Welcome back! We hope you had an enjoyable and relaxing summer. For those of you who are new to WPI, the Office of Financial Aid developed this financial wellness newsletter as an additional resource for students. Released monthly, you will find helpful information related to personal finance, upcoming financial literacy events, and reminders pertaining to Office of Financial Aid deadlines. We hope you enjoy!

**New Stafford Loan Interest Rates**

On August 9th President Obama signed the Bipartisan Student Loan Certainty Act of 2013, changing how student loan interest rates are determined. Below are the new interest rates for the 2013-2014 academic year.

- **Subsidized Stafford Loan (Undergrad):** 3.86%
- **Unsubsidized Stafford Loan (Undergrad):** 3.86%
- **Unsubsidized Stafford Loan (Grad):** 5.41%
- **PLUS Loans (both Parent & Grad):** 6.41%

**Refunds**

Looking for your refund? If you have a credit on your account and are looking for a refund, please visit the financial services website and complete the “request a refund check” electronic form. Something new: Check out the new E-refund [http://www.wpi.edu/offices/acc/erefund.html](http://www.wpi.edu/offices/acc/erefund.html).

**Fact or Fiction?**

A Tax Return is the same thing as a Tax Transcript?

Fiction.

The *tax transcript* provides a more comprehensive summary of your return data. It shows most of the line items from your tax return as well as accompanying schedules and forms. Federal regulations state that we cannot accept tax returns in order to complete verification. If you are selected, we will require either your tax transcript or successful use of the IRS’s Data Retrieval Tool.