



Dallas County Community College District, Higher One create partnership to distribute refunds to students

Students at all seven DCCCD colleges will receive additional choices

(New Haven, Conn.) – March 6, 2009 – Higher One, a financial services and payment company focused exclusively on higher education, announced it has been selected by the Dallas County Community College District (Texas) to distribute refunds to more than 65,000 credit students enrolled at the district’s seven institutions: Brookhaven College, Cedar Valley College, Eastfield College, El Centro College, Mountain View College, North Lake College and Richland College, along with its virtual campus, the Dallas TeleCollege, which provides distance learning.

“We learned about Higher One through vendor fairs at various conferences,” said Kim Green, associate vice chancellor for business affairs at DCCCD. “Over the years, we also had attended presentations by Higher One clients. We chose Higher One based on the comprehensive level of service that they offer.”

DCCCD currently gives students the opportunity to receive their financial aid disbursements either electronically or by paper check. Although the program has been successful, Green cited several reasons for changing the district’s method of distribution and for partnering with Higher One.

“Several factors influenced our decision to make a change,” explained Green. “First and foremost, this change eliminates the need for us to store sensitive banking information on the district’s systems, which we believe is a clear advantage to both the district and our students. As we learned more about Higher One, we also discovered that students would find a number of benefits when they sign up for a Higher One account, including receiving discounts on some merchandise, the ability for family members to add money to their accounts, and a faster transfer of funds to those accounts.”

Under Higher One’s program, DCCCD students will receive cards in the mail, beginning in mid-April, that they must have in order to select their refund/disbursement preference. Each student will use the card to sign on to a secure website and then select how he or she would like to receive a refund/disbursement: 1) direct deposit to a no-minimum-balance, no-monthly-fee, FDIC-insured checking account, known as the OneAccount, provided by Higher One, 2) an automated clearinghouse, or ACH, transaction to another bank account of the student’s choice; or 3) a paper check mailed to the address which the student has on file at the college.

“We expect Higher One to provide faster service and customer support through its call line and web site,” said Green. “We also want to use Higher One’s service to expand the

student base for electronic refunding. Currently we have used electronic disbursements mainly for financial aid students but want to expand the database to include all students.”

DCCCD will begin sending refunds and other disbursements to students through Higher One starting in May 2009.

About DCCCD

DCCCD, the largest undergraduate institution in the state of Texas, comprises seven individually accredited colleges. Since it was founded in 1965, the district has served more than 1.5 million students – including a record enrollment of more than 65,000 credit and 25,000 continuing education students in spring 2009. Following a successful \$450 million bond election in 2004, DCCCD is expanding its facilities in order to handle an influx of students who are expected to enroll over the next several years. In addition to several new buildings, five new community campuses also are being added that provide access to higher education in traditionally underserved or fast-growing areas of Dallas County. The first satellite campus opened in fall 2008, and the remaining locations are scheduled to open during 2009.

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 more than \$7 billion dollars in refunds for its clients to more than 1.5 million students, faculty, and staff at over 260 distinguished public and private higher education institutions throughout the country. Higher One recently was ranked 79th on the 2009 Fast 500 list of the 500 Fastest Growing Technology Companies in the United States. Higher One is based in New Haven, Conn.

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