

Date: December 1, 2010  
To: California University of Phoenix Students  
From: Jennifer Cisna, Regional VP Director, University of Phoenix  
Re: California Student Tuition Recovery Fund

**The following applies only to California students who attend our California ground campus locations.**

### **California Student Tuition Recovery Fund (STRF)**

The State of California created the Student Tuition Recovery Fund (STRF) to relieve or mitigate economic losses suffered by California residents who attend a private postsecondary institution in the event of such things as the school closing, failing to live up to its enrollment agreement, or refusing to pay a court judgment.

By law, all educational institutions authorized to operate in the State of California must participate in the STRF and charge the appropriate assessment rate to CA students. The STRF assessment rate is \$2.50 per \$1,000 of total charges, rounded to the nearest \$1,000. For charges of \$1,000 or less, the assessment is \$2.50.

The STRF assessment went into effect on **February 1, 2010**, and applies to all California students attending UOPX California campuses who signed an enrollment agreement on or after that date. The University of Phoenix has paid the assessment on behalf of students while a program was implemented to begin charging the assessment. Assessments will actually begin being charged in January 2011. **Students will only be charged the STRF assessment going forward. There is no obligation for students to pay back previous assessments paid by the University.**

The University collects tuition on a per class basis. Beginning in January 2011, invoices you receive will contain the applicable STRF assessment that needs to be paid along with your tuition charges and other fees. The STRF assessment can be paid from your financial aid funds. Any particular questions regarding payment options for the STRF should be directed to your Financial Advisor.

### **Do I Have to Pay the STRF?**

You must pay the state-imposed assessment for the Student Tuition Recovery Fund (STRF) if all of the following applies to you:

1. You are a student, who is a California resident and prepays all or part of your tuition either by cash, guaranteed student loans, or personal loans, and

2. Your total charges are not paid by any third-party payer such as an employer, government program or other payer unless you have separate agreement to repay the third party.

You are not eligible for protection from the STRF and you are not required to pay the STRF assessment, if either of the following applies:

1. You are not a California resident.
2. Your total charges are paid by a third party, such as an employer, government program or other payer, and you have no separate agreement to repay the third party.

### **How Does the STRF Benefit Me?**

You may be eligible for financial recovery from STRF if you are a California resident, prepaid tuition, paid the STRF assessment and suffered an economic loss as a result of any of the following:

1. The school closed before the course of instruction was completed.
2. The school's failure to pay refunds or charges on behalf of a student to a third party for license fees or any other purpose, or to provide equipment or materials for which a charge was collected within 180 days before the closure of the school.
3. The school's failure to pay or reimburse loan proceeds under a federally guaranteed student loan program as required by law or to pay or reimburse proceeds received by the school prior to closure in excess of tuition and other costs.
4. There was decline in the quality of the course of instruction within 30 days before the school closed or, if the decline began earlier than 30 days prior to closure, the period of decline determined by the Bureau.
5. An inability to collect on a judgment against the institution for a violation of the Act.

### **What If I Have Additional Questions about STRF?**

You may contact your Financial Advisor. You may also direct questions regarding the STRF to:

State of California Department of Consumer Affairs  
Bureau of Private Postsecondary Education  
P.O. Box 980818  
West Sacramento, CA 95798-0818  
1-888-370-7589  
[bppe@dca.ca.gov](mailto:bppe@dca.ca.gov)