

Editorials: continued

Dear Students:

By now each of you has probably heard on the evening news and read in your local or university newspaper about President's Reagan's proposed changes to the Federal student financial assistance programs sponsored by the Department of Education. I would like to take this opportunity to explain the budget we have requested.

The chart below compares the 1983 student aid budget with other proposed budget for 1984. Because over 1 billion dollars has been saved as a result of declining interest rates, the total funding proposed for 1984 is level with 1983. The difference in the two budgets is where we have to put the dollars. We are proposing to consolidate the current six programs into one loan, one work-study, and one grant.

Federal Appropriation*:	1983 (Cont. Res.)	1984 (Request)
Work-Study	540	850
GSL (&PLUS)	3,101	2,047
NDSL	193	4
Pell (Self-help)	2,419	2,714
SEOG	355	---
SSIG	60	---
TOTAL	6,668	5,615

* Dollars are in millions.

The key principle behind this proposal is that a simplified and consolidated student aid program will benefit both the student and the American taxpayer financing the student aid programs. Simplification will also dramatically reduce the administrative burden which your institutions now face in administering the six Federal aid programs. Reducing this burden will improve your institution's ability to delivery student aid.

We have asked Congress not to provide new funding for the State Student Incentive Grant Program (SSIG), the Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant Program (SEOG), and the National Direct Student Loan Program (NDSL). We've asked Congress to increase funding for College Work-Study (CWS) and Pell Grants. Under the new budget we expect a higher loan volume and a higher loan average for the Guaranteed Student Loan Program (GSL).

The chart below compares the total amount of aid available to students through the Department of Education under the 1983 and proposed 1984 budgets.

Aid Available*:	1983	1984
Work-Study	587	924
GSL (&PLUS)	6,593	7,198
NDSL	684	550
Pell (Self-help)	2,419	2,714
SEOG	355	---
SSIG	120	---
TOTAL	10,758	11,386

* Dollars are in millions.

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Education

A Reprive From The Draft And Law

Minnesota students - and perhaps students nationwide - have gotten temporary reprieve from a federal law that would make all male students prove they've have registered for the draft before they could get federal financial aid.

Judge Donald Alsop of the Federal District Court of Minnesota last week temporarily enjoined the government from enforcing the law, which is supposed to become effective on July 1, 1983.

Alsop, ruling in a case brought by the Minnesota Public Interest Research Group (MPIRG) and the Minnesota Civil Liberties Union on behalf of six local students, said Congress may have interfered with court duties and required students to incriminate themselves in passing the law.

The temporary injunction will last until Alsop makes a final ruling on the constitutionality of the law. Observers expect the ruling sometime this spring.

Other observers aren't sure if the injunction applies nationwide or just to Minnesota aid applicants.

"We believe (the injunction) is in force nationwide," says MPIRG attorney James Miller. "But that is a metter of dispute right now."

The U.S. Department of Justice, which argued the case on behalf of the U.S. Dept. or Education and the Selective Service System, "has no comment on our position right now," a spokesman says.

But Boston University, the only school in the country to say it would voluntarily withhold both federal and university aid from non-registrants, believes the injunction's scope is limited.

"As far as we're concerned, the temporary injunction only affects Minnesota," says BU spokesman Bob O'Rourke.

Since the law doesn't formally go into effect until the summer, though, students don't have to show proof of registration now anyway.

Though a number of other schools have begun to prepare for enforcing the law when it goes into effect, a great many financial aid officers are opposed to the law.

They complain it forces them to discriminate against male applicants, that it makes them into police agencies, and that it puts an added paperwork burden on them.

A few colleges - Earlham College, Haverford College and Swarthmore among them - have announced they'll make private aid available to male students denied federal aid because of reasons of conscience.

The University of Minnesota originially filed a friend-of-the-court brief in the Minnesota case, but school officials say they probably couldn't afford to provide private aid to nonregistrants.

The suit was filed for six Minnesota students. "Each of the six students receives financial aid currently, needs to continue receiving it, and can't certify that they have complied with the draft registration requirements," Miller says.

College grads earn more

College graduates earn about 40 percent more over a lifetime than non-grads, but men continue to earn about twice as much as women regardless of educational attainment, a new Census Bureau study shows.

Male college grads can expect to earn from \$1.2 to \$2.75 million over a lifetime, according to the study, while male high school grads will take in only \$860,000 to \$1.87 million. Women, on the other hand, will make from \$520,000 to \$1.2 million if they have college degrees, and between \$380,000 and \$800,000 with only high school diplomas, the study reports.

"We have to caution, however, that the main purpose of the study was to show average expected lifetime earnings based on educational attainment," notes Cenus Bureau statistician John Coder.

"A lot of people would like to say the difference (between men's and women's earnings) is due to discrimination, and some of may well be," Coder explains. "But to attribute it all to discrimination would be very unfair."

"For one thing," he points out, "women tend to have more interruptions in their lifetime work schedules. And the occupations they go into may be lower paying than traditionally male-dominated job areas."

Nevertheless, Coder adds, "the ratio between what women with college degrees and men with college degrees earn has changed very little since the early seventies."

"Things may be changing (for women in the workforce)," he says. "but they are changing very slowly."