Financial Aid Offer Supplement

The Office of Student Financial Services helps students in obtaining financial assistance for payment of tuition and expenses associated with the academic programs at: UTHealth and UT MD Anderson School of Health Professions. The information provided is designed to supplement the Financial Aid Offer and provide information regarding the financial aid award process.

Financial Aid counselors are available Monday through Friday from 8:00 am until 5:00 pm to assist you with questions regarding the financial aid process. Counselors are assigned to applicants based on school/program except for the Undergraduate Nursing program. For the Undergraduate Nursing, counselors are assigned by the first letter of the student's last name. Any counselor may assist you on a walk-in basis, therefore, appointments are not necessary. To contact your specified counselor, refer to the chart below for contact information:

School/Program	First Letter of Student's Last Name	Counselor E-mail	Phone
School of Public Health School of Biomedical Informatics		Jennifer.Giap@uth.tmc.edu	(713) 500-3869
McGovern Medical School Medical School Anesthesia		Bryan.J.Montes@uth.tmc.edu	(713) 500-0304
MD Anderson School of Health Professions Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences		Yvonne.L.Pastrana@uth.tmc.edu	(713) 500-3871
School of Dentistry		Priscila.N.Ramirez@uth.tmc.edu	(713) 500-3861
Cizik School of Nursing Undergraduates	A F G M N T U Z	Jennifer.Giap@uth.tmc.edu Yvonne.L.Pastrana@uth.tmc.edu Priscila.N.Ramirez@uth.tmc.edu Bryan.J.Montes@uth.tmc.edu	(713) 500-3869 (713) 500-3871 (713) 500-3861 (713) 500-0304
Graduates	All Nursing Graduate students	Yvonne.L.Pastrana@uth.tmc.edu	(713) 500-3871

MAIN OFFICE			
Phone	Web		
(713) 500-3860	www.uth.edu/sfs		
	Address		
E-mail	UTHealth Office of Student Financial Services		
Sfaregis@uth.tmc.edu	7000 Fannin, Suite 2220		
	Houston, TX 77030		

VETERANS & SERVICE MEMBERS

To initiate the application process for Veterans Benefits such as Post 9/11 GI Bill, Vocational Rehab and Veterans Education Assistance Program (VEAP), we recommend all veterans contact the Veteransbenefits@uth.tmc.edu or call the Registrar's Office at (713) 500-3388.

Veterans applying for federal financial aid funds are encouraged to contact their assigned financial aid counselor prior to the beginning of the award process. The <u>financial aid counselor</u> will explain the funding sources available to you while enrolled.

The Financial Aid Shopping Sheet (Shopping Sheet) is available to self-identified veterans who apply for financial aid. The Shopping Sheet contains estimated figures that are meant to help veterans easily compare financial aid packages offered by

different institutions, and ultimately make an informed decision on where to invest in their higher education. The information included in the Shopping Sheet is meant to supplement the financial aid offer.

Contact the Office of Student Financial Services at (713) 500-3860 with financial aid or Shopping Sheet questions.

FINANCIAL AID OFFER

After your application has been processed, you will receive an e-mail directing you to view your financial aid offer online via myUTH. The Financial Aid Offer will detail the types and amounts of aid you are eligible to receive and it will display the disbursement schedule.

TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID

Grants are financial assistance awarded to eligible students demonstrating financial need. Often referred to as "gift-aid," grants are not generally required to be repaid. Click here for a complete list of grants offered by UTHealth.

The Office of Student Financial Services offers information as a tool to assist students in searching for scholarships. Results are not promised or guaranteed. Click here for more information regarding scholarships.

Student loans are funds provided to undergraduate, graduate and/or professional students to help assist with educational expenses. Loans are considered self-help financial assistance and must be repaid. Click here for a complete list of Federal and Institutional Loans offered by UTHealth.

ACCEPT/DECLINE AID

Financial aid offers should be accepted, declined or reduced electronically via myuTH. You may print a paper copy of your financial aid offer for record keeping purposes. Check your Task Tile to review your To Do List for any outstanding items requiring completion as additional steps may be required for certain types of aid.

Student Home > Financial Aid > Accept/Decline > Edit > Award Decision > Submit

MASTER PROMISSORY NOTE (MPN)

The Department of Education requires student loan borrowers to complete a Loan Agreement/Master Promissory Note (MPN) when applying for federal student loans. The MPN is a legal agreement between you and the Department of Education in which you promise to repay your loans(s) and any accrued interest and fees. The loan agreement also outlines the terms and conditions of the loan(s).

First time Federal Direct Loan borrowers are required to complete a <u>Master Promissory Note</u> (MPN) specific to Direct Loans (Subsidized/Unsubsidized).

Continuing financial aid Direct Loan recipients (including transfer students) who previously completed the MPN specific to Direct Loans within the last 10 years are not required to complete the MPN again except in cases where the MPN has expired or unless requested by the university.

Direct PLUS Loan (Graduate/Professional or Parent) borrowers are required to complete a <u>Master Promissory Note</u> (MPN) specific to the PLUS Loan.

LOAN ENTRANCE COUNSELING

The Department of Education requires federal student loan borrowers to complete **Loan Entrance Counseling** before borrowing a federal loan to ensure borrowers understand the responsibilities and obligations assumed by applying for a loan. Loan Entrance counseling must be completed before you can receive the proceeds of your first Direct Loan.

First-time Federal Direct Loan borrowers are required to complete Loan Entrance Counseling available on Studentaid.gov.

Continuing financial aid Direct Loan recipients (including transfer students) are not required to complete Subsidized/Unsubsidized Direct Loan entrance counseling each year after the initial forms have been completed unless requested to do so by the Office of Student Financial Services.

Graduate/Professional borrowers may need to complete Loan Entrance Counseling if federal aid was not borrowed as an undergraduate student or if this is an applicant's first-time borrowing the Direct PLUS Loan as a graduate/professional student.

Parent PLUS Loan borrowers are *not required* to complete Federal Entrance Counseling <u>unless</u> the U.S. Department of Education has informed the applicant that **PLUS Credit Counseling** must be completed. Typically, this is the case when the PLUS loan is approved by obtaining an endorser or through the reconsideration process.

Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) loan recipients must complete the Entrance Counseling for your specific DHHS loan *annually*. These types of loans include: Health Professions Student Loan, Loans for Disadvantaged Students, and Nursing Student Loans.

ANNUAL STUDENT LOAN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT (ASLA)

The Department of Education recommends federal student loan borrowers complete the Annual Student Loan Acknowledgement (ASLA) process each year a borrower accepts a new federal student loan. The Annual Student Loan Acknowledgement is meant to assist borrowers in making an informed decision when financing their education. The ASLA process should be completed each year prior to receiving the first disbursement of a loan for the particular award year.

The Annual Student Loan Acknowledgement is in addition to the MPN process and does not replace existing loan entrance counseling requirements.

The Annual Student Loan Acknowledgement process is available on Studentaid.gov and may be accessed using your FSA ID and password.

FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN FEES & INTEREST

Federal student loans have fees that are a percentage of the total loan amount. These fees are referred to as **Federal Direct Loan Origination Fees**. Origination fees are imposed by the lender on all Federal Direct Subsidized, Unsubsidized and PLUS loans to process the loan and will be proportionately deducted from each loan disbursement. Federal Direct Loan origination fees change annually on October 1st.

Federal student loans carry an **interest rate**. Interest is money paid to the lender in exchange for borrowing money. Interest is calculated as a percentage of the unpaid principal amount (loan amount) borrowed. The interest rate varies depending on the loan type and the first disbursement date of the loan for most types of federal student loans. Federal student loan interest rates change annually on July 1st.

Please refer to the <u>Studentaid.gov</u> website for more information regarding current federal loan <u>origination fees</u> and <u>interest</u> <u>rates</u>.

PERMISSION TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT

The Department of Education has implemented federal regulations that authorize this University to administer Title IV (federal) financial aid funds. Title IV (federal) funds are financial aid you may receive in your Financial Aid Offer from the University and include:

- Federal Pell Grant
- Federal Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant
- Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (SEOG)
- Federal Direct Subsidized Loan Program
- Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan Program
- Federal Direct PLUS (Graduate Student)
- Federal Direct PLUS (Parent)

Other funds this University administers may also include:

- Health Professions Student Loan
- Loans for Disadvantaged Students
- Nursing Student Loan
- Nurse Faculty Loan Program

Federal regulations stipulate that Title IV (federal) financial aid funds cannot be applied to your student account until ten (10) days prior to the first day of classes or as designated by the Financial Aid Office. Federal regulations further require that the University apply your Title IV (federal) financial aid funds to 'allowable charges', which are tuition and mandatory fees. The University also assesses charges to your student account in order to consolidate billing. Some of these charges might include installment fees, late fees, and other miscellaneous charges. Federal regulations require the University to obtain your authorization to apply your Title IV (federal) financial aid to allowable charges appearing on your student account.

Your permission to authorize financial aid to pay for these charges will expedite the settlement of your student account. If authorization is not received prior to the tuition/fees due date, the Title IV (federal) financial aid funds will not be applied to

all allowable charges. This may result in an outstanding balance on your student account and the assessment of late fees.

Funds received from outside providers (i.e., scholarships, alternative loans) via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) will be applied to allowable charges. Funds received as a paper check may require endorsement prior to being applied to allowable charges.

You are not required to give authorization, but if granted, you may rescind the authorization at any time in person at the financial aid office during normal business hours. Once the authorization is signed, the Secretary of Education considers the initial authorization to be valid for future years unless and until you rescind the authorization. This rescission of Student Permissions is not retroactive.

GRANT STUDENT PERMISSIONS:

Student Home > Financial Account > View Student Permissions

COST OF ATTENDANCE

The financial aid <u>Cost of Attendance</u> (COA) is a reasonable average of a student's educational and living expenses for the period of enrollment. The COA sets limits on the total aid that at student may receive, and is generally the sum of tuition, fees, books and supplies, room and board, transportation and personal/miscellaneous expenses. Federal, state, institutional and other resources cannot exceed the cost of attendance. The COA may be used by students to financially prepare to meet their educational expenses.

The Office of Student Financial Services conducts a biennial student cost of living survey to determine the most recent and accurate living costs. Enrolled students are encouraged to participate in this survey when available.

The financial aid COA and financial aid offers are estimated based on anticipated full-time <u>enrollment</u>. For periods less than full-time, the budget and financial aid (Pell grants) are adjusted according to the enrollment intensity at the end of the <u>add/drop period</u> for each term. You will be expected to resolve any overpayment of financial aid (Federal, State and intuitional grants and loans) that resulted from a reduction in enrollment hours. The outstanding balance will be reflected on your student account.

AWARDS AND DISBURSEMENTS

In accordance with federal regulations, financial aid recipients attending UTHealth or UT MD Anderson may receive grant or loan funds from only <u>one</u> school during an academic period. Note: UTHealth <u>will not</u> award grant funds to dually enrolled students. Additionally, Direct Loan recipients may not exceed the <u>federal annual loan limits</u> established by the Department of Education.

Tuition accounts will reflect any outstanding balances caused by the reduction or revocation of aid, whether due to over awards, over payments, change in enrollment status, dual enrollment or when necessary to remain in compliance with state, federal and institutional guidelines.

Financial aid disbursements typically occur on the first day of class each semester, unless otherwise indicated on the Financial Aid Offer.

General conditions for the disbursement of federal, state and institutional aid:

- Must be enrolled at least half-time
- Must meet <u>Satisfactory Academic Progress</u> (SAP)
- Negative Service Indicators (HOLDS) must be cleared
- Master Promissory Note must be completed and current (loan borrowers only)
- Loan Entrance Counseling must be completed and current (loan borrowers only)

Exceptions to general rules:

- Pell Grant eligible recipients may receive Pell Grant disbursements while enrolled less than half-time.
- In order to receive loans or grants (excluding Pell grants) during the summer term, students must be enrolled at least half-time at the beginning of the term for *both* 6-week summer sessions.
- SAP is calculated annually after the posting of grades at the end of the term as follows: UTHealth Spring term UT MD Anderson Summer term

PELL GRANTS

In accordance with Federal regulations, students may not receive Pell Grant disbursements concurrently from more than one school.

Beginning with the 2011-2012 award year, federal law limits the amount of Federal Pell Grant funds a student may receive over his or

her lifetime to be the equivalent of six years of Pell Grant funding. Since the maximum amount of Pell Grant funding a student can receive each year is equal to 100%, the six-year equivalent is 600%.

CHANGE IN ENROLLMENT OR WITHDRAWAL

If your enrollment status/intensity changes or you withdraw from school before completing a payment period and you receive federal, state or institutional grant or loan funds, you may be responsible for repaying some or all of the funds.

The amount you may need to return depends upon the amount you earned compared to the amount you received and when you received the funds. If you received more than you earned, you may need to return the difference. In some instances, if you received less than you earned, you may be eligible for a post-withdrawal disbursement.

Pell Grants will be adjusted to reflect the hours enrolled at census to allow for any changes in enrollment intensity.

Institutional grants will be revoked if your enrollment changes to less than half-time or you withdraw on/before the program census date.

Some other circumstances that may require reduction or repayment of aid (loans or grants):

Enrollment status changes

If your enrollment status changes, such as from full-time to half-time or less than half-time, your aid may be reduced or revoked.

• Dual enrollment

If you are concurrently enrolled at two institutions during the same enrollment period or academic year, UTHealth grants will be revoked.

• Receiving other grants or scholarships

If you receive other grants or scholarships that reduce your need for federal aid, your grant or loan may need to be reduced, reallocated or repaid.

Any outstanding balances resulting from the reduction or revocation of aid as a result of an over award or over payment will be reflected on your tuition account.

REVISION REQUESTS

Although every effort is made to optimize financial options for students, the Office of Student Financial Services recognizes that circumstances arise that necessitate a review of your financial situation. In accordance with federal guidance, financial aid counselors may exercise professional judgment in certain instances to update your FAFSA information to more accurately reflect your circumstances.

Unusual Circumstances (e.g., dependency status override) requests will be reviewed and generally processed within 14 working days to determine an initial financial aid award.

Special Circumstances (e.g., financial situations, involuntary job loss, change in housing status, computer, etc.) requests will be reviewed and generally processed within 30-45 working days after the program census date.

Processing for either request may be delayed during peak periods (e.g., semester starts). An aid administrator's decision regarding adjustments is final and cannot be appealed to the Department of Education.

For more detailed information regarding Unusual or Special Circumstances, please visit www.uth.edu/sfs/financial-aid/forms.htm or contact your financial-aid counselor.

PAYMENT PLAN

Payment Plans are available on <u>myUTH</u> to assist students in paying tuition and fees. There is a non- refundable payment plan fee to enroll.

Academic students participating in the payment plan should enroll *only* if they expect to have an extended lapse in receiving financial aid payments. Once financial aid has been disbursed for the term, *all allowable charges* for the current term will be paid regardless of the payment agreement.

Medical (MD) and Dental (DDS) Students are encouraged to enroll in the two-part payment plan <u>prior to the disbursement of financial aid funds</u> to ensure funds are applied to <u>current allowable charges</u> rather than the <u>full allowable charges</u>. This will ensure a more equal refund amount for each term, if applicable.

ENROLL IN PAYMENT PLAN

Student Home > Financial Account > Enroll in Payment Plan

REFUNDS

Refunds will be processed by the <u>Bursar's</u> Office after your financial aid has been applied to the current allowable charges and will be made in the manner in which you authorize. Students are encouraged to enroll in direct deposit to avoid refund delays.

DIRECT DEPOSIT

To expedite the processing of refunds, students are encouraged to enroll in Direct Deposit. If a refund option is not selected, refunds will be mailed via paper check to the current address on file.

ENROLL IN DIRECT DEPOSIT

Student Home > Financial Account > Enroll in Direct Deposit

For more information on the payment plan, refund or direct deposit process, contact the <u>Bursar</u> at (713) 500-3088.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

To obtain a historical list of most Federal loans borrowed, please visit Studentaid.gov.

- 1. Go to Studentaid.gov
- 2. Log into your account with your FSA ID and password.
- 3. "Accept" the account access warning.
- 4. Select "View Details".

Students who have borrowed private loans are encouraged to request a free credit report to obtain a comprehensive list of loans.

Loan repayment options with the *Loan Simulator* may be accessed by visiting https://studentaid.gov/loan-simulator/. When utilizing the simulator, please remember to add any loans accepted on the award notice to your historical list.

For more information on understanding financial aid visit: https://studentaid.gov/h/understand-aid

College Navigator is a free consumer information tool provided by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) designed to help students, parents, and others obtain information and statistics related to a college's accreditation, enrollment, tuition/fees, financial aid and graduation rates. College Navigator also offers tools allowing users to compare assorted data from various institutions. Click the appropriate link to view data from your institution: UTMDAnderson

STUDENT RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1. You must accurately complete all application and/or verification forms and submit in a timely manner to the appropriate office
- 2. The institutional deadline for processing the 2025-2026 FAFSA is April 15, 2026.
- 3. You must provide correct information. Misreporting information on financial aid forms is a violation and may be considered a criminal offense which could result in an indictment under the U.S. criminal code.
- 4. You must accept full responsibility for all agreements that you sign.
- 5. You should be aware of your school's refund policies and procedures which may be found at https://www.uth.edu/sfs/policies-and-disclosures/refund repayment index.htm.
- 6. You must keep the Office of Student Financial Services and the Department of Education informed of any: loan default, judgment liens (students/parents of dependent students), drug law violations, changes in name, marital status (if applicable), address or school status while in school or after graduation and while any loans are outstanding.
- 7. This office may assume, based on information received from the student, schools and outside sources, that you may be receiving other financial resources (e.g., tuition/fee sponsorship, stipends, and internal/external scholarships). If this information is incorrect, please notify the Office of Student Financial Services so that your award may be adjusted.
- 8. To receive Federal student loans, you must complete a Master Promissory Note (MPN), Entrance Counseling.
- 9. You must complete Exit Counseling upon graduation, withdrawal or less than half-time enrollment.
- 10. For more information regarding Direct Loans visit <u>Studentaid.gov</u>.

Information contained in this document is subject to change at any time in accordance with state, federal and institutional regulatory upon	lates.
	Rev 4/2025