The Higher Education Amendments of 1998 included a provision that allows an institution, on a case-by-case basis, to include in a student's cost of attendance (COA) the documented purchase of a personal computer. Allowing inclusion of the cost is not based on any particular program of study or program requirement. The following policies and procedures will be in effect for Tulane undergraduate, graduate, and professional students:

1. The maximum allowance for purchase of a computer is $2,500, which can include the cost of a printer.

2. Requests for inclusion of costs for maintenance and/or repair of a computer will not be considered. However, the cost of an extended warranty, purchased along with the computer, can be included.

3. The costs for software, printer cartridges, paper, monthly online service fees, etc., will be excluded from consideration since such costs are reflected in the allowances for books and supplies and miscellaneous expenses which are already included in the student's COA.

5. Students seeking to have the cost of a computer purchase added to the COA, the student must provide a written request to the Financial Aid Office, with a dated receipt/proof of purchase or invoice attached. Receipts or invoices must indicate that the student (or the student's parents, if a dependent student) purchased the computer.

6. The purchase must have occurred no earlier than 90 days prior to the date of Tulane matriculation.

7. Inclusion of the cost of a computer will ONLY BE ALLOWED ONCE per a student’s program of study (example: only once for an undergraduate degree, and only once for graduate/professional degree).

8. Generally, institutional scholarship funds are not available to cover the cost of a computer purchase. Students may apply for federal student loans and/or alternative educational loan funds. Students should consult with a Financial Aid Counselor for details about loan eligibility.

9. Requests must be submitted no later than March 1st of the academic year.

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