

SLM CORP  
 Form 424B3  
 September 04, 2003

[QuickLinks](#) -- Click here to rapidly navigate through this document  
**Pricing Supplement No. 22 dated July 29, 2003**  
 (to Prospectus dated November 18, 2002  
 and Prospectus Supplement dated November 18, 2002)

**Filed under Rule 424(b)(3)**  
**File No. 333-90316**

**SLM Corporation**  
 Medium Term Notes, Series A  
 Due 9 Months or Longer From the Date of Issue

Principal Amount: \$52,800,000	Floating Rate Notes: <input checked="" type="radio"/>	Fixed Rate Notes: <input type="radio"/>
--------------------------------	---	---

Original Issue Date: September 2, 2003	Closing Date: September 2, 2003	CUSIP Number: 78442F BA5
--	---------------------------------	--------------------------

Maturity Date: September 2, 2008	Option to Extend Maturity: <input checked="" type="radio"/> No If Yes, Final Maturity Date: <input type="radio"/> Yes	Specified Currency: U.S. Dollars
----------------------------------	--	----------------------------------

Redeemable at the option of the Company: <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	Redemption Price: Not Applicable.
--	-----------------------------------

Redemption Dates: <input type="radio"/>	Redemption Dates: Not Applicable.
---	-----------------------------------

Repayment at the option of the Holder: <input checked="" type="radio"/> No	Repayment Price: Not Applicable.
--	----------------------------------

Repayment Dates: <input type="radio"/> Yes	Repayment Dates: Not Applicable.
--	----------------------------------

**Applicable to Floating Rate Notes Only:**

Floating Rate Index:

<input type="radio"/> CD Rate	Index Maturity: Not Applicable.
-------------------------------	---------------------------------

<input type="radio"/> Commercial Paper Rate
---

<input type="radio"/> CMT Rate	Spread: Not Applicable.
--------------------------------	-------------------------

<input type="radio"/> Federal Funds Rate
--

<input type="radio"/> LIBOR Telerate	Initial Interest Rate: 3.802%.
--------------------------------------	--------------------------------

Edgar Filing: SLM CORP - Form 424B3

o LIBOR Reuters

o Prime Rate Interest Rate Reset Period: Monthly.

o 91-Day Treasury Bill Rate

ý Other Consumer Price Index-Linked, subject to Minimum Interest Rate. Minimum Interest Rate: 0.00%.

Calculation Agent: SLM Corporation.

Reset Date(s): The 1<sup>st</sup> of each month during the term of the Notes, beginning October 1, 2003, subject to adjustment in accordance with the following business day convention. Interest Payment Date(s): The 1<sup>st</sup> of each month during the term of the Notes, beginning October 1, 2003, subject to adjustment in accordance with the following business day convention.

Interest Determination Date(s): Each Reset Date; provided that the interest rate for the initial Interest Period shall be determined two (2) London Business Days prior to the Original Issue Date. Interest Period(s): From and including the previous Interest Payment Date (or Original Issue Date, in the case of the first Interest Period) to but excluding the current Interest Payment Date (or Maturity Date, in the case of the last Interest Period).

**JPMorgan**

July 29, 2003

Day Count Convention: Actual/Actual.

Form: Book-entry.

Denominations: \$100,000 minimum and integral multiples of \$5,000 in excess thereof.

Trustee: JPMorgan Chase Bank, formerly known as The Chase Manhattan Bank.

Agents: J.P. Morgan Securities Inc. is acting as the underwriter in connection with this issuance.

Issue Price: 100.00%.

Agents' Commission: 0.05%.

Net Proceeds: \$52,773,600.

Concession: 0.00%.

Reallowance: 0.00%.

CUSIP Number: 78442F BA5.

ISIN Number: US78442F BA57.

An affiliate of the underwriter has entered into a swap transaction with the issuer in connection with the Notes.

Investing in the Notes involves a number of risks. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page 4 of this Pricing Supplement.

**Obligations of SLM Corporation and any subsidiary of SLM Corporation are not guaranteed by the full faith and credit of the United States of America. Neither SLM Corporation nor any subsidiary of SLM Corporation (other than Student Loan Marketing Association) is a government-sponsored enterprise or an instrumentality of the United States of America.**

---

#### ADDITIONAL TERMS OF THE NOTES

Subject to the Minimum Interest Rate set forth on page 1 of this Pricing Supplement, the interest rate for the Notes being offered by this Pricing Supplement, for each Interest Period during the term of the Notes, commencing on the initial Reset Date, will be the rate determined as of the applicable Interest Determination Date (other than the initial Interest Determination Date) pursuant to the following formula:

$$[(CPI_t - CPI_{t-12}) / CPI_{t-12}] * (1.80)$$

Where:

$CPI_t$  = Current Index Level of CPI (as defined below), as published on Bloomberg CPURNSA; and

$CPI_{t-12}$  = Index Level of CPI 12 months prior to  $CPI_t$

$CPI_t$  for each Reset Date is the CPI for the third calendar month prior to such Reset Date as published and reported in the second calendar month prior to such Reset Date. For example, for the Interest Period from and including September 2, 2003 to but excluding October 1, 2003,  $CPI_t$  will be the CPI for June 2003, which was 183.7, and  $CPI_{t-12}$  will be the CPI for June 2002, which was 179.9. The CPI for June 2003 was published by BLS (as defined below) and reported on Bloomberg CPURNSA in July 2003, and the CPI for June 2002 was published and reported in July 2002.

The amount of interest payable on the Notes on each Interest Payment Date will be linked to changes in the Consumer Price Index. The Consumer Price Index for purposes of the Notes is the non-seasonally adjusted U.S. City Average All Items Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers ("CPI"), published monthly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor ("BLS") and reported on Bloomberg CPURNSA or any successor service. The CPI for a particular month is published during the following month. The CPI is a measure of the average change in consumer prices over time for a fixed market basket of goods and services, including food, clothing, shelter, fuels, transportation, charges for doctors and dentists services, and drugs. In calculating the index, price changes for the various items are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of urban households in the United States. The contents of the market basket of goods and services and the weights assigned to the various items are updated periodically by the BLS to take into account changes in consumer expenditure patterns. The CPI is expressed in relative terms in relation to a time base reference period for which the level is set at 100.0. The base reference period for these Notes is the 1982-1984 average.

If the CPI is not reported on Bloomberg CPURNSA for a particular month by 3:00 PM on a Reset Date, but has otherwise been published by the BLS, the Company, in its capacity as the Calculation Agent, will determine the CPI as published by the BLS for such month using such other source as it deems appropriate.

In calculating  $CPI_t$  and  $CPI_{t-12}$ , the Calculation Agent will use the most recently available value of the CPI determined as described above on the applicable Reset Date, even if such value has been adjusted from a prior reported value for the relevant month. However, if a value of  $CPI_t$  and  $CPI_{t-12}$  used by the Calculation Agent on any Reset Date to determine the interest rate on the Notes (an "Initial CPI") is subsequently revised by the BLS, the Calculation Agent will continue to use the Initial CPI, and the interest rate determined will not be revised.

If the CPI is rebased to a different year or period and the 1982-1984 CPI is no longer used, the base reference period for the Notes will continue to be the 1982-1984 reference period as long as the 1982-1984 CPI continues to be published.

If, while the Notes are outstanding, the CPI is discontinued or substantially altered, as determined in the sole discretion of the Calculation Agent, the applicable substitute index for the Notes will be that chosen by the Secretary of the Treasury for the Department of Treasury's Inflation-Linked Treasuries as described at 62 Federal Register 846-874 (January 6, 1997) or, if no such securities are outstanding, will be determined by the Calculation Agent in accordance with general market practice at the time.

All values used in the interest rate formula and all percentages resulting from any calculation of the interest rate on the Notes will be rounded to the nearest one-thousandth of a percentage point, with five ten-thousandths of a percentage point rounded upwards (e.g., 9.87654% (or .0987654) would be rounded to 9.8765% (or .098765)), and all dollar amounts used in or resulting from such calculation on the Notes will be rounded to the nearest cent (with one-half cent being rounded upward).

## RISK FACTORS

The Notes are subject to special considerations. An investment in notes indexed to the CPI entails significant risks that are not associated with similar investments in conventional floating rate or fixed-rate debt securities. Accordingly, prospective investors should consult their financial and legal advisors as to the risks entailed by an investment in the consumer price indexed-linked notes and the suitability of the Notes in light of their particular circumstances.

**THE INTEREST RATE ON THE NOTES MAY BE BELOW THE RATE OTHERWISE PAYABLE ON SIMILAR FIXED OR FLOATING RATE DEBT SECURITIES ISSUED BY THE COMPANY AND COULD BE ZERO.**

If the  $CPI_t$  determined with respect to each monthly Reset Date does not exceed the  $CPI_{t-12}$  determined with respect to that monthly Reset Date, owners of the Notes will receive interest payments for that interest period based only on the Minimum Interest Rate, which is 0.00%. The Minimum Interest Rate is below what the Company would expect to pay as of the date of this pricing supplement if the Company issued non-callable senior debt securities with a fixed or floating rate and similar maturity to that of the consumer price indexed-linked notes. Any interest payable in excess of the Minimum Interest Rate on the Notes will be based solely upon the level of the CPI determined as of the measurement dates specified in the formula listed above.

**YOUR INTEREST RATE IS BASED UPON THE CPI. THE CPI ITSELF AND THE WAY THE BLS CALCULATES THE CPI MAY CHANGE IN THE FUTURE.**

There can be no assurance that the BLS will not change the method by which it calculates the CPI. In addition, changes in the way the CPI is calculated could reduce the level of the CPI and lower the interest payment with respect to the Notes. Accordingly, the amount of interest, if any, payable on the Notes, and therefore the value of the consumer price indexed-linked notes, may be significantly reduced. If the CPI is substantially altered, a substitute index may be employed to calculate the interest payable on the Notes as described above.

**THE HISTORICAL LEVELS OF THE CPI ARE NOT AN INDICATION OF THE FUTURE LEVELS OF THE CPI.**

The historical levels of the CPI are not an indication of the future levels of the CPI during the term of the Notes. In the past, the CPI has experienced periods of volatility and such volatility may occur in the future. Fluctuations and trends in the CPI that have occurred in the past are not necessarily indicative, however, of fluctuations that may occur in the future.

Holders of the Notes will receive interest payments that will be affected by changes in the CPI. Such changes may be significant. Changes in the CPI are a function of the changes in specified consumer prices over time, which result from the interaction of many factors over which the Company has no control.

## ADDITIONAL UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

Set forth below is a summary of certain U.S. federal income tax considerations relevant to the beneficial owner of the Notes that is a U.S. holder (as defined in the accompanying Prospectus Supplement). This summary does not address investors that may be subject to special tax rules or investors that hold the Notes as part of an integrated investment. This summary supplements the discussion contained in the accompanying Prospectus Supplement under the heading "United States Federal Taxation."

We intend to treat the Notes as "variable rate debt instruments" for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Assuming the Notes are so treated, under the Treasury regulations governing variable rate debt instruments that bear interest that is unconditionally payable at least annually at a single objective rate, payments of interest on the Notes will be taxable to a U.S. holder as ordinary interest income at the time that such payments are accrued or received, in accordance with the U.S. holder's method of tax accounting. In the case of a U.S. holder that uses the accrual method of tax accounting, the amount of interest accrued during an accrual period will be determined by assuming that the Notes bear interest at a fixed interest rate that reflects the yield that is reasonably expected for the Notes, and the interest allocable to the accrual period will be adjusted to reflect the interest actually paid during the accrual period. A U.S. holder may submit a written request to the address set forth

under "Where You Can Find More Information" in the accompanying Prospectus Supplement to obtain the "reasonably expected" rate for the Notes. Assuming the

---

Notes are treated as variable rate debt instruments, upon the disposition of a Note by sale, exchange, redemption, or repayment of principal at maturity, a U.S. holder will generally recognize taxable gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized on the disposition (other than amounts attributable to accrued interest) and the U.S. holder's adjusted tax basis in the Notes. Prospective investors should consult the discussion under the heading "United States Federal Taxation Tax Consequences to U.S. Holders Variable Rate Notes" and "United States Federal Taxation Tax Consequences to U.S. Holders Sale, Exchange or Retirement of the Notes" in the accompanying Prospectus Supplement.

Alternatively, it is possible that the Notes could be treated as "contingent payment debt instruments" ("CPDI") for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Under the CPDI rules, a U.S. holder would be required, among other matters, to include in income each year an accrual of interest at a "comparable yield" (determined at the time of issuance of the notes) for a comparable non-contingent note issued by the Company. To the extent the comparable yield were to exceed the interest actually paid on a note in any taxable year, a U.S. holder would recognize ordinary interest income for that taxable year in excess of the cash actually paid on the note during that taxable year and such excess would increase the U.S. holder's tax basis in the note. In addition, any gain realized by a U.S. holder on the sale or other taxable disposition of a note (including as a result of payments made at maturity) generally would be characterized as ordinary income, rather than as capital gain.

**The preceding discussion is only a summary of certain of the tax implications of an investment in the Notes. Prospective investors are urged to consult with their tax advisors prior to investing to determine the tax implications of such investment in light of each such investor's particular circumstances.**

---

## QuickLinks

[ADDITIONAL TERMS OF THE NOTES](#)

[RISK FACTORS](#)

[ADDITIONAL UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS](#)