



# How to Accept Your Financial Aid Offer

## A Step-by-Step Guide

*Dear Student,*

The enclosed Financial Aid document reflects your current financial aid offer from Youngstown State University. The offer is based on full-time attendance for the academic year. In the event that future aid is subsequently added (state grants, federal loans, miscellaneous scholarships, etc.), notification of offer adjustments may be viewed online. Log in to the **PENGUIN** Portal to access your financial aid summary.

*What to do with your offer:*

- Review the amounts that appear on your financial aid offer carefully.
- Read the explanation of financial aid offer descriptions.
- Refer to the instructions “How to Accept Your Financial Aid Offer in Banner” to accept and authorize YSU to process the student aid being offered.
- Locate the financial aid offer due date to ensure timely online acceptance of your financial aid.

Please contact our office at 330-941-3505 with questions, or call 330-941-3506 to make an appointment with one of our financial aid counselors.

Sincerely,

Patrick Hoffman  
*Director, Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships*



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## Hours for the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships

Fall, Spring and Summer Semesters	
Office Hours	Monday–Friday 8 am - 5 pm
Walk-in Hours	Monday–Friday 10 am - 12 pm Monday–Friday 2 pm - 4 pm
Counselor Appointments*	Monday–Friday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm <i>To set up an appointment, call 330-941-3506</i>

The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships is open 8 am - 5 pm over academic breaks.

\* Financial Aid Counselors are available Monday through Friday usually between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. To schedule an appointment, call 330-941-3506. If you are unable to meet at these times, you may ask to speak with a counselor to make special arrangements that will accommodate your schedule.

# How to Accept Your 2021-2022 Financial Aid Offer in Banner

Browse to <http://penguinportal.yсу.edu> and login



## Click 'Financial Aid' from the e-Services for Students channel

Click Here →

From the Financial Aid menu, click 'View and Accept Offered Aid'

The screenshot shows a navigation bar with four tabs: 'Personal Information', 'Alumni and Friends', 'Student', and 'Financial Aid'. The 'Financial Aid' tab is selected and highlighted in blue. Below the navigation bar, the page title 'Financial Aid' is displayed. A yellow horizontal line separates the title from the main content area. On the left side, the text 'Click Here' is followed by a right-pointing arrow. The main content area contains several links: 'View and Accept Offered Aid' (highlighted in blue), 'Eligibility', 'Financial Aid Overview', 'E-mail the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships', 'General Financial Aid', and 'College Financing Plan'. Each link is followed by a brief description of its function. At the bottom of the content area, there is a 'RELEASE: 8.9' notice and a copyright notice: '© 2020 Ellucian Company L.P. and its affiliates.'

**Personal Information** **Alumni and Friends** **Student** **Financial Aid**

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## Financial Aid

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**Click Here** → [View and Accept Offered Aid](#)  
View account summary, review and accept aid offers and view loan applications.

[Eligibility](#)  
Review all outstanding requirements, financial aid holds and satisfactory academic progress history (SAP).

[Financial Aid Overview](#)  
Summary of overall status; Including cost of attendance, financial aid offers, and messages.

[E-mail the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships](#)  
Click to send an email to our office.

[General Financial Aid](#)  
Links to external financial aid information including the FAFSA, FSA ID site, and Direct Loans.

[College Financing Plan](#)  
Information about the Cost of Attendance and Aid that you have been awarded is provided in a standardized format which facilitates easy comparison with o

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**RELEASE: 8.9**

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From the Award menu, click 'Accept Your Financial Aid Offer'

The screenshot shows the same navigation bar as the previous image, with 'Financial Aid' selected. Below the navigation bar, the page title 'Financial Aid Offer' is displayed. A yellow horizontal line separates the title from the main content area. On the left side, the text 'Click Here' is followed by a right-pointing arrow. The main content area contains several links: 'Accept Your Financial Aid Offer' (highlighted in blue), 'View Aid Offer for Aid Year', 'View Disbursement Schedule', 'View Aid History', and 'View Loan Application History'. Each link is followed by a brief description of its function. At the bottom of the content area, there is a 'RELEASE: 8.9' notice and a copyright notice: '© 2020 Ellucian Company L.P. and its affiliates.'

**Personal Information** **Alumni and Friends** **Student** **Financial Aid**

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## Financial Aid Offer

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**Click Here** → [Accept Your Financial Aid Offer](#)  
View Aid Offer for Aid Year

[View Disbursement Schedule](#)

[View Aid History](#)

[View Loan Application History](#)

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# Review and submit Title IV Payment Authorization

## Title IV Payment Authorization for Federal Student Aid

- I understand that this authorization will be in effect for the entire period of my enrollment at Youngstown State University.
- I am permitted to cancel or modify this authorization at any time by sending written notice to the Office of University Bursar.
- I understand that unpaid charges could result in a delay of my future registration activity and/or a hold on my transcript registration and/or diploma.

In accordance with Federal Title IV regulations, I authorize Youngstown State University to use my Federal Student Aid for each of the following:

Agree  Disagree

Pay current outstanding charges other than tuition, fees, and room & board including miscellaneous charges and fines

You have already authorized payment for prior year charges.

Click Here

[Continue](#)

1. Federal Student Aid includes PELL, SEOG, Stafford Loans and Plus Loans.

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# Select the 2021-2022 Aid Year

## Aid Year

Some financial aid information is determined by Aid Year (the academic year for which you are receiving financial aid).

Select Aid Year

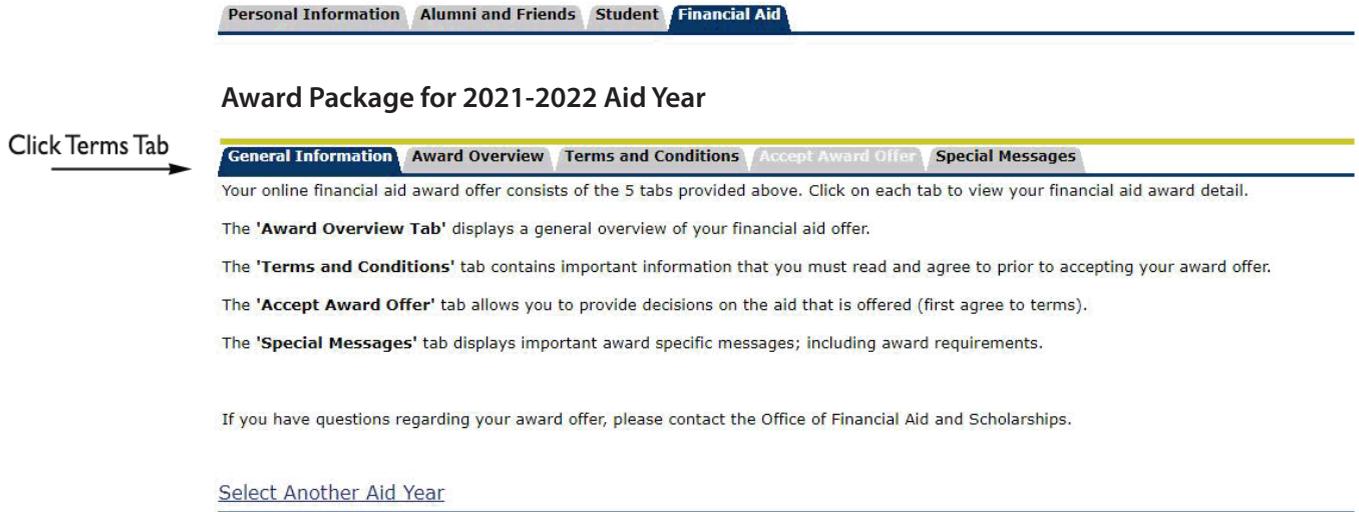
Select Aid Year

[Submit](#)

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## Click the 'Terms and Conditions' tab



**Personal Information** **Alumni and Friends** **Student** **Financial Aid**

### Award Package for 2021-2022 Aid Year

**General Information** **Award Overview** **Terms and Conditions** **Accept Award Offer** **Special Messages**

Your online financial aid award offer consists of the 5 tabs provided above. Click on each tab to view your financial aid award detail.

The '**Award Overview Tab**' displays a general overview of your financial aid offer.

The '**Terms and Conditions**' tab contains important information that you must read and agree to prior to accepting your award offer.

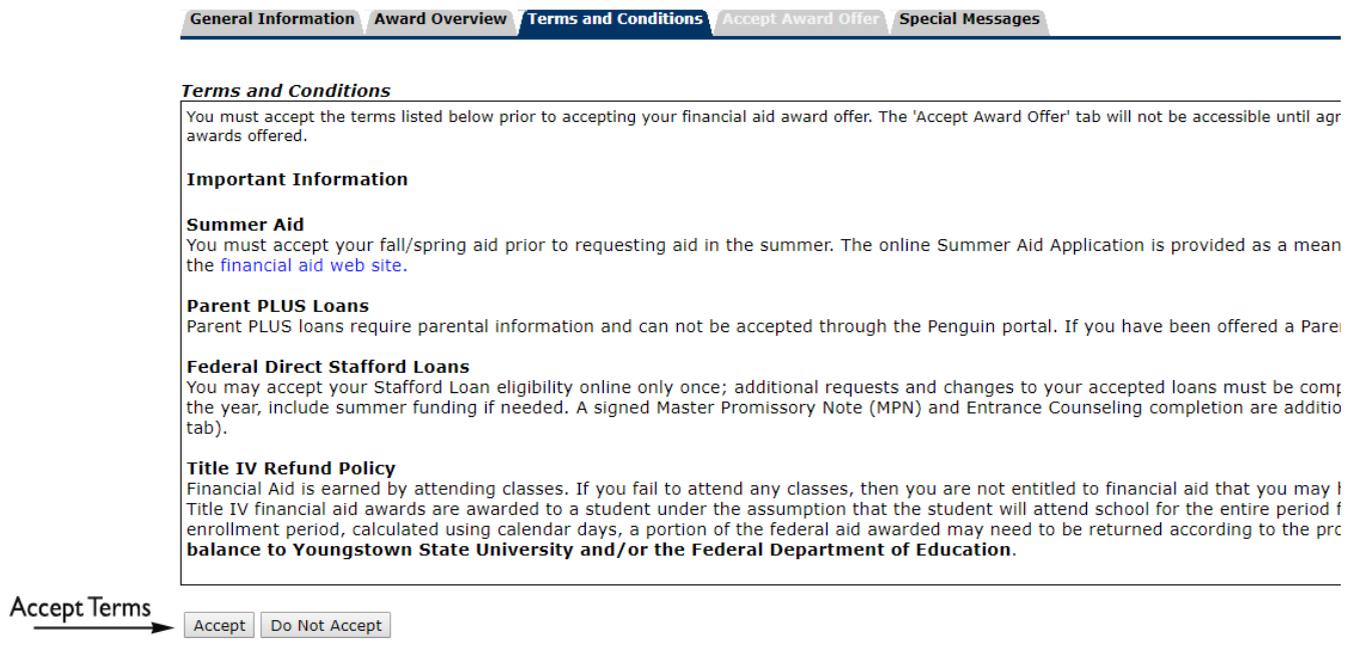
The '**Accept Award Offer**' tab allows you to provide decisions on the aid that is offered (first agree to terms).

The '**Special Messages**' tab displays important award specific messages; including award requirements.

If you have questions regarding your award offer, please contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships.

[Select Another Aid Year](#)

## Read and then accept the Terms and Conditions. The 'Accept Award Offer' tab will be disabled until Terms are accepted.



**General Information** **Award Overview** **Terms and Conditions** **Accept Award Offer** **Special Messages**

### Terms and Conditions

You must accept the terms listed below prior to accepting your financial aid award offer. The 'Accept Award Offer' tab will not be accessible until awards offered.

#### Important Information

##### Summer Aid

You must accept your fall/spring aid prior to requesting aid in the summer. The online Summer Aid Application is provided as a mean the [financial aid web site](#).

##### Parent PLUS Loans

Parent PLUS loans require parental information and can not be accepted through the Penguin portal. If you have been offered a Pare

##### Federal Direct Stafford Loans

You may accept your Stafford Loan eligibility online only once; additional requests and changes to your accepted loans must be comp the year, include summer funding if needed. A signed Master Promissory Note (MPN) and Entrance Counseling completion are additio tab).

##### Title IV Refund Policy

Financial Aid is earned by attending classes. If you fail to attend any classes, then you are not entitled to financial aid that you may l Title IV financial aid awards are awarded to a student under the assumption that the student will attend school for the entire period f enrollment period, calculated using calendar days, a portion of the federal aid awarded may need to be returned according to the prc **balance to Youngstown State University and/or the Federal Department of Education.**

**Accept Terms** →

Select 'Accept Award Offer' tab; read the instructions, then review and accept aid

[General Information](#)
[Award Overview](#)
[Terms and Conditions](#)
[Accept Award Offer](#)
[Special Messages](#)

Print

**Options for Accept Award Offers include:**  
 1. To choose to Decline or Accept a fund, select an award decision and then click 'Submit Decision'.  
 2. To accept a partial amount select Accept for the fund, enter the amount in the 'Accept Partial Amount' field, and click 'Submit Decision'.

<b>Award Decision</b>					
Fund	Status	Term	Amount	Accept Award	Accept Partial Amount
Federal Pell Grant	Accepted	Fall 2020	\$2,473.00		
	Accepted	Spring 2021	\$2,472.00		
	Fund Total: \$4,945.00				
Estimated State of Ohio Grant	Estimated	Fall 2020	\$1,000.00		
	Estimated	Spring 2021	\$1,000.00		
	Fund Total: \$2,000.00				
First Opportunity Award	Offered	Fall 2020	\$500.00		
	Offered	Spring 2021	\$500.00		
	Fund Total: \$1,000.00			Select Decision ▾	<input type="text"/>
DL Subsidized Stafford Loan	Offered	Fall 2020	\$1,750.00		
	Offered	Spring 2021	\$1,750.00		
	Fund Total: \$3,500.00			Select Decision ▾	<input type="text"/>
DL Unsubsidized Stafford Loan	Offered	Fall 2020	\$1,000.00		
	Offered	Spring 2021	\$1,000.00		
	Fund Total: \$2,000.00			Select Decision ▾	<input type="text"/>
Direct Parent PLUS Loan	Offered	Fall 2020	\$3,250.00		
	Offered	Spring 2021	\$3,250.00		
	Fund Total: \$6,500.00				

Submit Decision →

Review Lifetime Loan Balance totals, click box to acknowledge the information, then select 'Proceed to accept student loan'

[Personal Information](#)
[Alumni and Friends](#)
[Student](#)
[Financial Aid](#)

### Lifetime Loan Balance

Your loan acceptance is not complete. Do not click the back button or close this window.

For real time loan balances, browse to NSLDS.ed.gov and login using your FSA ID.

Our data is based on the last update YSU received on 11/02/2019. Based on timing, this may or may not include 2020

Your Subsidized Balance: \$2,000.00  
 Your Unsubsidized Balance: \$3,000.00  
 Your Total Loan Balance: \$5,000.00

Undergraduate  
 Lifetime Subsidized Limit = \$23,000.00  
 Lifetime Total Limit = \$31,000.00

You are currently considered a Dependent student

I have read and understand my loan balances

Click & Submit →

# If accepting Stafford loans, select a loan period and graduation date

## Select Loan Period and Graduation Date

To finalize loan acceptance, please complete the two questions listed below.

**Please Note:**

- Master Promissory Note and Entrance Loan Counseling:**  
 All first time loan borrowers are required to complete both a Master Promissory Note and Entrance Loan Counseling until both components have been satisfied.
- Fall/Spring loan period; maximum 50% loan eligibility for one term:**  
 The loan funding you accepted will be split evenly between the fall and spring semesters. Students are limited to the maximum amount that the student could borrow in a single term would be \$5,000, or 50% of the loan. A student may move money to the summer, but the maximum eligibility for any single term in the aid year will be \$5,000.
- Summer Loans:**  
 If you wish to move a portion of your loan eligibility to summer, you must complete the Summer Aid Application. Request loan amounts that have been accepted for the fall and spring to be moved to the summer semester.

Choose your loan period:

Grad Date →

Choose your graduation term:   
 (tentative)

# Review and print your financial aid offer

## Award Package for 2020-2021 Aid Year

Print Offers →

[General Information](#) [Award Overview](#) [Terms and Conditions](#) [Accept Award Offer](#) [Special Messages](#)

[Print](#)

**Options for Accept Award Offers include:**

- To choose to Decline or Accept a fund, select an award decision and then click 'Submit Decision'.
- To accept a partial amount select Accept for the fund, enter the amount in the 'Accept Partial Amount' field, and click 'Submit Decision'.

**Award Decision**

Fund	Status	Term	Amount
Federal Pell Grant	Accepted	Fall 2020	\$2,473.00
	Accepted	Spring 2021	\$2,472.00
	Fund Total: \$4,945.00		
Estimated State of Ohio Grant	Estimated	Fall 2020	\$1,000.00
	Estimated	Spring 2021	\$1,000.00
	Fund Total: \$2,000.00		
First Opportunity Award	Accepted	Fall 2020	\$500.00
	Accepted	Spring 2021	\$500.00
	Fund Total: \$1,000.00		
DL Subsidized Stafford Loan	Accepted	Fall 2020	\$1,750.00
	Accepted	Spring 2021	\$1,750.00
	Fund Total: \$3,500.00		
DL Unsubsidized Stafford Loan	Accepted	Fall 2020	\$1,000.00
	Accepted	Spring 2021	\$1,000.00
	Fund Total: \$2,000.00		
Direct Parent PLUS Loan	Offered	Fall 2020	\$3,250.00
	Offered	Spring 2021	\$3,250.00

# Click the 'Special Messages' tab; review messages / additional requirements

## Financial Aid Offer for 2020-2021 Aid Year

[General Information](#) [Award Overview](#) [Terms and Conditions](#) [Accept Award Offer](#) [Special Messages](#)

Messages →

**Federal Pell Grant**

Effective July 1, 2012, regulations now limit a student's Pell grant eligibility to the equivalent of 12 full-time semesters. Students who have reached their 12 full-time semester limit will no longer receive Pell grants.

**Federal Work Study**

Funding levels for the Federal Work Study program are subject to reduction by the Department of Education. The amount on your award offer is based on tentative funding information. If the Department of Education's funding is reduced, your award may be adjusted downward or eliminated.

**Master Promissory Note**

Youngstown State University participates in the Federal Direct Stafford Loan program. Every new student loan borrower must complete a Federal Direct Stafford Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN). The MPN must be signed electronically and non-activity greater than a year. To complete the MPN process click the link below. An FSA ID is required to sign electronically.

[Sign MPN](#)

**PLUS Application Steps**

Parents of dependent students wishing to secure PLUS loans must apply directly through the Department of Education. A credit check and signed Master Promissory Note (MPN) are required to process a Parent PLUS MPN/Application site is located at [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov).

[www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov)

**Direct Deposit**

Expecting a refund? Setup your Direct Deposit account today. Direct Deposit is the secure, convenient and reliable way to get your refund into your bank account FAST.

[Direct Deposit](#)

# Federal Student Loan Application Process for 2021-2022

To secure a Federal Student Loan, three requirements must first be satisfied:

1. **Student accepts their Federal Student Loan eligibility online via the PENGUIN portal.**
2. **Student completes Entrance Loan Counseling** (one-time requirement).
3. **Student signs a Direct Loan Master Promissory Note.**
4. **Student completes Annual Student Loan Acknowledgment.**

**Entrance Loan Counseling** is an interactive counseling session designed to help students understand the responsibilities that come with borrowing student loans. This is a one-time requirement and only required for first-time borrowers. Students must complete Entrance Loan Counseling at [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov).

**Student Master Promissory Note (MPN)** is a legally binding contract the student must sign. The MPN, signed with the Department of Education, is an agreement to repay the loan money borrowed. An FSA ID is required to sign the MPN electronically. Students must sign an MPN at [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov).

**Annual Student Loan Acknowledgment** is an acknowledgment completed by a borrower of a subsidized/ unsubsidized loan, a PLUS Loan for graduate/professional students, or a PLUS Loan for parents, and must be completed each year.

## Studentaid.gov

The screenshot shows the homepage of [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov). At the top, it identifies itself as an official website of the United States government. The navigation bar includes links for 'Help Center', 'English | Español', and a search icon. Below the navigation bar, there are four main menu items: 'UNDERSTAND AID', 'APPLY FOR AID', 'COMPLETE AID PROCESS', and 'MANAGE LOANS', each with a dropdown arrow. To the right of these are 'Log In | Create Account' and another search icon. The main content area features a large dark blue banner with the headline 'You Are America's Smartest Investment'. Below the headline, it states: 'The U.S. Department of Education's office of Federal Student Aid provides more than \$120 billion in financial aid to help pay for college or career school each year.' To the right of this text is a white 'Log In' button and a 'Create Account' link. At the bottom of the banner, there are four teal-colored boxes representing different user roles: 'Considering School' (with the subtext 'I'm thinking about going to'), 'In School' (with 'I'm in the process of earning a'), 'Parent' (with 'I want to help my child pay for'), and 'In Repayment' (with 'I have loans I need to repay.').

## **Disbursement Regulations**

Loan funds accepted will be split evenly between the fall and spring semesters. Students are limited to 50% of their yearly loan eligibility in any single term. If, for example, a student's yearly eligibility is \$10,000, the maximum that the student could borrow in a single term would be \$5,000, or 50% of the loan. A student may move money to the summer, but the maximum eligibility for any single term in the aid year will be 50% of the yearly eligibility.

## **Questions & Answers About Federal Direct Student Loans**

### **What is the Master Promissory Note (MPN)?**

An MPN is a legally binding contract the student must sign. It is an agreement to repay the Federal Loan money borrowed. The MPN also describes your rights and responsibilities as a student loan borrower.

### **How long is the MPN valid?**

An MPN will expire 10 years after the date it is signed. However, you must complete a new FAFSA for each year you wish to receive a loan.

### **Who is eligible to borrow?**

Students enrolled at least half-time in a degree or teacher-certificate program are eligible. Audited classes are not covered by financial aid and are not counted when determining enrollment status for financial aid.

### **What is the interest rate?**

Federal Subsidized Student Loans, with a first disbursement made on or after July 1, 2020, will have a fixed rate of interest of 2.75%. Federal Unsubsidized Student Loans have a current fixed 2.75% rate of interest.

Note: Graduate students are eligible only for unsubsidized loans at a current 4.3% interest rate. The Parent and Grad PLUS Loan interest rate is currently set at 5.3%.

### **Are there fees associated with borrowing?**

All Direct Federal Loan disbursements are subject to a 1.057% origination fee. The Direct PLUS origination fee is 4.228%.

## What are the yearly and lifetime maximum federal loan amounts?

	Dependent Undergraduates	Independent Undergraduates	Graduate Student
1 <sup>st</sup> year (Freshman)	\$5,500 Max \$3,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans	\$9,500 Max \$3,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans	\$20,500 Max \$0 of this amount may be in subsidized loans  Effective July 1, 2012 grad students are no longer eligible for subsidized student loans
2 <sup>nd</sup> year (Sophomore)  Associate degree borrow as 2 <sup>nd</sup> year students	\$6,500 Max \$4,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans	\$10,500 Max \$4,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans	
3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> years (each) (Junior and Senior)	\$7,500 Max \$5,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans	\$12,500 Max \$5,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans	
Aggregate loan limits for life of student's education	\$31,000 Max \$23,000 of this amount may be in subsidized loans	\$57,500 Max \$23,000 of this amount may be in subsidized loans	\$138,500 Max \$65,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans  The graduate debt limit includes Stafford Loans received for undergraduate study

## Parent PLUS Application Process

The PLUS Application site combines the YSU PLUS Loan Request and Parent Direct Loan Master Promissory Note under one process.

### *Why a separate process?*

A Parent PLUS loan application requires parental information and, for that reason, cannot be accepted by the student via the online financial aid offer. To apply, parents must log in to studentaid.gov using their FSA ID and request the loan. Please note the 2021–2022 Parent PLUS loan application will be available in April 2021.

## Studentaid.gov



UNDERSTAND AID ▾

APPLY FOR AID ▾

COMPLETE AID PROCESS ▾

MANAGE LOANS ▾

Log In | Create Account



# You Are America's Smartest Investment

The U.S. Department of Education's office of Federal Student Aid provides more than \$120 billion in financial aid to help pay for college or career school each year.

Log In

Create Account

Considering School

*I'm thinking about going to*

In School

*I'm in the process of earning a*

Parent

*I want to help my child pay for*

In Repayment

*I have loans I need to repay.*

# Summer Aid Application Process

With the possible exception of certain tuition-specific funding sources like vocational rehabilitation, requesting summer aid does not increase the amount of a student's financial aid offer for the year. Students who opt to receive aid in the summer can expect to receive less funding in the fall and spring semesters. A student may be eligible to receive an additional Federal Pell Grant, however, for the summer term. To qualify, the student must otherwise be eligible to receive Pell Grant Funds for payment period (Fall and Spring), and must be enrolled at least half-time in the summer semester. The student may not exceed 150 percent of the Pell Grant funding scheduled for the year.

## How do I apply for summer aid?

YSU provides a Summer Aid Application that enables students to request aid that they have accepted to be moved to the summer. The Summer Aid Application is provided as a means to move previously accepted aid from the fall/spring to the summer. It is not an application for additional aid.

1. Accept financial aid online through the process documented in this enclosure.
2. Next, complete the Summer Aid Application on our website.

**YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY** ABOUT YSU ACADEMICS ADMISSIONS STUDENT LIFE TUITION & FINANCIAL AID

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS / SUMMER AID APPLICATION

### Summer Aid Application

The following form is not an application for consideration for aid. This application is a request to move aid already offered and accepted for the 2020-2021 academic year to the summer semester. With the possible exception of certain tuition-specific funding sources like vocational rehabilitation, requesting summer aid does not increase the amount of a student's financial aid offer for the year. Students who opt to receive aid in the summer can expect to receive less funding in the spring term, as most funds used in the summer semester will be moved from the spring.

**SUMMER AID**

The following financial aid funds are eligible funding sources for summer. Federal and State grants are offered based upon the results of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). If you have not completed the FAFSA for the 2020-2021 school year, you will not be granted access to the application. All appropriate eligibility requirements must be met, including satisfactory academic progress requirements for federal aid.

**Federal Pell Grant -**

Per federal regulation, a Pell Grant eligible student who enrolls in the summer will receive a portion of their grant aid in the summer. In addition, regulations now limit a student's Pell grant eligibility to the equivalent of 12 full-time semesters.

Please note that Federal Pell Grant disbursement regulations do not allow a 2020-2021 Pell Grant award to be disbursed to a student's account until July 1. However, the University Bursar will take an estimated Pell amount into account when processing a billing statement.

**Contact Us**

330-941-3505 (phone)  
330-941-3506 (appointment)  
330-941-1659 (fax)  
Walk-in: M-F, 10-12 / 2-4  
Federal School Code: 003145  
ysufinaid@ysu.edu

@YSUFinancialAid  
Staff Directory

## Note on summer loans:

The Summer Aid Application allows students to move loan funds accepted for the fall/spring to the summer. It is not an additional loan request. Be sure to accept the loan amount needed for the entire academic year (summer, fall, spring) when accepting your aid, then complete the Summer Aid Application, moving needed funds to the summer.

# Explanation of Financial Aid Offer

## Explanation of the information and funding sources found on the Financial Aid Offer

**The College Financing Plan** – This consumer tool is utilized by participating institutions to notify students about their financial aid package. It is a standardized form that is designed to simplify the information that prospective students receive about costs and financial aid so that they can easily compare institutions and make informed decisions about where to attend school. The College Financing Plan became available for use beginning in the 2013-2014 aid year.

**Federal Pell Grant** – This federal grant is offered to undergraduate students based on financial need who are U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens. Eligible students must be accepted for enrollment in a degree or certificate program and pursuing their first associate or bachelor's degree. Students attending less-than-full-time will have their Pell Grant prorated based on the number of hours enrolled. Effective July 1, 2012, regulations now limit a student's Pell Grant eligibility to the equivalent of 12 full-time semesters.

**Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG)** – This State of Ohio grant is offered to undergraduate students based on financial need. Eligible students must be Ohio residents, enrolled in an eligible program, pursuing their first associate or bachelor's degree and meet the same satisfactory academic progress (SAP) requirements as is required to receive federal financial aid. The deadline to receive consideration is October 1<sup>st</sup>. Ohio College Opportunity Grants are offered to eligible students attending less-than-full-time and are subject to availability of funds and need eligibility. Eligibility for the Ohio College Opportunity Grant is derived using the applicant's Expected Family Contribution (EFC).

**Federal Work-Study** – This federal program provides part-time campus jobs for undergraduate and graduate students based on their financial need. The rate of pay is regulated by the federal minimum wage law. Job openings can be viewed online. Returning students are permitted to work during the summer semester based on job availability.

**Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)** – This federal grant is offered to undergraduate students based on exceptional financial need. First consideration will be given to students with maximum Pell Grant eligibility. Recipients must be enrolled in an eligible program, registered at least half-

time, and pursuing their first associate or bachelor's degree. FSEOG is subject to the availability of funds.

**Martin Luther King Merit Award (Incoming Freshman)** – This merit-based award is available to new high school graduates from Campbell Memorial, Cardinal Mooney, Chaney, East, Farrell, John F. Kennedy, Niles McKinley, New Castle, Sharon, Struthers, Summit Academy, Ursuline, Warren G. Harding, Youngstown Christian and Youngstown Early College. Recipients must have a grade point average of at least a 3.0, based on a 4.0 scale, and an ACT score of 19 or SAT score of 990.

**Housing Grant** – This grant is available to new and continuing students on a first-come, first-served basis. Need-based awards of up to \$2,000 per academic year are available to students who have financial need and live in University Housing or University Courtyard Apartments. New incoming freshmen must live in YSU housing their first year to receive Housing Grant funds. Preference will be given to students who live at least 30 miles from the university. Recipients must be admitted to the university and enroll full-time. Early completion of the FAFSA is encouraged as funds are limited. A completed FAFSA is a requirement. The priority filing date for applications is December 1 for new students and February 15 for continuing students, and a separate online application must be completed.

**Federal Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans** – Youngstown State University students who complete a FAFSA and have not met their aggregate loan limit will be offered the Federal Direct Loan based on grade level upon date of aid packaging. The federally funded Subsidized Stafford Loan has a fixed interest rate, which will be 2.75% beginning July 1, 2020. The subsidized loan interest is paid by the federal government while you are enrolled at least half-time. Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Loan interest accrues from the time the loan is first disbursed. The current interest rate for the Unsubsidized Stafford Loan is a fixed 2.75% for undergraduate students and 4.3% for graduate students. Repayment of both types of Stafford Loans begins six months after graduation, separation, or enrollment of less-than-half-time. Student borrowers cannot exceed their designated annual loan limits and maximum total debt allowed by federal law.

**Federal Direct PLUS Loan** - This federally funded loan has a fixed interest rate currently set at 5.3%. Parents of dependent undergraduate students are eligible to borrow based on their credit-worthiness. Repayment of the Federal PLUS Loan generally begins 60 days after the final loan disbursement for each academic year, but may be deferred until six months after the student graduates, separates, or drops below half-time enrollment. A parent will have the option of requesting a deferment as part of the loan request process. A parent can also contact loan servicer to request a deferment.

**Federal Direct PLUS Loans for Graduate and Professional Students** - This federally funded loan has a fixed interest rate, currently set at 5.3%. The loan is available to students who are enrolled in a graduate or professional program (a program that leads to a master's or doctoral degree) and who have reached their annual Stafford Loan limit. Additional requirements include minimum half-time enrollment and a good credit history; a credit check is required for approval. Repayment of the loan will begin six months after graduation, separation, or enrollment of less-than-half-time.

**PHEAA Grant**

The Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency Grant provides grants to Pennsylvania residents who are YSU students. Students may be full-time or half-time undergraduates enrolled in an approved program of study requiring at least two years to complete. The deadline to receive consideration is May 1.

**YSU PHEAA Match**

Recognizing the legislative cap on Pennsylvania grants to Pennsylvania residents attending Ohio universities, Youngstown State University has initiated a supplemental grant program funded by the YSU Foundation and the university. This grant is automatically awarded to YSU students who are awarded a PHEAA grant. The supplemental grant will be awarded in amounts up to 200% of the PHEAA grant, subject to availability of funds.

# Eligibility

## **Satisfactory Academic Progress**

Youngstown State University is required to uniformly measure a student's progress toward his or her degree. The citation process is not dependent on the student's receiving financial aid. A student becomes disqualified for financial aid when he or she fails to maintain either the minimum required grade point average, continually fails to successfully complete enrolled credit hours, or exceeds the maximum number of credit hours required to complete a degree. The complete policy is available on the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships' website, and can also be found in YSU's *Undergraduate Catalog*.

## **Repeated Classes**

Under new regulations, students passing a course with a grade of D or above can retake the same course only one more time to receive Federal financial aid for that course. Courses taken for a third time are no longer eligible for Federal financial aid. The new regulations impact Federal Pell Grants, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, Work Study, Stafford Loans and PLUS Loans.

## **Undergraduate Enrollment Status**

Full-time status is achieved by an enrollment of 12 semester hours or more. Three-quarter-time enrollment is 9 to 11 hours. Half-time students are enrolled 6 to 8 hours, and an enrollment of 1 to 5 hours is deemed less-than-half-time. Enrollment status for the purposes of offering financial aid is determined as of the last day of the 100% refund policy, or as of the date aid is offered if that aid is offered after the last day of the 100% refund policy. Enrollment status for Federal Stafford and PLUS Loans is locked in the date the loan is certified; however, the student must maintain a minimum half-time enrollment for the loan to be disbursed.

## **Graduate Enrollment Status**

Full-time status is achieved by a graduate enrollment of 6 semester hours or more. Half-time students are enrolled 3 hours and an enrollment of less than 3 hours is deemed less-than-half-time.

## **Adjustment Of Aid When Registered Hours Are Changed**

Financial aid that pays 100% of specific fees are adjusted as per YSU's tuition-refund policy. Federal Stafford and PLUS loans already disbursed are not adjusted; however, dropping below half-time will result in credit balances being returned to the lender and cancellation of future disbursements for the respective loans. Federal Pell Grants are adjusted according to enrollment status through the end of the refund period.

After that date, Pell Grants are not adjusted unless the federal refund formula is applied in connection with a complete withdrawal.

## **Other Adjustments And Corrections**

Youngstown State University reserves the right to adjust financial aid offer amounts in order to prevent or correct over-awards, to comply with federal, state and agency regulations or donor guidelines, and to maintain fiscal responsibility.

## **Transfer Students**

All transfer students will be classified as freshmen until their credit hours have been accepted and documented by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. Transfer students will need to complete Entrance Loan Counseling and MPN before loans at YSU can be disbursed.

## **Exit Counseling**

Students who have received Federal Stafford Loans while attending Youngstown State University are required to complete a federally mandated Exit Counseling online before graduating or leaving school. This interactive counseling session is designed to help the student plan for the repayment of their student loans. Contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships for further information. A link to Exit Counseling is provided on our website at [www.yzu.edu/finaid](http://www.yzu.edu/finaid).

## **Drug-related Convictions**

A student convicted of the sale or possession of illegal drugs may have federal student aid eligibility suspended if the offense occurred while the student was receiving federal student aid. If a student has a conviction, or convictions, for these offenses, he or she should call the Federal Student Aid Information Center (FSAIC), 1-800-433-3243, to find out how the law applies to the student and to seek assistance in determining the period of ineligibility. An affected student can regain eligibility early by successfully completing an approved drug rehabilitation program, or by passing two unannounced drug tests conducted by an approved drug rehabilitation program.

# Tuition Refund Policy

Students who receive Title IV Federal Aid are strongly encouraged to meet with someone in the Financial Aid Office prior to completely withdrawing from all courses to review financial aid information. Students should meet with someone in the Office of University Bursar prior to completely withdrawing from all courses to review account balance.

To withdraw from a single course, or from all courses (complete withdrawal), it is necessary to process a change of registration via the PENGUIN Portal – Registration. It is the student’s responsibility to confirm that the withdrawal was correctly processed. Nonattendance of class, or notification to the instructor or department, does not constitute official withdrawal.

## Title IV Federal Student Aid Refund Policy

Financial aid is earned by attending classes. You may be required to return your entire award or a portion of it, depending on your class attendance record. Students who receive a refund of Title IV monies and fail to begin attendance in all courses must return their refund immediately to the University Bursar. Failure to return the money immediately will initiate a 30-day demand letter to be generated to the student from the Federal Lender Servicer. If monies are then not returned to the Lender Servicer by the student, the student will be considered to be in default by the Federal Government and will no longer be eligible to borrow any Title IV funds. In addition, monies not returned by the student to the Lender Servicer may reduce the student’s eligibility of funds for the same school year.

If a student is permitted to withdraw from the university or if a student reduces his or her academic load, a refund of the tuition charge, and the nonresident tuition surcharge, where applicable, shall be made in conformity with the following schedule for regularly scheduled courses:

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Length of course	100% refund	No reduction of charges
More than 8 weeks	through the 14th day of term*	15th day of term and later*
8 weeks or less	through the 7th day of term*	8th day of term and later*

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\* Since access to change of registration is now available online 24/7, **every day of the week is counted** (including weekends and holidays) when calculating tuition refunds.

Note: For a complete withdrawal from any term, all applicable fees, fines, and penalties will be deducted from any refunds. If fees were paid by scholarship, loan, or grant-in-aid, the appropriate credit will be issued to the fund from which the initial payment was made. Student accounts paid with financial aid awards may be subject to a financial aid repayment.

Any withdrawal, or reduction in academic hours, processed after the tuition refund schedule outlined above will not be entitled to any reduction of charges and/or refund unless an *Application for Involuntary Withdrawal* is submitted and approved by the Fees and Charges Appeals Board. This form is available at the Office of University Bursar (Rm 227 Meshel Hall). Please be sure to carefully review all information included on the reverse side of the form. All decisions of the Fees and Charges Appeals Board are final and binding.

## What is Title IV?

Title IV federal financial aid includes: Pell, SEOG, Federal Direct Student Loans and PLUS Loans. Title IV financial aid awards are awarded to a student under the assumption that the student will attend school for the entire period for which the assistance was awarded. If a student completely withdraws on or before the 60% point in time of the enrollment period, calculated using calendar days, a portion of the federal aid awarded (Pell, SEOG, Federal Direct Student and PLUS Loans - but not Federal Work Study) may need to be returned according to the provisions of the Higher Education Amendments of 1998. This recalculation may result in the student’s owing a balance to Youngstown State University and/or the federal Department of Education. Contact the Financial Aid and Scholarships Office (330-941-3505) for a full explanation of the impact of a complete withdrawal. Students who receive federal aid funds are encouraged to seek financial aid advisement before processing a complete withdrawal.

Youngstown State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, disability, age, religion or veteran/military status in its programs or activities. Please visit [www.ysu.edu/ada-accessibility](http://www.ysu.edu/ada-accessibility) for contact information for persons designated to handle questions about this policy.

The Board of Trustees reserves the right to change the Tuition Refund Policy without notice if conditions warrant.