Student Financial Services

Boston University Medical Campus

Guide to Your Boston University Financial Aid Award

<u>Acknowledge your award</u> if requested through a letter included in your award notification. Doing so affirms that you understand and agree to all terms and conditions specified in this guide. Please carefully note all instructions.

Federal Financial Aid

If you have completed the 2025/2026 FAFSA, the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan has been included in your award notification. You must be an eligible FAFSA filer as defined by the Department of Education (ED). More details, including citizenship information can be found on the <u>federal student aid website</u>.

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 on the <u>federal student aid website</u>.
- 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 <u>BUMC Loan</u>
 <u>Entrance Counseling</u> 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 MyBU Portal. 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.

<u>Student Accounting Services</u> 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 after the first day of classes. Visit your MyBU Portal 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.

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

Scholarships

Scholarships do not have to be repaid. Boston University 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.

If you are a recipient of an endowed scholarship, you may be asked to compose "thank you" letters to donors. Additionally, you may be asked to attend the annual Scholarship Dinner. Members of your school's Development Office will be in contact with you, if you are required to participate in further contact with scholarship donors.

If you receive a scholarship that discounts your tuition based on a percentage, the amount of your scholarship will be adjusted according to your actual billed tuition costs, and registration.

Loans

Unlike scholarships, <u>loans must be repaid</u>. For more information on specific loan programs including Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans and credit-based loans such as Federal Graduate PLUS Loans. Credit-based private loans can also be an option for students who are looking for alternatives to federal loan products. More information can be found on the <u>Loans</u> section of our web page to begin your search.

Plan to Minimize Your Debt and Financial Wellness

Student Financial Services (SFS) wants to help you develop your financial wellness skills, knowledge, and debt management so you can manage financial resources effectively for a lifetime of financial wellbeing. The monthly Dollar\$ and \$en\$e newsletter provides up-to-date financial wellness news, upcoming presentations, workshops, and online resources. SFS recently partnered with Kindros, an online financial wellness platform providing asynchronistic learning modules focusing on budgeting, earning and saving money, and how to plan for life's big expenses.

Contacting BUMC Student Financial Services

We are happy to assist you and your family with questions about the application process, eligibility criteria and financing options. SFS follows <u>federal FERPA regulations</u>, for the protection of your personal data, and academic record. SFS will not share your personal information with any unauthorized external party.

- **Visit** our website at *bumc.bu.edu/osfs*.
- Call 617-358-6550, Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM 5:00 PM ET.
- Email:
 - o Goldman School of Dental Medicine: osfs-sdm@bu.edu
 - o Graduate Medical Sciences: osfs-gms@bu.edu
 - o Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine: osfs-camed@bu.edu
 - School of Public Health: <u>osfs-sph@bu.edu</u>
- In-person: counseling staff are available in our office at Robinson B-401
 - o Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 10:00 AM 1:00 PM, 2:00 PM 4:00 PM
 - Wednesdays: 10:00 AM 1:00 PM, 3:00 PM 4:00 PM
- **Live Chat:** One-on-one assistance with your questions without needing to call or visit our office. Currently available on the following days and times:
 - Tuesdays & Thursdays 11:00 AM 1:00 PM

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.