

**CRITICAL QUESTIONS REGARDING
SCHOLARSHIPS AND STUDENT FINANCIAL AID
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Academic Year 2002 – 2003**

Need-based student financial aid enables qualified students, who otherwise could not afford the cost of college, to attend the University. Merit aid recognizes and rewards student talent and achievement. Both are important sources for the recruitment and retention of undergraduate and graduate/professional students at the University.

The Office of Scholarships and Student Aid, the Office of Institutional Research, and the Faculty Committee on Scholarships, Awards and Student Aid will continue to perform research and examine the following questions:

A. Questions Related to Campus Planning:

1. How much financial aid will be needed under differing enrollment growth scenarios, and for whom?
2. How will proposed changes in tuition policy, or subsequent tuition increases, or a decline in the economy, impact the need for additional grant aid?
3. Which types and amounts of aid most effectively influence students to enroll in, persist, and graduate from Carolina?
4. What impact does Carolina's offer of financial aid have on the University's efforts to recruit students of color and first generation college students?
5. What impact does Carolina's offer of merit scholarships and graduate awards have on the University's effort to recruit the highest achieving students?
6. What is the cumulative indebtedness for Carolina's graduating undergraduates, and for graduate and professional students completing programs at the University?
7. How much can undergraduate, graduate, and professional students reasonably be expected to borrow?

B. Questions Related to the Distribution and Allocation of Aid:

1. What is the proper balance between:
 - a. need-based and merit aid;
 - b. aid to graduate/professional and undergraduate students;
 - c. aid to in-state and out-of-state students?
2. What are the appropriate relative roles of the student, the family, the institution, the state, and the federal government in paying for one's education? And, to what extent should each party reasonably be expected to contribute?