Financial Aid Disbursements

Financial aid disbursements typically occur during the first week of classes for students meeting all financial aid eligibility and enrollment requirements and have no account holds.

First-time borrowers should log on to Studentaid.gov to complete:

⇒ Loan Entrance Counseling
⇒ Annual Student Loan Acknowledgement (ASLA)
⇒ Master Promissory Note (MPN)

Existing borrowers should log on to Studentaid.gov to complete:

⇒ Annual Student Loan Acknowledgement (ASLA)

Financial aid awards are estimated based on anticipated full-time enrollment. Students must be enrolled at least half-time for the entire 12-week summer semester for loans to disburse. Financial aid eligibility will be re-evaluated and adjusted following the add/drop period to reflect your semester registration. If your financial aid eligibility has changed due to changes in enrollment, you may owe a balance. Outstanding tuition balances will be reflected on your university student account. The add/drop deadlines may be found here.

Fall 2021 Disbursement Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dental Hygiene</td>
<td>August 9, 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Graduate Dental</td>
<td>August 9, 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental (DDS) I - IV</td>
<td>August 9, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>MD Anderson</td>
<td>August 16, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>August 23, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>GSBS</td>
<td>August 23, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>SBMI</td>
<td>August 23, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPH</td>
<td>August 23, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical III</td>
<td>October 22, 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical IV</td>
<td>November 12, 2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Refunds

Anticipating a financial aid refund? Allow 2 business days after the date of disbursement for refunds to post to direct deposit accounts. If you are not enrolled in direct deposit, a paper check will be mailed to the address on file in 3-5 business days. Refund questions should be directed to the Bursar’s Office at (713) 500-3088 or Bursar@uth.tmc.edu.
Accepting a Financial Aid Student Loan Offer

1. Log on to myUTH Student Center
2. Select Financial Aid
3. View Financial Aid
4. Choose Aid Year
5. Click Accept/Decline Awards (pencil icon)

Contact the Office of Student Financial Services at (713) 500-3860 or Sfaregis@uth.tmc.edu with student loan questions or questions related to your Financial Aid Offer.

Click here for Federal Student Loan Interest Rates.

Installment Plan Enrollment

1. Log on to myUTH Student Center
2. Select Account Inquiry
3. Click on Account Services
4. Enroll in Installment Plan

Installment plan: Medical and Dental (DDS) students are encouraged to sign up for an installment plan prior to financial aid disbursing. Contact Bursar@uth.tmc.edu with installment plan questions.

Ready, Set, Apply

READY to apply for FAFSA? Beginning on October 1, 2021 students may apply for financial aid using the 2022-2023 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at Studentaid.gov. Applicants are encouraged to apply early as some state and federal funds are offered on a first come, first served basis to those who qualify.

SET up a FAFSA ID and gather the documents you’ll need:

- Social Security Number for you and your parents (if you are a dependent student)
- 2020 federal tax information for you (and your spouse, if married), and your parents if you are a dependent student.
- Untaxed income information (child support, interest income, etc.)
- School code:
  - UTHealth 013956
  - UT MD Anderson 017249

APPLY for the 2022-2023 FAFSA at Studentaid.gov

Applicants planning to accept federal loan offers can get a head start by completing these steps now:

- Complete Loan Entrance Counseling
- Complete the Annual Student Loan Acknowledgment
- Complete the Master Promissory Note (MPN)

These documents will be electronically transmitted to the school by the Department of Education, so there’s no need to send them to the school.
Pell isn’t everything!

The Pell Grant is a type of federal need-based financial aid offered by the Department of Education to undergraduate students who demonstrate an exceptional financial need. The Pell Grant typically does not have to be repaid as it is a means to assist eligible low-income students pay for college costs including tuition, fees, room and board and other educational expenses. For this reason, the Pell Grant is highly desired by students.

But what about students ineligible to receive the Pell Grant? Simply put: Pell isn’t everything!

The federal Pell Grant is not the only form of aid a student with or without exceptional financial need can expect to receive. The Pell Grant should be viewed as a substantial source of aid, but students should understand it is a component of financial aid not the only type of aid available.

Other forms of financial aid may include internal and external scholarships, federal, state and institutional aid including grants and loans. It is recommended students explore the variety of financial aid resources available to them when financing their education. To that end, students are encouraged to apply for financial aid by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

More information regarding the types of aid may be found at uth.edu/sfs/ or Studentaid.gov.

Changes Are Coming to FAFSA

As part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2021, the Department of Education (ED) announced that it will begin making significant changes to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the federal methodology formula used to determine aid eligibility.

The FAFSA system will be modernized in phases to ensure applicants remain the center of focus by allowing students to apply for and receive federal aid during the transition period. Some of the expected provisions are the simplification of the FAFSA application, removal of the Selective Service and drug conviction questions and the repeal of limitations on subsidized loan eligibility for undergraduate Direct Loans.

The statutory deadline for the changes is the 2023-2024 award year, with several provisions having early implementation options. Remaining reformation are slated for completion by the 2024-2025 award year.

The modernization of the FAFSA and the federal aid system is expected to have a positive impact on students by streamlining the process and improving the financial aid experience.

Note: Consolidated Appropriations Act 2021 changes are specific to federal aid eligibility. Thus, some requirements remain in effect to receive state financial aid.

For more information regarding FAFSA and financial aid system changes visit Consolidated Appropriations Act 2021.
Annual Student Loan Acknowledgement

Beginning with the 2022-2023 award year, the Department of Education is requiring federal student loan borrowers to complete an Annual Student Loan Acknowledgement (ASLA) as part of the Master Promissory Note (MPN) confirmation process for the following loans:

- Direct Subsidized Loan
- Direct Unsubsidized Loan
- Direct PLUS Loans (graduate/professional students and parents)

The Annual Student Loan Acknowledgement is a yearly requirement and is meant to assist borrowers in making an informed decision when financing their education. The Annual Student Loan Acknowledgement requirement is in addition to the MPN process and does not replace existing loan entrance counseling requirements.

Borrowers must complete the Annual Student Loan Acknowledgement process before the school may disburse the first disbursement of a new loan that a student or parent accepts for a particular award year. Student and parent borrowers failing to complete the ASLA process beginning with the 2022-2023 award year will not receive their federal subsidized, unsubsidized, graduate or parent PLUS loans for the award year.

Complete the Annual Student Loan Acknowledgement on StudentAid.gov.

Debt and Strategy

College is expensive and often times students fail to realize the amount of debt incurred until it's too late. Below are some simple strategies you can implement now to minimize student loan debt and adopt a sensible repayment plan.

**Step 1: Create a budget**
Make conscious spending decisions by creating a realistic budget. Every penny counts including savings.

**Step 2: Minimize debt**
Complete your FAFSA early and adapt the free money first practice: accept grants and scholarships first and reserve loans as a last resort. When accepting loans, borrow the amount you need to cover tuition and basic living expenses.

**Step 3: Explore repayment options and incentives**
Contact your Federal Student Loan Servicer to find the debt pay-off method that best suits your budget. Take advantage of federal loan repayment incentives (i.e., early repayment, reduced interest rates, loan forgiveness).

**Step 4: Stay informed**
Know what you owe. View your federal loan borrowing history on Studentaid.gov and request your credit report on AnnualCreditReport.com to gauge your credit history, detect inaccurate information, and stop identity theft and credit card fraud.

With proper planning and effective use of strategies, student loan debt can be reduced or avoided entirely.