



## Guide to Your Boston University Financial Aid Award

**Acknowledge your award** at [MyApplication Portal](#). Doing so affirms that you understand and agree to all terms and conditions specified in this guide. Please carefully note all instructions.

### **The BU Need-Based Scholarship**

The BU Need-Based Scholarship enables you to plan for the cost of your entire degree. BU financial aid is guaranteed for four years of study provided you meet satisfactory academic progress standards and remain enrolled at least part-time. If you have not completed the CSS Profile and wish to be considered for need-based financial aid, you may still do so. Visit the [Applying for Aid](#) page for more information.

### **Federal Financial Aid**

If you have completed the 2023/2024 FAFSA, the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan has been included in your award notification. If you have not completed the FAFSA and wish to be considered for federal financial aid, you may still do so. Visit the [Applying for Aid](#) page for more information.

### **Entrance Counseling and Master Promissory Note**

Entrance Counseling and a Master Promissory Note (MPN) are designed to assist you in understanding the rights and responsibilities that you are assuming as a borrower through the Federal Direct Loan Program and/or the Boston University Medical Campus (BUMC) loan program. Completing Entrance Counseling and an MPN is required to receive the first disbursement of your loans as a BUMC student.

- Federal Entrance Counseling and MPNs can be completed at [StudentAid.gov](#).
- After Orientation, recipients of BUMC loans will be sent a notification to your BU email account where you can register for an entrance counseling session and complete an MPN. Visit [BUMC Loan Entrance Counseling](#) for more information.

### **How to Pay Your Bill with Your Award**

The projected [cost of attendance](#) is listed in your award notification. Your fall semester charges will be viewable on the Student Link. Tuition and fee charges will be listed. Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans, if included in your award, will appear as “pending items” until those funds are disbursed. If you haven’t done so previously, you will be required to complete promissory notes and other requirements. Your actual Federal Stafford Unsubsidized Loan credit will be less than the amount borrowed because of an origination fee charged by the U.S. government. [Student Accounting Services](#) provides full instructions on how to settle your account. If your aid exceeds your billed charges, your account will display a credit balance. Any credit on your account will be available to you as a refund on or after the first day of classes. Visit [Student Accounting Services](#) to request a refund.

**Inform BU Student Financial Services of any additional awards.** Promptly inform BU Student Financial Services in writing of any additional award you receive from any source, either within or outside of Boston University, including scholarships, grants, tuition benefits, VA benefits or other aid. Federal regulations require that your total financial aid not exceed your cost of attendance.

**Inform BU Student Financial Services promptly of changes,** in your name, address, enrollment, or degree status, or if you withdraw or take a leave of absence from BU.

### **Appealing for Reconsideration of Your Need-Based Aid Decision**

We understand that family circumstances change and that extenuating circumstances sometimes arise. Thus, all appeal petitions are carefully reviewed and every effort is made to assist qualified students. Funding is limited. Please contact Student Financial Services to learn more about the appeal process and required documentation.

### **Complete the Scholarship Survey**

Visit the [MyApplication Portal](#) to answer a short survey to be considered for a limited number of donor stipulated scholarships. These scholarships replace BU need-based scholarships dollar for dollar.

### **Scholarships**

Scholarships do not have to be repaid. Boston University need-based scholarships may be replaced at any time by a comparable amount of BU funds from endowed sources to meet fund restriction requirements. Amounts awarded from particular funds may vary.

### **Loans**

Unlike scholarships, loans must be repaid. For more information on specific loan programs including Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans and credit-based loans such as Federal Graduate PLUS Loans. More information can be found on the [Loans](#) web page.

### **Plan to Minimize Your Debt**

SFS wants to help you develop your financial literacy skills, knowledge, and habits so you can manage financial resources effectively for a lifetime of financial wellbeing. Our [Dollar\\$ and \\$en\\$e](#) program provides students with a series of presentations, workshops, and online resources, related to all aspects of personal financial management.

### **Contacting BUMC Student Financial Services**

We are happy to assist you and your family with questions about the application process. SFS follows [federal FERPA regulations](#), for the protection of your personal data, and academic record.

**Phone:** 617-358-6550, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. ET.

**Email:** [osfs-med@bu.edu](mailto:osfs-med@bu.edu). In most cases you will get a response within two business days. Please include your name and Boston University ID number in any email communication. BU Student Financial Services will routinely address communications to students at their BU email account. We urge you to check your email account frequently.

**Virtual Options:** our [Contact Us](#) page provides up-to-date days/times for all communications