

October 15, 2018

Re: 1098-T Reporting Update

Dear Student,

This letter is to inform you of recent changes to the 1098-T Tuition Statement reporting requirements, which will affect your statement this year.

Revised Reporting Required

Until recently, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) permitted colleges and universities to choose between two methods for reporting Qualified Tuition and Related Expenses (QTREs) to students on the Form 1098-T. Like most universities, San Francisco State University chose to report QTREs in Box 2 (payments billed for QTREs), rather than in Box 1 (payments received for QTREs). As of December 31, 2015, new legislation requires reporting payments received for QTREs in Box 1 of the 1098-T, rather than reporting the amount billed in Box 2.¹ San Francisco State University has implemented this change for the tax year ending December 31, 2018.

Transition Year Note

One impact of this change for the tax year ending December 31, 2018, is that the amount reported in Box 1 may include your Spring 2018 payments only if the payments were received in 2018. In this instance, the same amount could be reported in 2017 (as a charged amount) and 2018 (as a received payment) because the reporting method changed.

Claiming Education Credits on Your Individual Tax Return

You should use the information on the Form 1098-T in conjunction with your own payment records to complete your individual tax return. If you have questions about how to compute an education tax credit, consult your tax professional or refer to IRS Publication 970.

Sincerely,

San Francisco State University

¹ See the amendments to Internal Revenue Code section 6050S under the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act of 2015 (Pub. L. 114–113 (129 Stat. 2242 (2015))) (PATH). Specifically, Section 212(b) of PATH amends section 6050S(b)(2)(B)(i) to eliminate the option for eligible educational institutions to report aggregate qualified tuition and related expenses billed for the calendar year.