



Blinn College Selects Higher One to Improve Efficiency and Speed of Refund Distribution Process

Administrator's Firsthand Experience with Higher One's Services Help College Reach Decision

New Haven, CT – June 9, 2008 – Higher One, a financial services and payment company focused exclusively on higher education, has partnered with Blinn College in to issue refunds to the institution's 14,000 students. Brenham-based Blinn College joins 20 other colleges and universities in the state of Texas that issue refunds through Higher One.

"We are pleased to offer this new service to our Blinn College students for their convenience in handling their financial transactions," Blinn College Vice President for Student Services Dr. John Harris said. "We already provide an outstanding value in education. This affords our students one more opportunity to manage their college careers in a cost-effective and efficient manner."

With Higher One's OneDisburse Refund Management service, the college will send Higher One a flat file containing the names for all students who are scheduled to receive a refund from the institution and the amounts for each refund. In addition, Blinn will wire Higher One the total amount of the disbursement.

Higher One will collect student bank account information, market the program on a regular basis, distribute the refunds to students, handle any returned checks or ACH bounce backs, and field any refund related customer service inquiries.

"Blinn College processes over 16,000 refunds by check and EFT every year," explained Jeff Cermin, Associate Director of Business Services for Blinn. "I think we do a very good job of getting refunds into the hands and bank accounts of our students; however, I believe that Higher One can do the job efficiently and quicker than we can."

With Higher One, every student is sent a card in the mail. Students use this card to log onto a secure website to select how each would like to receive a refund from the school. Students are given a choice between three different ways to receive their financial aid refunds: Direct Deposit to the OneAccount, a no minimum balance, no monthly fee, FDIC-Insured checking account provided by Higher One, an ACH to another bank account of the student's choice, or a paper check mailed to an address on file.

Over one million college students around the country currently utilize Higher One's services to obtain refunds from the institution they attend. It is the student experience that many administrations focus on as they make the decision to implement the services provided by Higher One, but not all have the benefit of firsthand knowledge of the service. At Blinn, Cermin had utilized Higher One's services while attending business school.

"In addition to the extensive research Blinn College performed before selecting Higher One to process its refunds; I have firsthand knowledge of what Higher One can do for students; I carried a Higher One card while completing my M.B.A. at Sam Houston State University, and I used the debit card feature to access some of my student loans," said Cermin. "We'll let Higher One deal with bad addresses and lost checks while we focus on serving our students."

Blinn will begin issuing refunds through Higher One in time for the Fall Semester of this year.

About Blinn College:

Blinn College, the oldest county-owned junior college in Texas, is entering in its 125th year providing education services in south central Texas and currently ranks 11th in size among the 50 college districts in the state. Blinn boasts the highest transfer rate in the state, the highest percentage of students who go on to earn bachelor's degrees, and is among the best in pass rates on board and licensure exams.

About Higher One:

Founded in 2000, Higher One provides higher education institutions and their students with efficient, convenient and easy-to-use solutions to handle financial disbursements. These include: student refunds, on-campus and community purchases, payroll and employee expenses, as well as the collection of payments from students, parents, and sponsors.

Higher One offers a suite of online banking services including the OneAccount, an FDIC-insured checking account, and OneCard, a Debit MasterCard®. To date, Higher One has disbursed over \$4 billion dollars in refunds for its clients to more than 1,000,000 students, faculty, and staff at distinguished public and private higher education institutions throughout the country.

Higher One recently ranked # 85 on the 2007 Inc. List of the 500 Fastest Growing Companies in the United States. Higher One is based in New Haven, CT.

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