Student Financial Services (SFS) helps students identify ways to meet their financial needs effectively. We look forward to working with you! Please don’t hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID

Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- Available only to U.S. Citizens, U.S. Permanent Residents and Eligible Noncitizens
- Boston University School Code: 002130
- Parental information is not required on the FAFSA.
- The FAFSA is available as of October 1
- Early submission is encouraged
- Applications will be reviewed after your mutual accept with BU Chobanian and Avedisian School of Medicine Graduate Medical Sciences (GMS)
- **Eligible GMS students may receive up to $20,500 in Federal Unsubsidized Direct Loans on an annual basis**

TYPES OF AID

**Federal Loans:** Federal Unsubsidized Direct Loans are offered to students who qualify, based on your application for financial aid. These loans generally offer more favorable terms than private, credit-based loans. The loan is unsubsidized and interest begins accruing once the money is applied to your student account.

**Scholarships:** Merit-based scholarships are awarded upon acceptance to selected students by GMS Admissions and not during the financial aid process. Terms and conditions regarding the amount received, and renewal requirements can be found in your notice of acceptance from GMS Admissions.

COST OF ATTENDANCE (COA)

The cost of attendance (COA) sets a limit on the total aid that you may receive. The COA is not the bill that you get; it is the total amount it would cost you to attend GMS each year. It includes direct and indirect expenses and is based on the length of the period of enrollment. SFS reviews the COA annually. Visit our website for the current COA for your program:

- Most GMS Programs
- Oral Health Sciences
- Physician Assistant
Additional Loans

**Graduate Federal Direct PLUS Loan**
The Graduate Federal Direct PLUS is a federal credit-based loan, available to students who are eligible for the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan. To apply you must submit the Graduate Federal Direct PLUS Request Form found on our website.

**Private Credit-Based Loans**
We encourage you to compare information concerning credit-based student loans carefully to determine the best fit for your particular circumstance. Most lenders require a co-signer. Visit our website for further details on different lenders.

Other Funding Sources

**Scholarships Outside Boston University**
Our website provides a number of search engines to help assist in finding scholarships beyond Boston University. Contact SFS if you receive a scholarship to incorporate the funds within your financial aid award.

**Tuition Benefits/Employee Benefits**
Do you work for a company/organization that provides tuition benefits to pay your billed expenses? If so, contact SFS to alert our counselors about your received benefit.

**Federal Work Study**
Eligible GMS students who complete the FAFSA may be able to receive limited Federal Work Study funding. Annually, an application will be available for students to request federal Work Study will be contacted about their receipt of such funds.

Payment Plan Options

BU Student Accounting Services offers short-term payment plan options for full-time and part-time students. Visit the Student Accounting Services website for more information.

FINANCIAL WELLNESS AND PLANNING FOR GMS STUDENTS

Let’s face it – graduate school is expensive! Take control of your money management now and stay on track for a bright financial future.

SFS offers financial wellness events throughout the year to develop students’ financial management skills for life. The program includes the Financial Fitness Fair and online resources with wide-ranging topics such as developing a budget, debt management, credit scores and home buying. We encourage all GMS students to attend as many sessions as possible.

Our monthly newsletter, Dollar$ and $ense, provides up-to-date programming, and financial aid-related information. We hope you read it, and meet with SFS staff if you have any questions, or concerns.

Contact Student Financial Services at osfs-gms@bu.edu

Questions? Ask our ChatBot BUzz 24/7!