2019-2020 Financial aid application and deadline information

New this year: The Fall/Winter 2019-2020 Financial Aid Deadline has moved to March 31, 2019. We urge you to file your FAFSA ASAP (fafsa.gov) no later than February 1 to allow you to download and submit any additional materials necessary to complete your application by this new date.

Tips for a stress free financial aid application process:

- Watch for emails from the Financial Aid Office. Email is the main way in which OFA will communicate with you.
- Use the Data Retrieval Tool (DRT), available to most families when completing your FAFSA, to easily access your federal tax return information on the IRS website and transfer it to your FAFSA. If you and/or your parents are eligible to use this tool, continuing student families will not be required to submit a federal tax transcript.
- Check your Wolverine Access Student Portal frequently so you don’t miss any document requests: Go to your Student Center > Financial Aid > Aid Year 2020 for these important requests. Look to the far right of the screen, next to the requested item, for available links to documents and/or instructions.
- Deadlines are important. Missing the deadline could significantly reduce your financial aid offer. Mark the date on your calendar and set your own deadlines for checking your application status and for any additional information.

2019 Spring/Summer: Aid to be awarded on a rolling basis

The Office of Financial Aid is changing the financial aid application process for Spring/Summer 2019. Instead of a set deadline, applications will begin to be accepted on February 1, 2019 with financial aid awards being made upon application, assuming
Verify bank account to ensure Winter Term financial aid

It is important to verify the bank account information attached to your Direct Deposit account with U-M. If your bank account has changed or the number is incorrect, your financial aid refund cannot be disbursed and your aid will be delayed.

Log into Wolverine Access (https://wolverineaccess.umich.edu) and visit the Payroll & Compensation > Direct Deposit page to verify your bank information and make any changes.

The Customer Service staff at the U-M Shared Services Center handles inquiries about Direct Deposit. If you have questions, call (734) 615-2000 (select Option 2) or email payroll@umich.edu (include your 8-digit UMID number). Online, visit www.finance.umich.edu/finops/payroll/contact/customerservice for additional help.

Student bills due Jan. 9: Pending aid represents estimate of expected aid

Winter Term student billing for tuition, fees, and on-campus room/board are issued in mid-December and will be due on January 9, 2019.

Because bills are issued before financial aid is credited to your account, a special category called Pending Aid displays at the bottom of the bill to represent financial aid not yet posted. Pending Aid is the amount of financial aid U-M expects to credit to your account based on your Award Notice.

The Amount Due is the sum of charges on your student account. Subtract Pending Aid from your Amount Due to determine what you owe for Winter Term.

If you have enrolled full-time (wait-listed and not-for-credit classes do not count) and signed the required documents (such as your federal loan documents) by December 15, 2018, any awarded financial aid will be subtracted from the Amount Due at disbursement and will appear as detail in the “Credits, Payments and Financial Aid” section.

To access your student bill online:
- Visit Wolverine Access (https://wolverineaccess.umich.edu), and select the Student tab and “Student Business”.
- Log on using U-M uniqname and kerberos password.
- Select Student Center tab.
- Select “Account Inquiry” under the Finances section.
- Select the Invoice/eBill to be viewed, denoted by date.

Important Exceptions:

Some sources of aid, such as third-party credits, private loans and private scholarships for which funds have not yet been received, will not appear as pending aid. (They will appear on your student account when funds are received and applied.) If they have not appeared by the date due, pay the Amount Due to avoid receiving a late fee.

Do your parents need a Friend Account?

A student may authorize up to four persons to view the student bill and financial aid information. Under student business, visit the Student Center and select Parent/Family Authorization. Students can also sign up their Friends & Family to receive this Office of Financial Aid newsletter.

Holiday hours & services

Some University of Michigan offices have special hours and/or limited services before the holiday break. We encourage you to resolve any situations and/or receive answers to your questions with regard to student services and financial aid (including emergency aid funds) by Friday, December 14, 2018. If you are not sure whether a particular office will be open or able to serve your needs before the holiday break, it is best to call first.

The Office of Financial Aid will be CLOSED:
- December 14 @ 1:30 p.m.
- December 25 – January 1 (through the Winter Break) The office will reopen at 8 a.m. on January 2.

Get the Michigan app – on Android or iOS

Stay connected to U-M with the official University of Michigan app (find the download at http://mobileapps.its.umich.edu/um-apps)

In addition to key financial aid information, get news, events, locations, class resources and more. Look up a person or bus route, find an available computer lab and see what’s on the menu at your favorite dining hall. Opt in for the news you want to receive on your mobile device.
Receiving your financial aid for Winter Term 2019

WHEN:
First Winter Term Disbursement will be deposited in bank accounts (for those with direct deposit) on or before:

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 2019**
(For those without Direct Deposit, checks will be mailed on this date.)

HOW: Follow these steps to ensure you receive your aid:

✓ Register at least half-time (6 hours for undergraduates and 4 hours for graduate students) by 5 p.m. on December 28, 2018, to have expected aid funds directly deposited on January 4, 2019.

✓ After January 7, students who register by 5 p.m. on Wednesday of any given week should receive their refunds the Monday following their registration.

✓ Put your name on your mailbox! Be sure your name is on your mailbox before December 15, 2018.

✓ Financial aid funds are applied toward the current term tuition, fees, and residence hall charges appearing on your student account; any excess funds will be refunded to you by Direct Deposit (the University’s preferred method of payment; sign up in Wolverine Access) or by check mailed to your current (local) address listed on Wolverine Access.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

• At the time of disbursement, if you are enrolled less than full-time but at least half-time, all of your financial aid funds (except Direct Loans) will be prorated and reduced based on your level of enrollment (you will receive aid awards proportional to the number of hours you take).

• Any refund you are owed resulting from cash payments will not automatically be sent to you. Instead, a credit will appear on your account. You can have the refund released to you by contacting Student Financial Services.

• Enroll by drop/add date to be considered for aid for that course, even if your program has a flexible enrollment policy.

Is Winter Term the first time you are receiving aid this academic year? Be sure that you have:

• Received a 2018-2019 financial aid Award Notice.

• Provided all other documents requested by the Office of Financial Aid. Find the list in Wolverine Access (https://wolverineaccess.umich.edu).

• Completed Entrance Counseling at https://StudentLoans.gov for your Direct Loan(s) if you are an entering undergraduate or graduate student. We are notified when this is completed.

• Completed a Direct Loan Master Promissory Note (at https://StudentLoans.gov), if you were awarded Direct Loan funds. Note: If you have completed a Master Promissory Note at U-M and received a loan within the last 12 months, do not complete another.

• Completed a Perkins, Health Professions, and/or Nursing Student Loan Master Promissory Note and a rights and responsibilities statement if you were awarded any of these loan funds (see Wolverine Access: Students > Student Business > Financial Aid > Aid Year 2019 > Loans).

• Resolved any academic holds. Aid cannot be paid until the holds are lifted.

Winter enrollment: You will not receive aid for wait-listed classes

When you register, note that credit hours for wait-listed courses (marked with an orange triangle on your class schedule) are not included in your credit hour total. So while you may intend to enroll full-time, your course load may be considered part-time as you wait to be admitted to the wait-listed class.

How does this affect your financial aid?

Your financial aid is based on full-time enrollment, and you must be enrolled at least half-time (6 hours for undergraduates, 4 hours for graduate students) to receive aid. If you are enrolled at least half-time but less than full-time, all of your financial aid (except Direct Loans) will be prorated and reduced to reflect this.

What to expect if you have a wait-listed class:

• If you are already enrolled for 12 or more hours and have an additional wait-listed class, your aid will be fully disbursed because you are considered full-time.

• When bills for Winter Term are issued your pending financial aid will be based on the number of credit hours you are taking, minus the wait-listed class. Wait-listed class charges will not appear on this bill.

• When financial aid is paid, aid will be prorated based on the number of credit hours you are taking. If you have scholarship(s) requiring full-time enrollment, you will not receive those funds until you are enrolled full-time.

• Once you are admitted to the wait-listed class, your enrollment level will be adjusted and the balance of your aid will be paid to you. You will then be billed for the class.
Continuing U-M students:
How to apply for 2019-2020 Fall/Winter aid

Beginning November 2018: The Office of Financial Aid will send you an email reminding you to apply with links to 2019-2020 application forms and deadline dates.

- **October 1, 2018:** Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at [https://fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov) to be considered for all aid programs. You will use your 2017 family income tax returns, so you may transfer IRS data directly to the FAFSA using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool. Continuing students do not complete a PROFILE, unless requested.

  We urge all students to submit their FAFSA no later than February 1. We may need additional materials from your family and all materials MUST be received by March 31 to receive priority consideration for available aid funding. Whenever possible, families should file the FAFSA in November, December or January to allow for ample time if corrections are required or additional materials need to be submitted.

- **Parent Information and Signatures:** Dependent students and those applying for Health Professions Loan must provide parents’ income information, birth dates, Social Security numbers, and one parent signature on the FAFSA. Failing to do this will result in a rejected FAFSA, which can jeopardize your priority for aid.

- **Once You Submit Your FAFSA:**
  a. If you provide an email address on your FAFSA, the Department of Education will send your Student Aid Report (SAR) by email.
  b. We will send you an email if additional application documents are required (you can also check Wolverine Access: Student Business > Financial Aid > Aid Year 2020 > Documents/Review). If additional documents are requested, we must receive them by March 31.
  c. Our office will send you an email when your financial aid Award Notice is available on Wolverine Access.

- **Update your scholarship profile and apply for scholarships:**

  Visit [http://finaid.umich.edu/scholarships-at-u-m](http://finaid.umich.edu/scholarships-at-u-m) for information about need-based scholarships requiring an application and complete “My Scholarship Profile” in Wolverine Access to keep your information up to date.

### PLUS apps affected by credit freeze

Are you considering a Federal Direct PLUS Loan for 2019 Winter Term? Due to recent credit breaches and concerns, some students and parents may have placed credit freezes on their accounts with the three major credit reporting agencies.

Please be aware that this can affect the ability for the U.S. Department of Education to complete a credit inquiry and approve your loan. Without approval, we will not be able to process your loan.

If you are considering a PLUS Loan and have placed a “freeze” on your credit file, you will need to temporarily remove that freeze to allow your PLUS loan to process. Please contact your credit bureaus before beginning the PLUS loan process. PLUS loans are available to parents of undergraduate students and graduate students who need additional funds to cover education expenses.

PLUS applications are available online at [https://studentloans.gov](https://studentloans.gov), where you may also complete a master promissory note, if needed. For more information, visit the Federal Student Aid website ([https://studentaid.ed.gov/types/loans/plus](https://studentaid.ed.gov/types/loans/plus)).

If you have any questions about this loan program or other financial aid information, please contact our office.

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**Enrollment reminder**

Enrolling in courses is not enough to secure your financial aid:

- **You must be enrolled by the Drop/Add deadline (census date) or you won’t get any aid.**
- **You must also attend the courses in which you enroll.** The Office of Financial Aid is required to verify that students who receive a non-passing grade (any grade other than A, B, C, D, or P) in any class actually began attending the class. Failure to attend can be expensive. Your aid could be reduced retroactively and you could be required to repay aid you have received. This includes mini courses that start later in the term. Contact us before dropping them, as it may reduce your aid.

If you have questions about your enrollment and eligibility contact us.

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**2019 Spring/Summer Aid continued from page 1**

full-time enrollment. Aid will be awarded on a rolling, first-come, first-served basis. Although grant funding for Spring/Summer terms is always more limited than the regular Fall/Winter school year, funds are expected to be even more limited in 2018 than in years past. This change will allow us to share aid packages as soon as possible so students can decide whether they can afford to attend during these terms and to adjust their plans, if needed. The Office of Financial Aid suggests that students consider their individual financial situations as they consider attending Spring/Summer terms.