



2026-2027 Undergraduate Student Financial Aid Checklist

- Get ready to start an unforgettable journey! Secure your spot at <https://wou.edu/admission/wou-said-yes/>.
- Accept or Decline any offered Federal Direct Student Loans.** Access aid offer by logging into the WOU Portal, navigate to the Experience icon > Services > View All Cards > Financial Aid > FA Dashboard

TAB NAME	WHAT TO DO
<input type="checkbox"/> Home Screen	Review and respond to any outstanding items on your account. Review and respond to “Pay for Prior Year Institutional Charges with Title IV Aid” and “Pay for Non-Institutional Charges with Title IV Aid” —we recommend yes for both. If you select No, you will need to pay non-institutional charges using non-federal funds.
<input type="checkbox"/> Award Offer	If you accepted any Federal Direct Student Loan(s), go to https://studentaid.gov to complete Entrance Loan Counseling and sign a Master Promissory Note.
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial Aid History	View the history of the funds you have been awarded for each year while attending WOU.
<input type="checkbox"/> Resources	Read the terms and conditions of accepting Federal Student Aid (i.e., report any changes to your enrollment status, maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), and report all outside scholarships to WOU).
<input type="checkbox"/> Notifications	If you completely withdraw from a term during the year , come here to learn how much aid for the term you are eligible to retain and how much will need to be repaid, based on your last day of attendance.
<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory Academic Progress	View your financial aid Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) status (i.e., Good Standing, Action Plan, or Probation). View the SAP policy at https://wou.edu/finaid/managing-my-aid/satisfactory-academic-progress/ .

If you plan to attend less than full-time – submit a Student Anticipated Enrollment/Revision Request form; you can manage this request in your StudentForms account in the Financial Aid Experience card. The Financial Aid Office packages aid based on full-time enrollment each term. **To receive federal loans, you must be enrolled for at least 6 credits (half-time).** Additionally, to receive WOU institutional funds (i.e., Merit Scholarships, WOU Grant, DCS, BTS, etc.) **you must enroll in a minimum of 9 WOU credits each term.**

- If you accept Federal Direct Student Loans and are borrowing at WOU for the 1st time**—complete Entrance Loan Counseling and a Master Promissory Note for disbursements of federal student loans.
- If you have private scholarships or a third-party resource**—these will be included in your award offer totals after the Accounting & Business Services Office posts them to your student account.



- Do you have *enough* Financial Aid?** There are limits to grants and federal loans a student may receive. If you need additional financial aid, the options below are available to undergraduate students:
 - If you were awarded Federal Work Study**—You may search for a Federal Work Study job using Handshake found in the Experience cards. Students with Federal Work Study jobs are paid each month by the Payroll Office, based on hours worked. See our Federal Work Study information at <https://wou.edu/finaid/paying-for-college/types-of-aid/>. 
 - External Scholarships** – ScholarshipUniverse, WOU’s scholarship system in the Experience tiles has hundreds of external scholarships that students have access to throughout the year. The system matches you to scholarships based on the questions you answer when you set up your account. This saves you hours searching for ones applicable to you.
 - Federal Parent PLUS Loan**—Parents of dependent undergraduate students may apply for a Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan. The Parent PLUS Loan is a credit-based loan that can be used to cover the cost of attendance. The application will be available after **April 1, 2026**. See our Parent & Families page for additional details, <https://wou.edu/finaid/parents-families/general-information/>. 
 - Private Educational Loan**—These student loans are credit-based and are obtained directly through a financial institution. The Financial Aid Office certifies private student loan amounts within the student’s cost of attendance. You can find more information on our Type of Aid webpage, <https://wou.edu/finaid/paying-for-college/types-of-aid/>. 
- Students can grant access to see financial aid information on the student’s Self-Service account online, coming mid-April 2026.** Until then, students can use the paper Student Consent to Release Information form that can be requested by contacting the Financial Aid Office. The form allows the student to list a parent, guardian, or other (agency or individual) to call on your account. Students complete the form and should share the passcode with those included on the form. *Note: The Financial Aid Office will not disclose information to others not listed on the FAFSA.*
- Learn how to maintain your Financial Aid eligibility** – <https://wou.edu/finaid/managing-my-aid/eligibility/>
- Review Your Rights & Responsibilities along with Consumer Information**—
 - <http://www.wou.edu/finaid/managing-my-aid/student-rights-responsibilities/>
 - <http://www.wou.edu/finaid/managing-my-aid/consumer-information/>

For questions related to paying your bill, see the Accounting and Business Services webpage at <https://wou.edu/business>, by phone at (503) 838-8201, by email at businessoffice@wou.edu, or login to your WOU Portal, navigate to the Experience icon > Services > View All Cards > Student Accounts.

Get excited about the valuable next step in your education and the rest of your life: being a student at WOU!