Procedures to Receive Funds

8. COMPLETE ENTRANCE COUNSELING AND MASTER PROMISSORY NOTE (MPN)

(first-time federal loan borrowers only)

If you are a first-time federal loan borrower, you will also be required to complete entrance counseling and a Master Promissory Note (MPN) online at **studentaid.gov** before your loan funds can be disbursed. The MPN is a legal and binding contract that establishes the terms of loan repayment. In most cases, you will not be required to complete another MPN, and you can borrow additional Federal Direct Loans on a single MPN for up to 10 years. If you are applying for a Federal Direct PLUS for the first time as a graduate/first-professional student or a parent borrower, you or your parent(s) will be required to complete and sign a PLUS MPN that is separate from the one used for Federal Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans. Federal Graduate PLUS Entrance Counseling is also required for new graduate students applying for a Federal Graduate PLUS Loan.

9. REGISTER FOR CLASSES

Familiarize yourself with the enrollment requirements defined by your program office, as well as by the financial aid program through which you are receiving aid. Enrollment requirements for federal and state grants vary. Many grants and scholarships require full-time enrollment. Students awarded Federal Direct Loans must be enrolled at least half time in courses that are required for degree or certificate completion. Half-time enrollment is defined as 6 credits per semester for undergraduate students. For graduate and first-professional students, half-time status varies by program. Be sure to register as early as possible to ensure timely disbursement of your financial aid funds.

Think before you drop a class!

Consult your academic advisor and financial aid counselor before you drop or withdraw from classes. Your scholarships, grants, and loans may be reduced or canceled. You may lose your eligibility for federal and state aid, or your Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) may be affected.

Remember

- Get an FSA ID.
- Complete the FAFSA.
- Identify and apply for scholarships.
- Plan for housing and meal expenses.
- Check your financial aid account frequently.
- Submit additional documentation, as required.
- Accept, decline, or modify your loan(s) and FWS award.
- Complete entrance counseling and a Master Promissory Note (MPN).
- Register for classes.



Enrollment and Student Services

Office of Student Financial Assistance 3301 College Avenue Fort Lauderdale, FL 33314-7796

Walk in: One-Stop Shop Monday-Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Hours of operation may be seasonally adjusted.

For current information, visit nova.edu/financialaid/contactus/index.html

800-806-3680 or (954) 262-3380 finaid@nova.edu • nova.edu/financialaid

NSU Federal School Code: 001509

Nova Southeastern University admits students of any race, color, sex, age, nondisqualifying disability, religion or creed, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, military service, veteran status, or national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school, and does not discriminate in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs. Any such acts are unacceptable and strictly prohibited by the university. • Nova Southeastern University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award associate's, baccalaureate, master's, educational specialist, doctoral, and professional degrees. Questions about the accreditation of Nova Southeastern University may be directed, in writing, to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097, by calling (404) 679-4500, or by using information available on SACSCOC's website (www.sacscoc.org).



Financial Aid Process

Going to college can be both exciting and financially challenging. Enrollment and Student Services (ESS) is dedicated to helping you navigate the financial aid process. This brochure provides you with a brief description of the important steps. Please visit the NSU financial aid website, nova.edu/financialaid, for detailed instructions.

As a student, you should frequently check the status of your financial aid in SharkLink. NSU email and SharkLink are the official means that ESS will use to communicate with you.

Ready to get in gear? Follow the steps.



Getting Started

1. GET AN FSA ID

The FSA ID is a username and password combination that gives you access to Federal Student Aid's online systems. It can also serve as your legal signature. If you don't have an FSA ID by the time you fill out your online Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), you will be prompted to apply for one. Get a head start by creating an account at **studentaid.gov**. It may take up to three days for you to receive your FSA ID.

2. COMPLETE FAFSA

Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at **studentaid.gov** annually. It becomes available each October 1 for aid in the following award year. The earlier you apply, the better chance you have of being considered for maximum available funds.

To apply for Florida grants and scholarships, undergraduate students must complete the NSU State Aid Application available on the financial aid website.

3. IDENTIFY AND APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

Institutional and external scholarship opportunities are available to assist you in meeting your educational goals. The best resource for up-to-date information is the NSU scholarship website, **nova.edu/financialaid/scholarships**. Commit to continually identifying and applying for scholarships. This type of financial aid does not have to be repaid.

4. PLAN FOR HOUSING AND MEAL EXPENSES

Your financial aid budget includes a housing and meal component. Please ensure that you budget for these expenses if you intend to live on campus. Tip: If you enroll in the mandatory

meal plan, be sure to divide the total meal plan dollar amount by the number of meals per semester so you don't run out of funding. Typically, the meal plan will allow you to spend up to \$12 per meal (breakfast, lunch, and dinner). For more information on housing, visit **nova.edu/housing**.

5. CHECK FINANCIAL AID ACCOUNT FREQUENTLY

Regularly check your financial aid status via SharkLink to ensure you have no outstanding requirements. Now is a good time to confirm your admissions status. All admission requirements must have been completed before your financial aid funds can be disbursed.

6. SUBMIT ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

Some students may be required to submit additional documents prior to having their financial aid awarded. You will be notified of outstanding requirements by email. Your requirements, both outstanding and completed, can also be viewed in SharkLink.

- Log in to SharkLink at **sharklink.nova.edu**.
- Click on Finances to view your Financial Aid Requirements.
- Click on View Requirements for additional details.

To learn more about financial aid eligibility requirements, the NSU State Aid Application, Verification, Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), and other requirements, visit **nova.edu/financialaid**.

7. ACCEPT, DECLINE, OR MODIFY LOAN(S) OR A FEDERAL WORK-STUDY AWARD

Your award notice will provide you with detailed instructions on how to accept, modify, or decline your financial aid award. Stepby-step instructions are also available on the financial aid website.

Your Financial Aid Award

You will be notified by NSU email when your financial aid award offer is ready to be viewed in SharkLink. Whenever there are changes to the award, a revised financial aid award email is sent.

All aid that does not have to be repaid, such as grants and scholarships, will be offered to you in an accepted status.

These types of aid will automatically disburse, provided you meet all eligibility requirements. If you receive a Federal Work-Study (FWS) award, the amount of your award reflects the amount you may be eligible to earn.

Before accepting, carefully review the terms and conditions of your financial aid award, which outline eligibility requirements and your obligations as a financial aid recipient.