

Understanding Your Offer of Financial Assistance

A Guide for Undergraduate Students



Northeastern University
College of Professional Studies

Financial Aid Overview

This brochure is intended to help you understand the financial aid award that was created based on the information provided on your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Please keep in mind that your Offer of Financial Assistance is for one academic year only. The financial aid application process must be completed annually.

Your financial aid award is automatically divided equally between the fall, spring, and summer semesters and is based on the anticipated enrollment plans we have on file.

Federal financial aid is awarded with the following expectations:

- > Financial aid funds are being used to make progress towards your degree by paying for courses required for your academic program.
- > The amount of financial aid provided assumes you will participate in your courses for the entire term. If you are unable to complete the full term for any reason, a portion (or all) of your financial aid will need to be returned to the federal government.
- > You must earn at least one A – D letter grade each term. Failure to do so may require us to return a portion of your financial aid funds.
- > You will be enrolled in a minimum of six credits per term, which is required to maintain financial aid eligibility.
- > You must notify our office of any changes in your enrollment plans. If information surrounding your enrollment plan is received from other university offices (i.e. the Office of the Registrar or Academic Advising), there may be delays in updating your financial aid file.

Please remember that all communications, including financial aid award notifications and important updates and reminders from our office, are sent to students directly at their Husky email account.

If you have any questions regarding your Offer of Financial Assistance or the information presented in this brochure, please do not hesitate to contact us.



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Your Financial Aid Notice

Dear Husky:

We are pleased to present your 2016-2017 Offer of Financial Assistance. Your offer is based on the information you provided on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Please log into your myNEU account to view your financial aid award. Once you are logged in on myNEU, details can be found by choosing the "Self Service" tab and clicking on *My Financial Aid Status* then "Awards".

Your aid package has been formulated according to an estimated number of credits for each term as detailed below.

Please note: The minimum amount of credits needed to qualify for federal financial aid is 6 semester hours per term.

Failure to enroll in 6 semester hours can result in the removal of financial aid for that term.

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Based on the credit load listed, your projected tuition costs per term have also been calculated. This is only an estimate of tuition. Total costs, including fees and other charges, will be provided on your billing statement. The estimated tuition is also not your aid award; your award is only viewable online through myNEU.

Fall Semester	Spring Semester	Summer Semester
September 6, 2016 – December 17, 2016	January 9, 2017 – April 29, 2017	May 8, 2017 – August 22, 2017
12 Credits	12 Credits	12 Credits
\$6,048	\$6,048	\$6,048

2

3

Next Steps:

- ✓ We assume that you will accept all aid offered. Review the Understanding Your Financial Aid Award brochure [here](#) to fully understand the terms and conditions of the financial aid provided.
- ✓ We have introduced a new online form to allow you to update our office if you plan on taking a different number of credits than what is listed above. To use this form, you must first complete your [Title IV Credit Authorization](#) form. In the My Financial Aid Status portal, complete the information on the Apply Online tab. After you click submit, choose the Home tab and the CPS Credit Change tab will appear.
- ✓ If you would like to either cancel or reduce any of your aid, please reply to this email and indicate the amount you would like to reduce the award by and/or which types of aid should be cancelled.

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Please feel free to contact our office if you have questions about your award or about our aid policies and programs.

Sincerely,

Student Financial Services
Northeastern University
354 Richards Hall
cpsfs@northeastern.edu
617.373.2897

1. Federal Aid Eligibility

To maintain federal aid eligibility, students must be enrolled in 6 semester hours per term.

2. Enrollment Information

Your Offer of Financial Assistance is based on the number of credits we have on file. If a term is not reflected on your Offer of Financial Assistance, then you have not been provided aid for that term.

3. Estimated Tuition Costs

Tuition is charged on a per-term basis. The costs reflected in your award notification are estimated based on the number of credits listed for that particular term. For a complete list of tuition and fees, please visit studentfinance.northeastern.edu/billing-payments/tuition-and-fees.

4. CPS Credit Change Tab

The CPS Credit Change tab on your myNEU will allow you to update our office about your anticipated enrollment plans for the academic year. Your financial aid counselor will review the information you provide within 3-5 business days and a revised award notification will be sent to you via email.

Viewing Your Award

To view your financial aid award, log into your myNEU student portal. Once you have logged in:

1. Choose the Self-Service tab
2. Click My Financial Aid Status under Financial Services to view your financial aid award and important details
3. Return to your myNEU frequently as information is updated on an ongoing basis

My Financial Aid Status is
year specific.

| Current Award Year:

2016/2017

Logout

Help



Northeastern University
Student Financial Services

Home CPS Credit Change

Awards

Documents

Messages

Forms

Welcome

Welcome to Financial Aid Self-Service! Thank you for your interest in Student Financial Services at Northeastern University.

Please review each of the above tabs. These tabs provide detailed information regarding your financial aid.

Student Financial Services

Expert Advice. Friendly Service. Personalized Support.

Use these links to learn more about the financial aid application process, deadline dates, and access required forms.

2016/2017

[How to Apply & Priority Filing Dates](#)

Online Aid Applications

FAFSA:

www.fafsa.gov

PROFILE: (First-year and transfer Uday students)

<http://student.collegeboard.org/css-financial-aid-profile>

[Contact Us](#)

[MyCounselor Lookup](#)

New students, don't forget to check your e-bill! You will be notified at your Northeastern e-mail address whenever an online bill is generated. You can then log onto your myNEU account and click on the "NUPay" link. In the "Your Bills" box on the right, click "View" next to the date of the bill you wish to access.

The tabs along the top provide an array of information pertaining to your financial aid. Your award is located on the Awards tab. Any missing information is listed on Documents.

Questions or concerns regarding your financial aid award? Don't hesitate to contact us. Use these links to view our contact information or reach out to your designated financial aid counselor.

Awards Tab Up Close



Northeastern University
Student Financial Services

Northeastern University
Student Financial Services
Online

Home Apply Online Awards Documents Messages Forms

Awards

Below is a list of aid currently awarded to you by each term. This aid is contingent upon your meeting all enrollment, federal, state, and institutional requirements for eligibility. Failure to do so may result in the cancellation of your aid.

Aid funds listed below without an award amount have been canceled or declined.

AID SUBJECT TO CHANGE: Your aid award is subject to change if there is change in your family's circumstances, if a recalculation is necessary after verification of your financial documents, or if you receive assistance from an outside source that was not originally included in your award.

AID NOT LISTED BELOW: You must inform us in writing if you receive any other awards that are not listed below. A review and possible recalculation of your package will occur.

Please contact your [financial aid counselor](#) if you have any questions.

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	Fund	Amount	Message
Fall 2016/CPS Undergrad Sem	Federal Pell Grant	\$2,383.00	
	FederalDirect Unsubsidized Stafford Loan	\$2,000.00	
	Federal Direct Subsidized Stafford Loan	\$1,500.00	
	Subtotal	\$5,883.00	
Spring 2017/CPS Undergrad Sem	Federal Pell Grant	\$2,382.00	
	Federal Direct Subsidized Stafford Loan	\$1,500.00	
	FederalDirect Unsubsidized Stafford Loan	\$2,000.00	
	Subtotal	\$5,882.00	
Summer 2017/CPS Undergrad Sem	Federal Direct Subsidized Stafford Loan	\$1,500.00	
	FederalDirect Unsubsidized Stafford Loan	\$2,000.00	
	Subtotal	\$3,500.00	

1

2

1. Term Listing

The Awards tab on your myNEU is broken down to provide the amount of assistance you are receiving for each term listed. If a term is not listed, then you have not been provided aid for that term.

2. Per Term Subtotals

This is a per term breakdown of what you have been awarded in a particular term. Please be aware that an origination fee is deducted from all Federal Direct Loans. As a result, the net disbursement will be less than the figure reflected here.

3. Eligibility Requirements

Your financial aid award is subject to change at any time throughout the year. Typically, awards are adjusted if you do not complete the full term, you take a different number of credits than anticipated, or you receive additional funds such as outside scholarships.

4. Counselor Lookup Tool

If you have any questions regarding your financial aid award, use this link to access your assigned financial aid counselor's contact information.

Estimating What You Will Owe

Now that you have received your Offer of Financial Assistance, you can determine how you will finance a year's education at Northeastern University. On your financial aid award email notification, an estimated tuition cost is provided for each term, which is based on your anticipated enrollment (as shown below).

Sample Financial Aid Notification Enrollment and Tuition Costs:

Fall Semester	Spring Semester	Summer Semester
September 6, 2016 – December 17, 2016	January 9, 2017 – April 29, 2017	May 8, 2017 – August 22, 2017
12 Credits	12 Credits	12 Credits
Estimated Tuition Costs	Estimated Tuition Costs	Estimated Tuition Costs
\$6,048	\$6,048	\$6,048

To determine your estimated balance for each term, deduct the per term subtotal award figures on your myNEU portal from the estimated tuition costs found on your email notification. Please remember that an origination fee is deducted from each Federal Direct Loan disbursement. As a result, the net amount that will disburse to your account will be less than what is featured on your myNEU.

Fund	Amount
Fall 2016/CPS Undergrad Sem	
Federal Pell Grant	\$2,383.00
Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan	\$2,000.00
Federal Direct Subsidized Stafford Loan	\$1,500.00
Subtotal	\$5,883.00
Spring 2017/CPS Undergrad Sem	
Federal Pell Grant	\$2,382.00
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Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan	\$2,000.00
Subtotal	\$5,882.00
Summer 2017/CPS Undergrad Sem	
Federal Direct Subsidized Stafford Loan	\$1,500.00
Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan	\$2,000.00
Subtotal	\$3,500.00

Any remaining balance represents the amount you will have to pay from your own resources. You may pay by the term, use a monthly payment plan, apply for a supplemental loan, or use a combination of these options. For additional information regarding payment methods, visit studentfinance.northeastern.edu/billing-payments/payment-methods.

Alternative Financing Options

TuitionPay Plan

The interest-free monthly payment plan administered through TuitionPay allows you to divide your educational costs into smaller, more manageable installments for a nominal enrollment fee. Using this plan can reduce your need to borrow.

Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan

A federal loan program that allows parents to borrow up to the cost of attendance, less other aid awarded. This program is available to dependent students who are enrolled at least half-time (6 credits) in a degree program.

Supplemental/Private Student Loans

There are a number of supplemental loan options to assist students in financing their education. Terms and credit requirements vary by loan program and are set by the specific lender.

For additional information on alternative financing options, visit studentfinance.northeastern.edu/billing-payments-financing-options.



Types of Financial Assistance

Federal and State Grants

There are a number of federal and state grant opportunities available to students. Many of these programs are based on a student's demonstrated financial need, as determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). For federal programs, including the Federal Pell Grant, eligibility is dependent on the Expected Family Contribution (EFC). Eligibility for state assistance may vary, as each state agency has different eligibility requirements and deadlines.

Federal Direct Loan

Students borrowing loans for the first time at Northeastern University need to complete the following documents for the loan to disburse to their student account:

1. Federal Loan Entrance Counseling: Entrance Counseling can be completed online at studentloans.gov. First, click on the "Log In" button to access the site using your Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID). If you do not have your FSA ID, instructions are provided on how to create one. After signing in, select "Complete Counseling" and choose the option to "Start Entrance Counseling". Follow the instructions to complete the session.
2. Master Promissory Note (MPN): This form can be completed online at studentloans.gov. Using the instructions above to log into the site using your FSA ID, select "Complete Master Promissory Note." Choose the option to "Complete Subsidized/Unsubsidized MPN" and follow the instructions to complete the form.
3. Title IV Credit Authorization: This form is completed on myNEU at myneu.neu.edu on the "Self-Service" tab. Click on "My Financial Aid Status", then the "Apply Online" tab. For additional information regarding the Title IV Credit Authorization, please click [here](#).

Once the documents listed above have been completed, the Federal Direct loan will disburse into your student account at the start of the academic term (typically, this is on the first day of classes).

For a complete overview of available sources of financial assistance, please visit studentfinance.northeastern.edu/applying-for-aid/college-of-professional-studies/types-of-aid.

Aggregate Loan Limits

The federal government establishes limits on the amount of loans that will be offered to students. Undergraduate students are allowed to borrow up to the following maximums:

Dependent Students

\$31,000 in Federal Direct Loan funds (includes subsidized and unsubsidized). A maximum of \$23,000 can be from the Federal Subsidized Loan program.

Independent Students

\$57,500 in Federal Direct Loan funds (includes subsidized and unsubsidized). A maximum of \$23,000 can be from the Federal Subsidized Loan program.

Loan Repayment Options

Federal Direct Loans go into repayment six months after you have completed your degree or are no longer enrolled in six or more credits. While not in official repayment, students can make interest-only payments on their Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans to help minimize capitalized interest.

The standard repayment period is 10 years; however, there are a variety of repayment options available to students. For more information, visit: studentaid.ed.gov/repay-loans/understand/plans.

Next Steps

How do I accept my award?

We assume that you accept all aid provided in your Offer of Financial Assistance. You do not need to submit any additional information to accept the financial aid offered.

What if I want to reduce or decline a portion of my aid?

If you wish to reduce or cancel any of the funds you have been offered, please contact your financial aid counselor or email cpssfs@northeastern.edu.

How can I use my financial aid to pay for my living expenses and/or books?

If your awarded financial aid in addition to any outside resources you are receiving exceed your billed charges you may be eligible for a refund to assist with other non-billed costs such as living and personal expenses, books, etc.

Students that have excess funds on their account can apply for a refund on their myNEU portal. Refunds are reviewed after the start of the term and the typical review process can take up to 2-3 weeks. For this reason, we recommend that students have a plan in place to pay for the first month of their living expenses for the semester.

Some students may be eligible to receive a book voucher for use at the Northeastern University bookstore to assist with the purchase of books. To be eligible, your awarded financial assistance must exceed your billed costs. To confirm your eligibility, and to receive a voucher, please contact us via email at cpssfs@northeastern.edu.

How much will I owe?

To estimate what you will owe, deduct the per term subtotals listed on the "Awards" tab of your myNEU from the estimated tuition figures provided on your award notification. Please remember than an origination fee is deducted from each Federal Direct Loan disbursement. As a result, the amount which disburses to your account will be less than the award amount on your myNEU.

How will my financial aid pay the balance owed? When will my aid disburse to my account?

Your financial aid funds will be reflected as anticipated or pending on your student account. Provided all required documents, such as Master Promissory Notes (MPN) and Title IV Credit Authorization Forms have been completed, your financial aid will disburse to your account after the start of the term.

I am taking more (or less) credits than listed in my financial aid award notification. How can I have that adjusted?

Your Offer of Financial Assistance is based upon an estimated number of credits for each academic term. If you would like to adjust the credits used to create your award, please use the CPS Credit Change tab, located under the "My Financial Aid Status" feature. The information provided will be reviewed by your financial aid counselor. In the event there is a change in your financial aid award, you will be notified electronically.

Please note, new students will need to submit their Title IV Credit Authorization Form first through the Apply Online tab to access the CPS Credit Change information.

Student Financial Services

354 Richards Hall 617.373.2897
Northeastern University 617.373.8735 (fax)
360 Huntington Avenue studentfinance.northeastern.edu
Boston, MA 02115-5000 cpssfs@northeastern.edu

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