specified in the following table.

If convicted of an offense involving-

- **Possession of a Controlled Substance**
  - Ineligibility Period
    - First Offense: 1 year
    - Second Offense: 2 years
    - Third Offense: Indefinite

- **Sale of a Controlled Substance**
  - Ineligibility Period
    - First Offense: 2 years
    - Second Offense: Indefinite

A student who has lost eligibility for financial aid based on the possession or sale of a controlled substance may regain eligibility before the above stated ineligibility period if:

- The student successfully completes a drug rehabilitation program that;
  - Includes at least two unannounced drug tests; and
  - Has received or is qualified to receive funds directly or indirectly under a Federal, State, or local government program;
    - Is administered or recognized by a Federal, State, or local government agency or court;
    - Has received or is qualified to receive payment directly or indirectly from a Federal – or State – licensed insurance company; or
    - Is administered or recognized by a Federal – or State – licensed hospital, health clinic or medical doctor.