

# Information for Prospective Students and Their Families



## Comparing aid offers from different schools

There are many reasons to choose one college over another and cost is only one of them. However, if you receive financial aid offers from more than one school, you will want to compare them to determine which offer is most beneficial to you. Take a close look at each school's awards and compare the following points (also see [www.finaid.umich.edu/financial\\_aid\\_basics/compare.asp](http://www.finaid.umich.edu/financial_aid_basics/compare.asp) for comparison worksheets):

### Cost of Attendance (Budget):

What categories of expenses are included in the schools' budgets? In general, these categories should be similar at all schools and should cover at least the basics of tuition, room and board, and books. (Note that U-M includes personal/miscellaneous expenses in its budget, whereas some schools do not.) Check to see whether the types of expenses you expect to incur are included and whether each school's estimates seem reasonable.

### The Types and Amounts of Aid Awarded:

1. Compare the percentage of grants and the percentage of loans to the cost of attendance. The more grants and fewer loans offered, the better. Also look at the interest rates and repayment terms of the loans.
2. **The Bottom Line:** Subtract the total aid awarded from the cost of attendance. This will show what you and your family will need to pay or borrow. To find out what your U-M Fall bill will look like or to find out how much you may be eligible to borrow to help pay your bill, select **Financial Aid Planning Calculators** from within Wolverine Access (<https://wolverineaccess.umich.edu>).

# A Guide to Financial Aid at the University of Michigan 2009-2010

## *Congratulations on your admission to the University of Michigan!*

We know that the cost of a college education and the financial assistance available to help meet that cost are crucial considerations in choosing a college. This publication is a companion piece to your U-M estimated award notice. We hope it will help answer your questions about financial aid and assist you with your college enrollment decision. If you have further questions, check our website or talk to one of our financial aid experts in person, by phone, or by email. We'd be happy to assist you!

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## Your ESTIMATED award notice

### Response required by May 31, 2009!

We have used the data you and your parents provided on your financial aid application documents to **ESTIMATE the financial aid you may be eligible to receive during your first academic year** (Fall and Winter terms) at the University of Michigan. Your estimated award notice is contingent upon verification of the data you provided on your application documents. We are **requesting additional documents and/or information from you** in order to confirm or adjust this estimate before sending you an official award notice. View and print these documents on Wolverine Access (<https://wolverineaccess.umich.edu>). If you do not have a username to use to log into Wolverine Access, you will need a U-M Friend account (see box below). Please submit the requested documents even if you are not sure if you will be attending U-M.

The Office of Financial Aid (OFA) must receive these documents by **May 31, 2009**, to consider you for all aid programs. If we do not receive them by this date, the aid listed on your estimated award notice will be cancelled and **very little, if any, grant funding will be available when we calculate your official award notice.** Once we receive your documents, we will review them within three weeks and notify you by email when your official award notice is available to view/print on Wolverine Access. (If you do not have an email address on file with the university, your official award notice will be sent by postal mail.) If you do not receive notification from our office within three weeks, please contact us as soon as possible. Aid funds released to your U-M student account will be based on the awards on your official (*not estimated*) award notice.

## About Wolverine Access

U-M's password-protected website, Wolverine Access, allows you to view your personal university information, including financial aid award notices and additional aid application documents.

If you don't have a U-M username and password, you will need a U-M Friend account to access your information. To get a Friend account, go to: <https://wolverineaccess.umich.edu> > New & Prospective Student Business. On the authentication page, click on "create one now" to set up your Login ID. On the next page, click on "others" and follow the directions to set up your account.

<https://wolverineaccess.umich.edu>

# University of Michigan Aid Awarding Policies

**M**uch of the financial aid process that colleges follow when awarding financial aid is regulated by federal law. However, colleges also use institutional policies to help them distribute limited financial aid funds equitably to their students. The information on this page answers the questions that families of newly admitted students ask about financial aid at U-M.

## Treatment of scholarship assistance

Students may seek scholarships from private sources and U-M schools and colleges to help them meet their college costs. They may also use other resources, such as ROTC scholarships and veterans' benefits. According to federal regulations and university policies, these forms of assistance must be counted as financial resources when eligibility for need-based aid is determined. However, they will improve the student's overall aid package. In general, if you receive outside aid (including scholarships from U-M schools and colleges), it will first be applied against any costs that have not been accounted for in your financial aid package (i.e., the gap, if one exists, between the cost of attendance and your EFC plus the financial aid offered). Next, it will be used to reduce your loan or Work-Study award, thus reducing the funds you must borrow or earn by working. Only if all loan and Work-Study awards have been replaced by scholarships or other resources will the amount of your grant aid be reduced.

There are some important exceptions to this rule. If you own a 529 plan, such as a Michigan Education Trust contract, or if you receive a scholarship that is partially or fully funded by the state, such as the Michigan Competitive Scholarship (MCS), the Michigan Promise Scholarship, the Detroit Compact Scholarship, or the Wade McCree Scholarship, it will be applied against your need-based grant awards before reducing your need-based loan or Work-Study awards. In addition, receiving either a Wade McCree or a Detroit Compact Scholarship will reduce your eligibility for the university-funded Michigan Tradition and Michigan Experience Scholarships and for the Michigan Competitive Scholarship.

## Financial aid beyond your first year

It is likely that you will receive similar financial aid offers throughout your undergraduate years, **IF** the following remain true:

- Eligibility for the scholarship(s) or award(s) you receive is not limited to your freshman year.
- Your family's financial situation does not change. Changes in your parents' income or marital status or in the number of your siblings who attend college will affect your financial aid eligibility.
- The federal, state, and institutional funding of financial aid programs does not change.
- You submit the appropriate application materials by the required deadlines.
- You provide accurate information (income, assets, etc.) on all application materials.
- You continue to meet enrollment level and satisfactory academic progress (SAP) requirements. We monitor enrollment levels (the number of credit hours you take) during each term. If you drop courses and fall below the minimum credit hour requirements, you may need to repay all or part of the aid you receive. For more information on SAP, contact our office or see [www.finaid.umich.edu/apply\\_and\\_receive\\_aid/receiving\\_your\\_aid/sap.asp](http://www.finaid.umich.edu/apply_and_receive_aid/receiving_your_aid/sap.asp).

## Comparing ESTIMATED and OFFICIAL award notices

Listed below are some of the most common reasons for adjustments between *estimated* and *official* financial aid award notices:

**Missing the May 31, 2009, Deadline:** If you do not provide our office with the additional required documents by May 31, 2009, very little, if any, grant funding will be available when we calculate your official award notice. (Note: The documents must be received by our office by May 31; be sure to leave sufficient time for mailing.) Submitting these required documents by May 31 will ensure that you will maintain your eligibility for aid.

**Tax Returns:** Many early aid applicants use estimated data to complete their financial aid application. Our office needs actual data, based on the signed federal income tax return you submit to the IRS, in order to determine your official financial aid offer. We verify factual information from your tax return, including wages earned, voluntary retirement account contributions, capital gains/losses, business losses, and actual taxes paid. These figures are used to calculate your eligibility for aid. We also use the interest and dividend income reported on tax returns to verify the value of assets reported on your application. Be sure to submit your tax return.

**Family Size & Number of Siblings in College:** We will use the number of exemptions claimed on the tax return, or reported to our office, to verify the number of siblings attending college and the number of family members in your household. When calculating the financial need of students, credit is given for each sibling enrolled at least half-time in a college program leading to an undergraduate degree or certificate (note that neither siblings in high school nor parents who are attending college/university classes are included). This is a way to recognize the financial impact that children attending college have on a family. If there is a reduction in the number of

your siblings enrolled in college, your eligibility for financial aid will also be reduced.

**Additional Assistance:** According to federal regulations and university policies, private scholarships and aid such as ROTC scholarships and veterans' benefits must be counted as resources when students' eligibility for need-based financial aid is determined. Notify our office if you are receiving such assistance; submit either a copy of the scholarship/assistance award letter or a letter including the amount and time period during which you will receive the scholarship/assistance. Include your name and UMID number on the correspondence.

**Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG) Estimate:** There will be an estimated ACG listed on your award notice if your academic credentials indicate that you will most likely qualify for this federal grant. If you do not qualify for this grant, we will adjust your aid package (you may receive loans instead if you have remaining aid eligibility).

**Michigan Competitive Scholarships:** The State of Michigan makes these scholarship awards to Michigan resident freshmen in May. Students who receive these scholarships will have their aid offers adjusted. See "Treatment of Scholarship Assistance" (*this page*).

**Michigan Promise Scholarship Estimate:** You will have this estimated award listed on your award notice if your academic credentials indicate that you will most likely be offered this scholarship from the State of Michigan. The state will notify us if you are eligible to receive the Michigan Promise. If you are not eligible, we will adjust your aid package. Visit [www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid](http://www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid) for more information and to certify your scholarship.

**Michigan Education Trust (MET):** If you have a MET contract, notify OFA as soon as possible.

# Cost of Attendance and Budgeting

The Office of Financial Aid establishes standard cost of attendance budgets as a basis for awarding financial aid funds. These budgets reflect modest but adequate expense patterns of U-M students based on research conducted by the Office of Financial Aid. While individual students' actual expenses will vary based on their lifestyle, the estimated costs listed in the chart below should be helpful to you in planning your own budget. **Note: The cost of attendance amounts listed are only estimates for the 2009-2010 year, which is made up of two terms: Fall (September through December) and Winter (January through April).** For more information on costs, see [www.finaid.umich.edu/financial\\_aid\\_basics/cost.asp](http://www.finaid.umich.edu/financial_aid_basics/cost.asp).

## Two tips for your first weeks on campus

1. Be sure to have some pocket money for books and other expenses when you first arrive at the university.
2. If you receive a Work-Study award, please note that it may take up to a month to receive your first paycheck for work performed in a Work-Study job.

## Budgeting tips

### Tuition and Fees

The estimated rates listed in the chart below are for a full-time credit hour load, defined by the university as 12-18 credit hours per term for undergraduates. Students who elect fewer than 12 credit hours per term are charged on a per credit hour basis. Those who elect more than 18 hours pay for the additional credit hours. Detailed information on tuition and fee charges is available from Student Financial Services and the Registrar's Office (*see page 8*).

### Housing

Housing costs can vary significantly based on the living arrangements you select. The university residence halls offer a variety of room types and meal plans. The Office of Financial Aid uses an estimated standard double occupancy rate in the budget to determine aid eligibility. However, you could pay as much as \$10,692 per year for a single room or as little as \$6,580 for an economy triple (both estimated rates include the standard meal contract). The Housing Information Office will send you a detailed schedule of room and board options and rates along with your Housing application.

■ **Off-Campus Housing:** The Ann Arbor community offers many options for living arrangements. The financial aid budget allows up to an estimated \$1,074 per month for undergraduates for rent, utilities, and food (an estimated \$1,415

per month for graduate students). We suggest that you carefully evaluate the costs you might incur if you live off campus.

■ **Commuting:** Students who live at home and commute to campus will reduce their room and board costs significantly. The estimated allowance for room and board in the financial aid budget for commuting students is \$3,840 for the year to acknowledge ongoing family household expenses (food, utilities, etc.) and transportation costs.

### Books and Supplies

Costs will vary by program, course load, and classes selected. You may be able to reduce your costs significantly by buying used books or by using the university's extensive library and reserve book system.

### Personal and Miscellaneous

This category represents every other student expense — transportation, meals not covered under the standard meal contract, phone calls, clothes, personal hygiene, entertainment, etc. It also includes loan origination fees. This is the most variable and personal component of any student's budget. The financial aid budget allows about \$65 per week. Personal spending can make or break a college budget!

## Estimated cost of attendance for Fall/Winter 2009-2010

	TUITION & FEES <sup>1</sup>	BOOKS & SUPPLIES <sup>2</sup>	ROOM & BOARD <sup>3</sup>	PERSONAL/ MISCELLANEOUS	TOTAL BUDGET
<b>MICHIGAN RESIDENT</b>					
Freshmen/Sophomores	\$11,037	\$1,048	\$ 8,590	\$2,090	\$22,765
Juniors/Seniors	\$12,439	\$1,048	\$ 8,590	\$2,090	\$24,167
Graduate Students	\$16,641	\$1,192	\$11,320	\$4,042	\$33,195
<b>NONRESIDENT <sup>4</sup></b>					
Freshmen/Sophomores	\$33,069	\$1,048	\$ 8,590	\$2,090	\$44,797
Juniors/Seniors	\$35,391	\$1,048	\$ 8,590	\$2,090	\$47,119
Graduate Students	\$33,355	\$1,192	\$11,320	\$4,042	\$49,909

<sup>1</sup> These are estimated tuition and fees. Actual 2009-2010 tuition will be set by the Regents of the University of Michigan in June 2009. Tuition and fees may be higher or lower, depending on a student's program of study; current full- and part-time tuition and fees for all U-M schools and colleges are available from the Office of the Registrar's website at [www.umich.edu/~regoff/tuition](http://www.umich.edu/~regoff/tuition).

<sup>2</sup> Book and supply costs for students in the School of Art, Architecture and Urban Planning, Dental Hygiene, and Business Administration are typically higher than the estimates at left. Contact OFA for exact figures.

<sup>3</sup> The estimated room and board rate listed for undergraduates is based on double occupancy in a residence hall. Actual room and board rates will be set in July 2009. The estimated room and board allowance for students living with parents and commuting to campus is \$3,840 for the year.

<sup>4</sup> While the Office of Financial Aid does not have sufficient funds to meet the full demonstrated financial need of nonresident students directly, those students who are eligible for scholarships from U-M schools and colleges or other private sources may be able to cover their costs through these combined resources. Other options often utilized by nonresident families are private/alternative loans and the Federal Direct PLUS Loan (*see page 6*).

## Scholarships

### University of Michigan scholarship programs

The academic excellence of newly admitted students is a source of great pride to the University of Michigan. Many students bring a wealth of academic credentials that warrant recognition. During the admissions process, all freshmen and transfer students are *automatically* considered for most merit scholarship programs administered by the Office of Financial Aid (OFA) and for scholarships offered by U-M schools and colleges. Generally, no separate application is required; if additional information is needed, you will be notified. If you are selected for a university scholarship program, you will be notified in writing around mid-April 2009. Major scholarship programs are listed on our website ([www.finaid.umich.edu/types\\_of\\_financial\\_aid/scholarships/scholar.asp](http://www.finaid.umich.edu/types_of_financial_aid/scholarships/scholar.asp)). U-M scholarships are highly competitive because of the academic qualifications of the students admitted. The academic qualifications required for scholarships vary from program to program.

### Private scholarships

Scholarships from outside organizations are an important resource for many students, especially freshmen, at the university. Most sponsors want to direct their funds to students with whom a connection has been or will be developed. Your local community is the best place to start. Some great places to begin your search include:

- Postings, notices, or flyers at your high school;
- Your mom's or dad's employer;
- Your place of religious worship;
- Social, professional, and fraternal organizations (e.g., Elks, AAUW, VFW);
- Your public or high school library;
- Local University of Michigan Alumni Clubs (<http://alumni.umich.edu/clubs/index.php>); and
- OFA's website: [www.finaid.umich.edu/types\\_of\\_financial\\_aid/scholarships/privschol.asp](http://www.finaid.umich.edu/types_of_financial_aid/scholarships/privschol.asp).

Nonresident students should investigate grants and scholarships offered through their home states; see [http://wdcrobcop01.ed.gov/Programs/EROD/org\\_list\\_by\\_territory.cfm](http://wdcrobcop01.ed.gov/Programs/EROD/org_list_by_territory.cfm).

For other free scholarship search services on the web see our website: [www.finaid.umich.edu/types\\_of\\_financial\\_aid/scholarships/privschol.asp](http://www.finaid.umich.edu/types_of_financial_aid/scholarships/privschol.asp). If you are considering scholarship search companies, be sure to investigate the companies thoroughly, especially if they charge fees. The Federal Trade Commission has asked consumers to be especially wary of money-back guarantees and companies that promise scholarships before they receive your application information.

If you do receive private scholarships, be sure to notify our office if the scholarships are not listed on your financial aid award notice.

### Scholarships beyond the first year

The university's schools and colleges have scholarship programs for continuing students – that is, students who have completed at least one term of enrollment at the university. These scholarships may be based on need and/or merit. Students must apply for these scholarships directly; contact the scholarship or academic advising office of your school or college for scholarship applications after your first term of enrollment. Also, see [www.finaid.umich.edu/types\\_of\\_financial\\_aid/scholarships/scholar.asp](http://www.finaid.umich.edu/types_of_financial_aid/scholarships/scholar.asp).

**For LS&A Scholarships:** See [www.lsa.umich.edu/lsa/students/scholarships](http://www.lsa.umich.edu/lsa/students/scholarships)

**For Engineering Scholarships:** See [www.engin.umich.edu/students/scholarships](http://www.engin.umich.edu/students/scholarships)

### How does financial aid pay for my university charges?

Financial aid (scholarships, grants, and loans) administered by the university is applied directly to the charges on your account, usually during the first month of the term.\* Additional aid, such as private scholarships sent to the university for disbursement, will also be directly applied to your account. You are responsible for making payments to your account if a balance is owed. Your eBill will reflect all charges and financial aid disbursements for the current term. Note, however, that Work-Study awards are NOT reflected on the eBill because Work-Study funds are earned by working for and

receiving paychecks from eligible employers (see page 5).

*To find out what your U-M Fall bill will look like or to find out how much you may be eligible to borrow to help pay for your bill, click on Financial Planning Calculators in Wolverine Access (<https://wolverineaccess.umich.edu>). For more information on Wolverine Access, see page 1.*

\* Charges such as ITCOM phone bills and lost ID cards are not covered by financial aid funds, and some aid awards can only be applied to tuition. Therefore, you could receive a financial aid refund even if you have outstanding charges on your student account from the current term or previous terms. You are responsible for making payments to your account if a balance is owed.

### Your U-M eBill

Paying for tuition, room and board, and other expenses is a concern for all students. Your student account for these charges is administered by **Student Financial Services**. An overview of the account and eBilling system is provided below:

- When you are admitted to the university, a student account is established. Charges for university services are posted to this account.
- An eBill notification is sent to your umich email account by the middle of the month for each billing period. The email directs you to Wolverine Access to view/print your eBill. You must have a U-M username and password or Friend Account to log into Wolverine Access (see page 1).
- You can also authorize a Friend account for your parents, so that they may view/print your eBill on Wolverine Access. See [www.finaid.umich.edu/guides/parents.asp](http://www.finaid.umich.edu/guides/parents.asp) for more information.
- Charges are due on the date indicated on your eBill. Student Financial Services offers a U of M Payment Plan, whereby families can pay for their university charges in installments. For more information about this service, see [www.finops.umich.edu/student/payments/paymentplans](http://www.finops.umich.edu/student/payments/paymentplans).

For answers to your questions about your student account, contact Student Financial Services at (734) 764-7447 or [um-sfo@umich.edu](mailto:um-sfo@umich.edu).

# Student Employment

**A** basic premise governing need-based financial aid programs is that families have the primary responsibility to pay for college costs. The expectation is that, to the extent that they are able, students should help pay for college. Employment, both during the academic year and over the summers, can make an important contribution to the student's available financial resources.

Because of the University of Michigan's academic reputation, many families assume that it is unwise for students to work during the academic year. However, studies show that students who work a modest number of hours per week — no more than 15 — will, on average:

- have *higher grade point averages*,
- graduate at a *faster rate*, and
- be *less likely to drop out* than students who do not work.

Why? Some possible explanations:

- Working students become *better organized* and manage their time better.
- Employment exposes students to more *mentor-type relationships* and increases their interactions with “real world” people.
- Employment *provides financial resources* to help meet college costs.

Students who work also gain important job skills to include on their résumés.

## Work-Study employment

Students must apply for financial aid to be considered for a Work-Study award. Work-Study offers the opportunity to earn funds from part-time work performed for employers who qualify for the program under federal or state guidelines; it is offered to students with the greatest financial need. If you have a Work-Study award listed on your award notice, you qualify to interview for and obtain Work-Study jobs listed with the Student Employment Office (listings are on the web at [www.studentemployment.umich.edu](http://www.studentemployment.umich.edu)). **Only students with Work-Study awards can apply for these jobs!** To obtain a Work-Study job, look at the job listings on the web and contact the employers directly for interviews. You will need to show the employer a copy of your award notice (print out a copy from Wolverine Access) showing that you have been awarded Work-Study. You will also need proof that you are enrolled at least half-time. Work-Study students are some of the most highly sought-after employees on and off campus because federal or state funding covers a large portion of their wages, while the employers (university departments or nonprofit organizations on and off campus) pay the remaining amount.



Federal Work-Study students are encouraged to seek employment in approved community service programs, especially literacy tutoring programs in schools, libraries, and social service agencies. See the Student Employment Office website for a listing of community service jobs.

The chart below shows how a student working a modest number of hours per week can earn basic Work-Study award amounts during the academic year (approximately 30 weeks). The rate of pay is based on the current average hourly rate at the university for temporary employment positions.

Work-Study Award Amount	Hours Needed to Work per Week to Earn the Award (at \$9.43/hour)
\$4,000	14.1
\$3,000	10.6
\$2,500	8.8

## Temporary or part-time jobs

The University of Michigan and Ann Arbor communities enjoy a robust employment market. Students willing to work can find jobs! The Housing Information Office, for example, is always in search of good employees and is just one of the many departments that employ students. See the Student Employment Office website for job listings.

## Summer employment

The summer is an ideal time to work and save for the coming year's expenses. Working during the summer, and saving your earnings, can reduce the need to work during the academic year. Please note, however, that if you live away from home during the summer, your living expenses will reduce the amount you can save from your earnings.

U-M Student Employment Office:

[www.studentemployment.umich.edu](http://www.studentemployment.umich.edu)

## Additional Borrowing Options

**M**any families find that supplemental borrowing is an important way to finance educational expenses. Supplemental borrowing options may be of interest to those who:

- have little or no eligibility for need-based financial aid programs,
- need additional assistance to pay for college costs,
- are classified as nonresident students and need additional resources to fill the gap between need-based financial aid and college costs, or
- have circumstances (e.g., a medical condition) leading to documented costs above the standard cost of attendance budgets used by the Office of Financial Aid.

To find out how much you may be eligible to borrow, select Financial Planning Calculators from within Wolverine Access (for more information on Wolverine Access, see page 1). Evaluate each borrowing option based on your personal borrowing needs. For help, see the FinAid website loan analyzer at [www.finaid.org/calculators/loananalyzer.phtml](http://www.finaid.org/calculators/loananalyzer.phtml).

**REMEMBER:** Borrow only what you absolutely need — what you borrow today you will need to pay back later (*with interest*)!

### Subsidized Federal Direct Loan vs. Unsubsidized Federal Direct Loan

The Subsidized Federal Direct Loan is a need-based loan, while the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan is not. Students borrowing the Subsidized Loan do not pay interest on the loan while they are enrolled at least half-time; conversely, **students borrowing the Unsubsidized Loan must pay interest while they are enrolled in school.** You may defer the interest payments on an Unsubsidized Loan until you graduate; however, this will result in a higher loan payment over the life of the loan, so you will pay more in the long run.



### PLUS Loan and Grad Plus Loan

The Federal Direct PLUS Loan and Grad PLUS Loan are intended to assist families who are not eligible for other types of financial aid, who have remaining financial need after other forms of financial aid have been awarded, or who are not eligible to receive need-based aid. The maximum that can be borrowed each year is the cost of attendance minus all other financial aid awarded (see example below). For PLUS Loans, the PLUS borrower is the **parent** of a dependent undergraduate student; for Grad PLUS Loans, the borrower is a graduate student. Information and application materials are available from the Office of Financial Aid in May or June 2009 for the 2009-2010 academic year. Contact our office at that time if you are interested in applying for a PLUS Loan, or see [www.finaid.umich.edu/types\\_of\\_financial\\_aid/loans/federal\\_loans/plusmpn.asp](http://www.finaid.umich.edu/types_of_financial_aid/loans/federal_loans/plusmpn.asp) for application forms, for Grad PLUS Loan information, see [www.finaid.umich.edu/types\\_of\\_financial\\_aid/loans/federal\\_loans/gradplus.asp](http://www.finaid.umich.edu/types_of_financial_aid/loans/federal_loans/gradplus.asp). You must reapply for the PLUS Loan or Grad PLUS Loan each year.

#### PLUS Loan Eligibility:

\$22,765	COST OF ATTENDANCE/BUDGET
– \$12,000	TOTAL FINANCIAL AID AWARDS
= \$10,765	PLUS LOAN ELIGIBILITY

### Private loan sources

If you have considered all the options presented here and you feel that you need additional financing to meet your educational costs, see [www.finaid.umich.edu/types\\_of\\_financial\\_aid/loans/privloans.asp](http://www.finaid.umich.edu/types_of_financial_aid/loans/privloans.asp) for information on private loans. Apply for private loans separately and be sure to compare their rates and terms with the PLUS Loan and Grad PLUS Loan.

### A Word of Caution to Private Loan Borrowers

U-M students should avoid lenders that do not require U-M certification of their loan programs and, in general, should be suspicious of unsolicited loan offers.

The Michigan Student Financial Aid Association cautions students that “loan debt can accumulate quickly and result in a lifetime burden of high payments and credit denials for automobile purchases, credit cards, and home mortgages. Private loans also can reduce eligibility for more desirable federal, state and college aid programs. To avoid these problems, read and understand the terms and conditions of all loans.”

### How much can you borrow?

To find out how much PLUS, Grad PLUS, or private loan you can borrow, go to Wolverine Access (<https://wolverineaccess.umich.edu>) > Financial Planning Calculators > Calculate Alternative/PLUS Loan Eligibility.

# Refund Policy and Return of Title IV Aid

For a variety of reasons, students sometimes find it necessary to withdraw from all classes during a semester. Depending on when this action is taken, students may receive a refund of all or part of their tuition and fee charges. If the student is a financial aid recipient, however, the Office of Financial Aid (OFA), as well as the student, might be required to return all or a portion of the student’s aid to the federal government.

## Tuition refund policy

The university has a tuition refund policy that stipulates the amount of tuition and fees that is refunded to a student who withdraws from all classes during a term. The Registrar’s Office determines specific refund dates each term and publishes them on the web ([www.umich.edu/~regoff/calendar](http://www.umich.edu/~regoff/calendar)). The chart below shows the amount of tuition and fees returned to a student based on when the student withdraws. Students must notify the Registrar’s Office immediately, by following specific withdrawal procedures, if they are withdrawing (see [www.umich.edu/~regoff/](http://www.umich.edu/~regoff/)).

TIME OF WITHDRAWAL (Specific Dates Established Each Term by the Registrar’s Office)	PERCENTAGE OF CHARGES REFUNDED
Before the 1st day of the term	100% tuition; 100% fees
Within the first 3 weeks of the term	100% tuition; 0% fees
After the first 3 weeks but before the 6th week of the term	50% tuition; 0% fees
After the 6th week of the term	0% tuition; 0% fees

## Return of Title IV (federal) financial aid

The federal government mandates that students who withdraw from all classes may keep only the financial aid they have “earned” up to the time of withdrawal. Title IV funds that have been disbursed in excess of the earned amount must be returned by the university and/or the student to the federal government. Thus, the student could owe aid funds to the university, the government, or both.

To determine the amount of aid the student has earned up to the time of withdrawal, OFA divides the number of calendar days the student has attended classes by the total number of calendar days in the semester (minus any scheduled breaks of 5 days or more). The resulting percentage is then multiplied by the total federal funds that were disbursed (either to the student’s university account or to the student directly by check or direct deposit) for the semester.

This calculation determines the amount of aid that the student earned and the amount that he or she may keep (for example, if the student attended 25% of the term, the student will have earned 25% of the aid disbursed). The unearned amount (total aid disbursed minus the earned amount) must be returned to the federal government by the university or the student. OFA will notify and provide instructions to students who are required to return funds to the government.

## Allocating returned Title IV (federal) aid

Funds that are returned to the federal government are used to reimburse the individual federal programs from which the student received the aid. Financial aid returned (by the university and/or the student or parent) must be allocated in the following order, up to the net amount disbursed from each source:

- 1 Federal Unsubsidized Direct Loan
- 2 Federal Subsidized Direct Loan
- 3 Federal Perkins Loan
- 4 Federal Direct PLUS Loan or Grad PLUS Loan
- 5 Federal Pell Grant
- 6 Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG)
- 7 National Science & Mathematics Access to Retain Talent (SMART) Grant
- 8 Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)
- 9 Other Federal Loan or Grant Assistance

Students whose circumstances require that they withdraw from all classes are strongly encouraged to contact OFA and their academic advisor before doing so. At that time, the consequences of withdrawing from all classes can be explained and clearly illustrated. OFA’s financial aid counselors can provide refund examples and further explain this policy to students or parents.

<b>WOLVERINE ACCESS</b>	<a href="https://wolverineaccess.umich.edu">https://wolverineaccess.umich.edu</a>
<b>UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN</b>	<a href="http://www.umich.edu">www.umich.edu</a>
<b>M-PARENT WEBSITE</b>	<a href="http://www.umich.edu/parents">www.umich.edu/parents</a>
<b>U-M PORTAL EN ESPAÑOL</b>	<a href="http://www.umich.edu/Es">www.umich.edu/Es</a>

## Financial Aid Tips

### Addresses & Telephone Numbers

All mailing addresses end with:

University of Michigan  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109

#### OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID (OFA)

main office/ mailing address:  
2500 Student Activities Building

north campus office:  
B430 Pierpont Commons

phone: ..... (734) 763-6600

fax: ..... (734) 647-3081

email: ..... financial.aid@umich.edu

website: ..... www.finaid.umich.edu

#### STUDENT EMPLOYMENT OFFICE

2300 Student Activities Building

phone: ..... (734) 763-4128

email: ..... student.employment@umich.edu

website: ..... www.studentemployment.umich.edu

#### ADMISSIONS OFFICE (Undergraduate)

1220 Student Activities Building

phone: ..... (734) 764-7433

website: ..... www.admissions.umich.edu

#### RACKHAM FELLOWSHIPS & RECRUITMENT OFFICE (Graduate students only)

0120 Rackham Building

phone: ..... (734) 764-8119

email: ..... flwships@umich.edu

website: .. www.rackham.umich.edu/Fellowships

#### HOUSING INFORMATION OFFICE

1500 Student Activities Building

phone: ..... (734) 763-3164

website: ..... www.housing.umich.edu

#### OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

central campus:

1207 LS&A Building ..... (734) 647-3507

north campus:

B430 Pierpont Commons .... (734) 763-7650

website: ..... www.umich.edu/~regoff

#### STUDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES

2226 Student Activities Building

phone: ..... (734) 764-7447

Toll Free 1-877-840-4738 (from U.S. & Canada only)

email: ..... um-sfo@umich.edu

website: ..... www.finops.umich.edu

#### OFFICE OF NEW STUDENT PROGRAMS

1100 LS&A Building

phone: ..... (734) 764-6413

email: ..... onsp@umich.edu

website: ..... www.onsp.umich.edu

- Read all information and email messages sent to you by the Office of Financial Aid (OFA).
- If you are a dependent student, discuss and share with your parents all information and emails sent to you by OFA. Students can authorize a Friend account for their parents so that they can also view/print their student's award notice and other documents on Wolverine Access. You may also sign up your parents to receive OFA e-newsletters and aid renewal information. See [www.finaid.umich.edu/guides/parents.asp](http://www.finaid.umich.edu/guides/parents.asp) for information.
- Some email service providers will prevent you from receiving our emails or force the emails into your bulk/spam folder. To prevent this situation, add **financial.aid@umich.edu**, **financial.aid2@umich.edu**, and **targetemail@umich.edu** to your email address book.
- Keep track of your calls, correspondence, and emails to OFA and note the name of the staff person with whom you are working.
- Keep a file of all of your financial aid records and information.
- Notify OFA immediately of any changes in your family's financial situation, any change to your enrollment level that drops you below half-time, or any other situation that might affect your financial aid package.
- Be sure to include your name and UMID number on all documents and correspondence you submit to OFA.
- If you have any questions, please contact us; we'd be happy to help! Be sure to have your UMID number handy when you call. Note: We can only discuss personal financial aid information with the student and the student's parent(s) whose income is provided on the FAFSA. All callers must provide the student's UMID when calling.

### The Regents of the University of Michigan

Julia Donovan Darlow, ANN ARBOR

Laurence B. Deitch, BINGHAM FARMS

Denise Ilitch, BINGHAM FARMS

Olivia P. Maynard, GOODRICH

Andrea Fischer Newman, ANN ARBOR

Andrew C. Richner, GROSSE POINTE PARK

S. Martin Taylor, GROSSE POINTE FARMS

Katherine E. White, ANN ARBOR

Mary Sue Coleman (*ex officio*)

#### U-M Nondiscrimination Policy Statement

The University of Michigan, as an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer, complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action, including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The University of Michigan is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination and equal opportunity for all persons regardless of race, sex, color, religion, creed, national origin or ancestry, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, or Vietnam-era veteran status in employment, educational programs and activities, and admissions. Inquiries or complaints may be addressed to the Senior Director for Institutional Equity and Title IX/Section 504 Coordinator, Office of Institutional Equity, 2072 Administrative Services Building, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1432, 734-763-0235, TTY 734-647-1388. For other University of Michigan information call 734-764-1817.

- The University of Michigan is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, Higher Learning Commission, 30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400, Chicago, Illinois 60602-2504, Phone: (800) 621-7440; (312) 263-0456; Fax: (312) 263-7462. For more information, contact the U-M Office of Budget and Planning at (734) 998-7654.
- Contact the Office of Financial Aid at (734) 763-6600 or see [www.finaid.umich.edu/financial\\_aid\\_library/consumer.asp](http://www.finaid.umich.edu/financial_aid_library/consumer.asp) to obtain consumer information regarding financial assistance and the institution.

**SUBJECT TO CHANGE:** Because of the nature of federal, state, and institutional guidelines affecting financial aid programs, the information contained in this publication is subject to change.