



**Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine**

**Health Science Informatics  
Certificate Program  
Master's Program**

**2023-2024**

## Financial Aid Award Guide

The Financial Aid Award Guide will serve as a resource for all students to help in navigating and understanding the financial aid process at the School of Medicine.

Office of Financial Aid  
The Johns Hopkins University  
School of Medicine

### Website:

<http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/som/offices/finaid>

# Financial Aid Award Guide – Health Science Informatics

## **3 THE FINANCIAL AID PROCESS**

### **3 STUDENT ELIGIBILITY**

- 3 Federal Eligibility
- 3 International Students

## **4 FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS**

- 4 Federal Title IV Programs
- 4 Federal Direct Loans
- 4 Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan
- 4 Entrance Counseling Sessions
- 5 Private Loans

## **5 DETERMINING YOUR FINANCIAL AID AWARD**

- 5 Award Package
- 5 Award Notification
- 5 Accepting your Award - SIS Self Service
- 6 Cost of Attendance
- 6 Disbursement Schedule
- 7 Borrower Right to Cancel
- 7 Bill Payment
- 7 Loan Master Promissory Note
- 8 Return of Title IV Funds Policy
- 8 Leave of Absence (LOA)/Withdrawal
- 8 Satisfactory Academic Program

# THE FINANCIAL AID PROCESS

The Office of Student Financial Aid administers federal, state, institutional and private funded programs. Students in the Graduate certificate, master's programs and on-line distance graduate programs are eligible to apply for the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan Program, the Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan Program, and/ or external Private Loan programs through a bank or credit union.

To qualify for the federal loan programs, students must complete the FAFSA application. Completing the FAFSA application is a yearly requirement for financial aid assistance.

Students applying for private loan funding must submit the application to the lender. The application will then be forwarded to the Financial Aid Office for certification. The amount of the request cannot exceed the yearly cost of attendance (budget) minus any financial aid or departmental assistance received toward the student's educational costs.

In consideration of loan assistance, the Financial Aid Office must receive documentation of all funding support provided by the Graduate Department before determining loan eligibility.

## STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

### WHAT DETERMINES FEDERAL FUND ELIGIBILITY?

Graduate students are considered independent for purposes of receiving federal student aid. Only the income of the student and/or spouse (if married) is considered in determining financial need. You must be a U.S. citizen or an eligible noncitizen (including a U.S. national or permanent resident) to apply for federal financial aid.

Students **MUST** complete the following process and provide required documents each year. All forms and instructions may be found on the financial aid website.

- FAFSA Application
- Income Tax Return if selected for federal verification

**Note:** Students are encouraged to complete the FAFSA application by October 1st, however applications will still be accepted after that date.

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS:

International students without U.S. citizenship or permanent residency are not eligible for federal financial aid. Students are responsible for providing funding to cover their educational costs.

# FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

## FEDERAL LOAN PROGRAMS

Low interest loans are made available to assist students with meeting their education costs each year. All Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine federal loans are processed through the Federal Direct Loan program. Students must complete the FAFSA application to be considered for loan eligibility. In addition to completing the FAFSA application, students will be required to complete a loan promissory note for each loan type before any disbursement of funds. Eligible programs:

### Federal Direct Unsubsidized Student Loan (William D. Ford Federal Loan Program)

- **Maximum \$20,500 per academic year –Graduate students**
- Interest rate varies (determined by June 30 of each year)
- Loan origination fee varies (less than 2.0%)
- Interest accrues while in school, during grace period (six months), or in deferment
- Eligible for deferment or forbearance
- Required to complete [Master Promissory Note](#)
- Entrance interview required for first-time borrowers

### Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loans

- **Students may borrow up to the full cost of education less any other aid received**
- A credit check is required of all students
- Interest rate varies (determined by June 30 of each year)
- Loan origination fee varies (less than 5.0%)
- The student/borrower is responsible for all interest that accrues. Any unpaid interest will be capitalized (added to the loan principal).
- Required to complete a PLUS Master Promissory Note
- Entrance interview required for first-time borrowers
- Student must apply through the [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov) federal website

**Note:** Interested students are required to borrow total eligibility under the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Student loan program before considering borrowing from the Direct Graduate Plus loan program. Students are encouraged to contact the Financial Aid Office for more information.

### **Entrance Loan Counseling**

First-time loan borrowers will be required to complete an online Direct Loan Entrance Interview Counseling Session via [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov). No federal loan funds will be disbursed until the Entrance Interview Counseling Session is completed.

## **PRIVATE LOANS**

Students may apply for private alternative loans through a bank or other lending institutions. Many of these lenders have variable interest rates and require a credit check before determining loan eligibility and interest rates. Students are encouraged to apply for federal loans first before consideration of the private loans.

**Note:** In some cases, proceeds from the private loans will be mailed directly to the student and the student will be responsible for payment to the University.

## **DETERMINING YOUR FINANCIAL AID AWARD**

### **Award Package**

Your award package may consist of Federal loans and/or private loans. Students will receive notification from the Financial Aid Office of their total award for the year. Because funding may be awarded from different sources, students should be aware of the requirements of each loan program before accepting the award.

The total award package may not cover the full costs of tuition and fees charged for the academic year. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the student to review their student account to ensure payment of all charges for the semester has been met.

Students may contact the Financial Aid Office for additional funding options if needed.

### **Award Notification**

All students will be notified by email when their award package has been completed. Instructions will be provided for completing the award process.

### **Accepting your Award**

As part of the financial aid process, students will need access to the online (SIS) Student Information System for Students. This system acts as a portal to “Net Partner”, which will allow you to view the status of your financial aid application, view the components of your financial aid budget, and allow you to accept and/or decline your financial aid award. The student portal also allows access to Student Billing for viewing and payment of semester charges. We are committed to the privacy of students and their personal information; therefore, we will use the following unique identification number to communicate with you:

#### New Students:

New and prospective students should click on the new user access link below to create an account and authenticate themselves into the system.

<https://uis.jhu.edu/sis/guest-account/>

New student special notice: Students will receive information from the Registrar's Office during the month of June in reference to setting up their permanent ID.

#### Current Students:

You can access the student portal with your JHED login ID. A JHED login (or "LID") is a unique identifier for your information in the JHU Enterprise Directory. All students are automatically assigned a LID upon enrollment. You can use your LID to gain remote access to a number of JHU services, such as financial aid, billing and registration. It should not be confused with any numbers on your various ID cards. Login to <https://sis.jhu.edu/> for assistance.

For more detailed information about the Student Information System, [click here](#).

#### **Cost of Attendance**

Financial Aid cost of attendance (COA), or student budget, is comprised of what is referred to as "direct educational costs" (costs charged to all students) and "indirect costs" (projected living expenses based on the student's year in school and program).

Student budgets are reviewed each year and are subject to change. Students will receive their actual budgets when they receive their award notification, which will be available on their awards screen in the student portal.

#### **Disbursement Schedule**

Federal and private loan funding for each student is credited directly to the student billing account in two equal installments, based on the disbursement schedule for the current academic year. If the financial aid exceeds the cost of tuition and fees a refund for the difference will be released to the student. Students should verify that their "[FlyWire](#) Disbursement" account, available through the Business Office, has been initiated to ensure timely posting of their refund. If the financial aid award does not cover the full costs of tuition and fees the student is responsible to pay the difference.

You may view the self-service student portal for the current disbursement schedule for the fall and spring semesters.

## **Borrower Right to Cancel**

Federal law requires the Financial Aid Office to notify students of their right to cancel any of their federal loan funds (Direct Loan). Once funds are disbursed, the Financial Aid office will notify students via e-mail. Students must notify the financial aid office in writing no later than 14 days from the date of the notification if they wish to cancel all or a portion of their loan(s). By cancelling all or a portion of a loan, students will be responsible for any outstanding balances owed to the University.

## **Bill Payment**

Students are responsible for paying their tuition bill in full each semester. Payment may be in the form of departmental aid assistance, financial aid funding or from the student's own resources. Students should review their billing account each semester to verify the status of their charges and applied payments, and to ensure that their bill is paid in full.

ONLINE STUDENT NOTICE: Students may apply for financial aid but are expected to pay their bill prior to the start of the semester.

## **Loan Master Promissory Notes**

### *Federal Direct and Graduate PLUS Loans*

The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine participates in the Federal Direct Loan Program. The Department of Education requires that each student complete a "Master Promissory Note" (MPN) before disbursement of any loans. Students are only required to complete one MPN. This MPN allows multiple loans to be processed. No amount is indicated on the promissory note. The MPN will cover up to 20 loan disbursements. If 20 direct loan disbursements have been exceeded, you will be required to complete an additional Master Promissory Note. The awarded amounts of your loans will be sent to the Department of Education. Within 14 days of loan origination, you will receive a disclosure statement from the Direct Loan Servicing Center indicating the amount of loan funds from this program that you have borrowed to date.

All first-time borrowers of a Federal Direct Loan will be required to electronically sign a Master Promissory Note online. If you do not wish to accept the Federal Direct loans or currently have an active Master Promissory Note on file with the U.S. Department of Education, you need not complete a Master Promissory Note.

Continuing students who have borrowed previously from the School of Medicine are not required to sign another promissory note.

Students who need to borrow funds beyond the Federal Direct loan limits may be able to participate in the William D. Ford Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan. The Graduate PLUS loan is available to graduate and professional students. Borrowers are required to complete a credit check, online entrance counseling and a master promissory note.

## **Return of Title IV Funds Policy**

If the student withdraws, goes on leave or drop courses before completing the term or quarter, they may be subject to returning all or a portion of the federal loans received for payment of the enrollment period.

Section 485 of the Higher Education Amendments of 1998 stipulates that if a recipient of Title IV aid (Federal Student Loans) withdraws during a payment period or a period of enrollment, the academic institution must calculate the amount of Title IV aid the student did not earn. Unearned Title IV aid must be returned to the loan programs. Therefore, any recipient of Title IV aid who withdraws before completing 60% of the enrollment period will be required to return all or a portion of the loan(s) awarded for the specific period of enrollment. The amount of Title IV aid earned is determined by multiplying the total Title IV aid (loans only) disbursed to the student by the percentage of time the student was enrolled. The calculation of the Return of Title IV funds may result in the student owing a balance to the school. The student will be billed for the amount owed back to the Title IV loan programs and any amount due the school used to cover semester charges.

### **Leave of Absence (LOA)/Withdrawal**

Students who make a departmental request for a Leave of Absence or withdrawal from the program, and have received financial aid funding, must notify the Financial Aid Office of this request for change in status. Federal regulations require that we must recalculate the student's federal financial aid award to reflect the actual time in attendance as a matriculating student. As a result of the change, the student may be required to return funds and will be billed for any amount owed. We ask that students inform the Financial Aid Office of their intentions to prevent any undue financial burden that may occur because of the change in status.

### **Satisfactory Academic Progress**

As part of the financial aid process, students are required to show academic progress in their program of study. The Financial Aid Office will monitor student's progress on a semester basis to determine continued financial aid funding eligibility. You may view the financial aid website for complete requirements.