Greetings from the Financial Aid Office at Boston College Law School! We want to update you on the status of your financial aid and provide you with information about submitting your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and applying for federal student loans.

**FAFSA**
If you have not already, you should submit your FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov and use Boston College’s Federal School Code 002128 to ensure that we get the processed form. Upon receipt of your FAFSA, we will award you your **$20,500** Unsubsidized Direct Stafford Loan.

To view your award, you can log into the Agora Portal and click the Financial Aid Notification link on the My Services menu. If you have submitted your FAFSA and you do not see any award when you log into Agora, please contact us.

**APPLY FOR LOANS**

**Unsubsidized Direct Stafford Loans**
You need to electronically sign a Master Promissory Note (MPN) for your Stafford Loans. Once you sign the MPN, it will be in effect for all three years of law school. To complete your MPN, please visit the U.S. Department of Education’s Direct Loan website at:

https://studentloans.gov

You will need your FAFSA PIN to access the site in order to e-sign your MPN. In addition to completing the MPN, you will also need to complete the online Entrance Counseling prior to your loans being disbursed.

**Grad PLUS Loans**
If you need funds for your tuition and living expenses in addition to the Federal Stafford Loan of $20,500, you may apply for a federal Grad PLUS Loan. Calculate your eligibility for a Grad PLUS Loan this way: take the BC Law total Cost of Attendance of **$68,430**, subtract your $20,500 Stafford Loan, subtract any other financial aid you’ve been awarded—including scholarships—and the resulting amount is your Grad PLUS eligibility. You may apply for all or a portion of this amount. If you choose to apply for only a portion of your eligible amount, it is easy to request additional funds later in the year so try to limit your borrowing initially. You should apply for the Grad PLUS loan for the entire academic year by selecting the September 2015-May 2016 loan period from the drop-down menu. A Grad PLUS loan requires both an application and a signed Master Promissory Note—these two documents can be completed online at:

https://studentloans.gov

The MPN will be in effect for all three years of law school, but you will need to complete a new Grad PLUS loan application each year.

**Perkins Loans and Boston College Law School Loans**
If you have been awarded a Perkins Loan or a Boston College Law School Loan, BC Student Services will send you an e-mail in August with a link to ECSI, our loan servicer, and instructions about how to electronically sign your promissory notes.
PAYMENT PLAN
If you are paying your tuition out of pocket instead of with financial aid proceeds, you may choose to sign up for a payment plan. Details about the payment plan can be found here:

http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/offices/stserv/financial/altfin/qppp.html

REFUNDS—GETTING YOUR FINANCIAL AID FUNDS
You will not be able to access any of your financial aid funds until classes begin. All financial aid funds, including scholarships and all types of loans, will be divided so that half will be disbursed each semester. Funds will be disbursed to your BC student account and credited to your bill. If you receive financial aid in excess of what you need to pay tuition and fees, there will be a credit balance on your account. Right before classes begin, you will be able to request a refund of your credit balance and the school will directly deposit your credit balance into your personal bank account so that you may use the funds for your living expenses during the academic year. Because the school cannot issue a refund to your bank account until classes begin, you will not have access to a refund of your aid until Wednesday, August 26, at the earliest. Therefore, you need to come to school prepared to finance the first weeks of living expenses on your own. You can go ahead and sign up now in the Agora Portal for direct deposit to your bank account, which will ensure that you get your refund as soon as possible. Be mindful that during each semester of law school, refunds will not be issued until after classes begin.

DEFERMENT OF PRIOR LOANS
Once you begin your studies at Boston College Law School, you will be eligible for an in-school deferment on any prior federal student loans. Boston College participates in the National Student Loan Clearinghouse which electronically transmits your enrollment status to a national database. Lenders can then review your status and put your loan(s) in deferment. Please note that no deferments can be completed until you begin classes at the end of August. However, you will need to keep making any student loan payments until your lender processes your in-school deferment.

For questions, please contact the Financial Aid Office at 617-552-4243 or bclawfinaid@bc.edu.

We look forward to your enrollment at Boston College Law School.