NEW STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE NEWSLETTER

Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine

WELCOME FROM THE OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Congratulations on your plans to enroll as a Marshall University Physician Assistant student. The Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) has prepared this Financial Aid Newsletter to assist you with the information you must manage in preparation for physician assistant school financing. In the newsletter, you will find useful information about the Federal Student Aid application process along with important deadlines. Meeting deadlines is one of the most important steps in receiving funds. Being well informed and planning early is key to getting the utmost benefit from every possible financial aid program available to you as a PA student.

We know you are excited to begin your PA education as we are assisting you on identifying financial aid resources available to help you meet your needs. Our primary objective is to assist you in planning for and meeting your expenses. Our office strives to meet your financial needs by not only providing dollar support but through assistance in financial counseling and debt management.

We recommend you keep this newsletter in a file for future reference and, when you receive additional information about financial aid, you can maintain those records in your file.

The Office of Student Financial committed to providing quality service. Whenever you have a question regarding personal financial matters or our financial aid process, please feel free to contact me. Please e-mail me at unroep@marshall.edu or call me at 304-691-8739. I'm looking forward to working with you now as well as in the upcoming years.

Parker Unroe
Assistant Director of Student Financial Assistance
Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine

- To be considered for Federal Student Aid, you must complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) at studentaid.gov.
- The 26-27 FAFSA is open!
- Marshall University's FAFSA school code is 003815.
- Once accepted, your financial aid award notice will be available in your myMU account and sent via US Mail. The notice will include instructions on how to navigate your account.
- Submit any additional documents to the Office of Student Financial Assistance by December 1 to ensure your account is finalized by the billing due date.
- Accept or decline your financial aid offer in your myMU account. Only accept the amount of loan you feel you need. This is important to ensure payment of your billing statement and timely disbursement of your financial aid and refund.
- If you are a first-time loan borrower, you must complete Loan Entrance Counseling and a Master Promissory Note.
- Billing statements are sent by Marshall University's Bursar Office before the start of each semester.
- Financial Aid refunds are sent during the first week of class provided the student has completed all necessary requirements.

FEDERAL STUDENT AID APPLICATION PROCESS

You must file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to apply for federal aid. You may file the 2026-2027 FAFSA at www.studentaid.gov. Be sure to include Marshall University's institutional code (003815).

To complete and sign the FAFSA electronically, you must use the U.S. Department of Education FSA ID username and password. You only need to create an FSA ID username and password once. Your username will be used for medical school and beyond. You will also need your FSA ID to complete Federal Direct Loan Entrance Loan Counseling and to sign a Federal Direct Loan Master Promissory Note electronically. Your FSA ID allows access to your historical Federal financial aid grant and loan records.

Information you will need to complete your FAFSA:

- Your 2024 Federal Income Tax records and W-2 forms (if applicable)
- Driver's License
- Any additional financial information
- MU's School Code: 003815

If you still have questions, call 1-800-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243), or studentaid.gov.

HOW FINANCIAL AID IS DETERMINED

The information a student reports on the FAFSA is used in a formula established by Congress to determine the Student Aid Index (SAI). The SAI is the first component of determining financial aid eligibility for need-based aid. Although there are few need-based programs available for medical students, this calculation is performed for all applicants.

The second component is the Cost of Attendance (COA) or financial aid budget. To determine eligibility for need-based financial aid programs, SAI is subtracted from the COA.

Physician Assistant/ Medical students are eligible for Federal Unsubsidized Loans, Graduate PLUS Loans (credit check required), medical school scholarships, and other types of aid. To determine your award, your EFC is subtracted from your COA to determine your need. Your total financial aid offer will equal your COA (see example below).

The COA reflects average educational costs. Tuition & Fees are fixed costs for any given academic year. The chart below provides COA and tuition and fee costs for the 2026-2027 academic year. For more detailed information about tuition and fees, visit the Bursar Office. Books & Supplies are variable costs and depend upon course requirements. Living expenses are variable. Miscellaneous expenses are variable costs that consume a large part of educational costs if not budgeted carefully.

COST OF ATTENDANCE EXAMPLE

	In-State	Out-of-State
Tuition & Fees	$21,708	$31,588
Books & Supplies	$1,200	$1,200
Computer & IT	$2,200	$2,200
Living Expenses	$15,300	$15,300
Transportation	$5,657	$5,657
Miscellaneous	$7,200	$7,200
Unsubsidized Loan Fees	$250	$250
Other Loan Fees	$589	$589
TOTAL	$54,104	$63,984

FINANCIAL AID OFFER EXAMPLE

Unsubsidized Loan	$20,500	$20,500
Private Lender	$33,604	$43,484
TOTAL AWARD OFFER	$54,104	$63,984

Annual Loan limits (unsubsidized only): $20,500

ADDITIONAL LOAN INFORMATION

The William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (FDL) program allows you to borrow funds from the U.S. Department of Education instead of a bank or other lending institution. The program allows borrowers to work with a single entity through an assigned loan servicer when repaying loans or dealing with loan-related issues. There are two Federal Direct Loans for medical students, Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans and Federal Direct Graduate PLUS loans.

By completing the FAFSA, you are automatically considered for these loans. You will be offered an FDL based on your Cost of Attendance. A credit check will be required if you accept your Graduate PLUS loan offer. If you have a negative credit history, you can be denied this loan. If denied, there are additional options to gain approval. To check your credit history and obtain a free credit report go to: www.annualcreditreport.com.

If you are a first-time borrower for either the Federal Direct Unsubsidized or Graduate PLUS loan, you must complete Entrance Counseling and sign a Federal Direct Loan Master Promissory Note. Once you receive notification from our office directing you to myMU to view your financial aid information, you will need to accept or decline the offered loan amount. If you "accept" any amount of loan, you will be provided instructions to complete your requirements. Additionally, loan processing fees are deducted from your total amount borrowed.

TO VIEW FINANCIAL AID OFFERS

- Login to your MyMU account on Marshall.edu
- On the right side of your screen there will be a section called Student Quick Links
- In the Student Quick Links section, there will be a link titled Financial Aid Dashboard
- Click the Financial Aid Dashboard link
- It will take you to your current financial aid year and show you your student aid offers.
- You can either accept, decline, or modify (to a lesser amount) the amount you would like for each term.

TO SIGN UP FOR E-REFUNDS / DIRECT DEPOSIT

- If you accept more aid that is required to cover your tuition and fees for a term, you will be eligible for a financial aid refund.
- To sign up for direct deposit, first login to your MyMU account
- Once on your MyMU account, locate Student Quick Links on the right side of the screen
- Scroll down the Student Quick Links until you see Student Account Center
- Click the Student Account Center link
- On the Account Center, there will be a top ribbon of links, click the Refunds link
- Once on the Refunds page, click the green Choose Your Refund Delivery Method
- Follow the prompts on the page

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) is the term used to define successful completion of coursework to maintain eligibility for financial aid. All students are reviewed for SAP at the conclusion of each term. SAP is made up of 3 components: qualitative, quantitative, and maximum time frame. If you become eligible for aid because you are not meeting SAP, you have the opportunity to appeal for reinstatement of your aid.

For more information about SAP and how to appeal, visit the Student Financial Assistance website.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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