

GUIDE TO FINANCIAL AID 2021-2022



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D'Andre L., Class of 2017

WASC

Senior College and University Commission

PLANNING AHEAD

Planning ahead and applying for financial aid programs can help you obtain an education that might otherwise be outside your financial reach.

Financial aid is available in the form of grants, loans, and scholarships. At National University, the purpose of financial aid is to bridge the gap between educational cost and a student's resources.

To help you begin the application process, a staff of professional student finance advisors (SFA) are ready to answer questions. For the convenience of our students, SFA's are located at many of the University's campuses. Advisors will be happy to meet with you on a walk-in basis or appointments may be scheduled.

This guide has been designed to help you understand any current changes and to help you identify which aid programs you may be eligible to receive. Topics discussed include: how to apply, financial aid qualifications, program descriptions (federal, state, and institutional), important dates, and how the student's contribution is determined. However, due to federal regulations, which govern the student financial aid programs, policy changes occur each year. Therefore, even continuing students should review this guide.

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FINANCIAL AID CALENDAR

Calendar of deadlines and critical dates for students applying for financial aid at National University.

2021-2022	2022-2023	
October 1, 2021	October 1, 2022	To apply for financial aid, a students must file a new Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) annually.
March 2, 2021	March 2, 2022	Deadline for new Cal Grant A and B applications. Financial aid priority filing date for the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) and Federal Work Study. <i>Note: Awards will be processed after this date pending available funds</i>
April 2021	April 2022	National University begins processing student awards. Verification documents will be available on the student portal.
June 2021	June 2022	Announcement of Cal Grant A and B awards by the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC).
July 2021	July 2022	Funding period for Federal Grants and campus-based programs (FSEOG, FWS) begins.
October 2021	October 2022	Funding period begins for the Cal Grant programs.
June 30, 2022	June 30, 2023	Federal grant deadline and last day to file the FAFSA.
June 30, 2022	June 30, 2023	Financial Aid verification/processing deadline. Students must submit all requested forms by this date in order to receive financial aid for the award year.
Completion of a student's academic year		Students apply for and are awarded aid during different times of the year. Each student's academic year may vary. Student aid will be based on individual academic programs. An academic is a minimum of 36 quarter units over 32 weeks of in-class instruction (eight months). Loans at the end of the academic program will be calculated and awarded as a prorated loan based on the remaining units and weeks of instruction.



YOUR
NEXT
STEP

Student Loan Entrance Counseling —

If you are a first-time WDF, Grad PLUS, and/or Parent PLUS student loan borrower at the University, you will be required to complete Student Loan Entrance Counseling online at <https://studentaid.gov>. The purpose of the entrance counseling is to give you an opportunity to review the disbursement policies, your borrowing limits, and to help you understand your repayment responsibilities as a student borrower. The Financial Aid Office will receive notification that you completed your entrance counseling electronically from the U.S. Department of Education.

Master Promissory Note (MPN) —

If you are a first-time William D. Ford (WDF) or Grad PLUS student loan borrower at the University, you will be required to complete an MPN at <https://studentaid.gov>. The MPN is required before you receive your first disbursement of your subsidized, unsubsidized, and/or PLUS loan(s). An individual MPN is required for WDF and/or PLUS loans. The MPN is a legal document in which you promise to repay your loan(s) and any accrued interest and fees to the U.S. Department of Education. It also explains the terms and conditions of your loan(s); for instance, it will include information on how interest is calculated and what deferment and cancellation provisions are available to you. The Financial Aid Office will receive an electronic notification that you completed your MPN.

Note: We strongly encourage you to consider the total amount of funds you borrow during your college career.

- California Student Aid Commission —** Students selected for Cal Grant A or B will receive notification from the Commission. New awards for Cal Grants A and B will be announced during the months of May through June 2021. Funding for these programs will begin October 2021.

Step 3 — Financial Aid Process

Academic Program Evaluation

Program evaluation is the official determination that you have been formally accepted in the degree program you selected. This process will be completed once all your official academic transcripts and individual program requirements are received by in the Registrar's Office. A notice of evaluation will be sent to you from the Registrar's Office after this process is complete.

Note: Financial aid awards will be processed after the evaluation process is complete. Students enrolled under conditional status are not eligible for financial aid until officially accepted into their program. Tuition is due in full prior to the start of each course.

Eligibility for Financial Aid is Determined

Applications/documents submitted to the Financial Aid Office will be reviewed for accuracy and completeness, and your enrollment will be verified. A financial aid counselor will calculate your aid package based on a Student Aid Report (SAR) prepared by the Federal Student Aid Center.

Federal Grant and Campus-Based Applicants

If you are eligible to receive Federal/State grants, and/or Campus-Based aid, you will receive an electronic notification. These funds will be applied to your NU student account after the Add/Drop deadline.

Student Loan Applicants (WDF and/or PLUS)

If you are eligible for a loan, the Financial Aid Office will certify your loans and transmit the award to the WDF Federal Direct Loan Program. Upon transmittal of your request, a notice will be sent to you explaining your award package (type of loan and amount). At that time you will have the opportunity to accept or deny all or part of your loans via the student portal. Once the U.S. Department of Education (ED) approves the request, you will then be notified through email once your funds have disbursed.

Additional Loans

You may apply for additional loans (WDF, PLUS) upon satisfactory completion of an Academic year, which is a minimum of 36 units and 32 weeks of instruction (excluding failed/incomplete grades and units earned from accelerated studies or repeated coursework).

Disbursements

Students must be in current attendance (in class) to receive disbursements, which will be authorized and disbursed after the Drop/Add deadline (Ninth night of class). A student has up to 14 days, from the date of disbursement to cancel all or part of the aid. This request needs to be submitted in writing.

Note: The disbursement dates on the student portal are estimates and maybe adjusted due to schedule changes and unit completion.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Students that are in the process of applying for financial aid are eligible under the tuition postponement agreement to defer tuition payments until financial aid is awarded. (For terms of this policy please refer to your signed tuition postponement agreement.)

If you are scheduled to complete your program during a school year, you must submit all required documents to the Financial Aid Processing Center, 90 days prior to your last date of attendance. Financial aid awards will be processed only for those students (first time or returning) who are currently enrolled at the University.

Eligibility for financial aid is based on your academic program, units, and weeks of instruction at the time of application. If your schedule changes after the award is processed, your financial aid will be subject to delays and/or cancellation. Please speak to your NU Student Finance Advisor prior to making any schedule or program change.

Student refunds will be issued within 10 business days of disbursement to the student account. Students must be in current attendance at the time of disbursement to qualify for the payment. In the event of schedule changes, funds may be rescheduled for the next available term of attendance.

FEDERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

In order to qualify for student financial assistance, students must meet all federal eligibility requirements.

The student must:

- Have a high school diploma or recognized equivalent of a high school diploma
- Be a U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen.
- Be enrolled in an eligible program and evaluated by the Registrar Office (excludes non-degree studies, programs with less than 36 quarter units and 32 weeks of instruction, and Extended Learning programs).
- Demonstrate financial need as determined by the need analysis process, when required by program regulations.
- Have a valid Social Security Number.
- Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress, as defined by the Financial Aid Office.
- Not owe an overpayment on any Title IV educational grant or be in default on a Title IV educational loan unless satisfactory payment arrangements are made to repay or otherwise resolve the overpayment or default. Financial aid is not retroactive for courses taken prior to resolution of a default or overpayment.
- Register with Selective Service, if required to do so.
- Complete the verification process if selected by ED.

Note: A student's eligibility for any of the federal programs may be suspended or terminated by a court as part of a conviction for possessing or distributing drugs.

Tip: Speak with your NU Student Finance Advisor prior to making program or schedule changes as it may delay or cancel your student aid.

IF YOU ARE SCHEDULED TO COMPLETE YOUR PROGRAM DURING A SCHOOL YEAR, YOU MUST SUBMIT ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS TO THE FINANCIAL AID PROCESSING CENTER, 90 DAYS PRIOR TO YOUR LAST DATE OF ATTENDANCE.

STUDENT BUDGETS

In determining the cost of attendance, National University uses the budget established by the California Student Aid Commission. This budget is used to determine financial need for all students who apply for aid.

	ALLOWANCES OFF CAMPUS		ALLOWANCES LIVING WITH PARENTS	
	Per Month	*Per Academic Year	Per Month *	Per Academic Year
Undergraduate Tuition	\$1,665	\$13,320	\$1,665	\$13,320
Graduate/Credential Tuition	\$1,989	\$15,912	\$1,989	\$15,912
Books & Supplies	\$125	\$1,000	\$125	\$1,000
Food & Housing	\$1,917	\$15,336	\$1,009	\$8,072
Transportation	\$102	\$816	\$111	\$888
Personal/Miscellaneous	\$427	\$3,416	\$364	\$2,912
Undergraduate Total COA	\$4,252	\$34,016	\$3,274	\$26,192
Graduate/Credential Total COA	\$4,587	\$36,696	\$3,598	\$28,784

*Academic year (8 months or 36 quarter units/32 weeks of instruction).

Note: Approved study abroad students must contact the Financial Aid Office to determine the cost of attendance (budget).

COURSE SCHEDULING

Contact your advisor to review your course schedule. All funding is based on the allocated published length in units and weeks of each program.

Reminder: Changing your schedule may affect your financial aid disbursements.

ENROLLMENT STATUS

Students enrolled at the University may attend courses any month of the year, creating a different academic year for each student. To evaluate a student's enrollment status at the University, each student's individual enrollment period will be reviewed and their status determined using the following charts.

Undergraduate & Credential Students — Unit Requirements

Number of Months	Half	Three-Quarter	Full
1	—	—	—
2	6.0	9.0	—
3	6.0	9.0	12.0
4	9.0	13.5	18.0
5	9.0	13.5	18.0
6	9.0	13.5	18.0

Note:

A course will be included in the enrollment period if the start and end date of the course occurs during the measured enrollment period. The student cannot be considered withdrawn in the period that is being evaluated.

Graduate Students — Unit Requirements

Number of Months	Half	Three-Quarter	Full
1	4.5	—	—
2	4.5	6.5	9.0
3	4.5	6.5	9.0
4	7.0	10.0	13.5
5	7.0	10.0	13.5
6	7.0	10.0	13.5

A student's enrollment status will be determined based upon their course schedule, with measures based upon the above charts. This enrollment period will be determined according to the number of months the student is attending, providing the student is not considered withdrawn.

SAP AT-A-GLANCE CHART (Unit Completion Requirements (SAP))**Graduate/Undergraduate calculation:**

	Total Units	Minimum Units Earned to Meet SAP
Year 1	36	24
Year 2	72	48
Year 3	108	72
Year 4	144	96
Year 5	180	120

Note: The above is calculated at 67%. Students who do not meet the unit requirements as stated above will be ineligible to receive federal student aid.

SAP APPEAL PROCESS

An appeal is a process by which a student who is not meeting the institution's satisfactory academic progress (SAP) standards, petitions the institution for reconsideration of the student's eligibility for Title IV, HEA program assistance. Students on financial aid suspension may appeal the loss of aid if extenuating circumstances prevented the students from making satisfactory progress. Circumstances which are considered extenuating are those which are unusual and/or unforeseen at the beginning of the enrollment period, such as: injury or illness of the student, death of a close relative, or other situations which were unexpected and beyond the student's control. Allowances may also be made for students who have a documented disability or other adjustment difficulties. The appeal must include what has changed that will allow the student to make SAP at the next evaluation period. Appeals must be made in writing to the Financial Aid Office. Students are notified in writing of the results of their appeal. The possible appeal results are listed below.

Approved Appeals and Probationary Status –

Students who appeal and are approved will be placed on an academic plan in order to re-establish financial aid eligibility. The Department of Education required that the student be placed on an academic plan to ensure the student will be able to successfully complete their academic program. The academic plan is an agreement on the specific steps and performance that the student will be required to meet, in order to complete their degree and meet the SAP standards. At the end of a probationary period, students must be meeting the satisfactory academic progress requirements or must be successfully meeting requirements of an academic plan in order to continue to receive financial assistance.

Denied Appeals –

Students who choose to attend National University while on suspension, at their own expense, will not be automatically eligible for financial aid upon seeking reinstatement. Students must be meeting the academic progress standards in order to regain eligibility for subsequent enrollment periods. A minimum of six units earned at National University must be completed in order to be considered for reinstatement.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE POLICY (LOA)

The National University LOA policy is mandated by federal regulation for federal student aid recipients. This impacts students who receive Title IV federal financial aid (Federal Grants and Loans) or who want to have a federal student loan deferred for payment while in school. A student on an approved LOA will be considered enrolled at National University and would be eligible for an in-school deferment for their student loans. Students will not receive disbursements of federal financial aid during an approved LOA. It is important to note that federal financial aid and in-school deferment may be negatively impacted if a student fails to apply for the LOA within the guidelines stipulated or if the application is denied. A student must return within 180 days from an approved leave of absence. A student who fails to return from an approved LOA may be subject to impacts on both student loan repayment terms, as well as the grace period of any aid. If a student does not return from an approved LOA the student will be treated as a withdrawn student effective the first day of the leave and a return calculation of federal student aid will be performed.

All LOA approvals must be submitted via e-form on the student portal to the Registrar's Office, prior to the last date of attendance. There are additional rules and requirements for a LOA – please refer to the LOA policy in the NU Catalog.

Students who officially withdraw from the University, or for whom a break in attendance of 45 consecutive days occurs in their course schedule during the academic year, will be considered withdrawn and the following will occur:

Recipients of Federal Grants, Campus-Based, and/or State Aid:

All future aid will be canceled. Students who resume their coursework during the school year will be reprocessed for eligible aid.

** National University's winter break between December and January is excluded when determining withdrawn status.*

Student Loan Recipients

Loan Disbursements

The University will return student loan funds to the lender if the funds arrive after or during a break in which the student is considered withdrawn. The University will also cancel any future scheduled disbursements.

Request for Refund

The University will return funds held on account (credit balance) to the lender in accordance with Federal Regulation if a student:

- Is considered withdrawn
- Has not completed the number of units/weeks as certified in the original payment period

Repayment

The University will report the student's last date of attendance if the student is considered withdrawn. This notification will initiate student loan repayment. The grace period or the actual payments will begin on any outstanding student loan(s) from the student's last date of attendance.

Federal Return of Title IV Aid (R2T4) Refund Policy

If a student is considered withdrawn from the University, federal regulations require a calculation be performed according to a specific formula that identifies the total scheduled financial assistance the student earned and is therefore entitled to receive. If a student is considered withdrawn from the University before completing 60 percent of a payment period, the student may have to repay unearned federal monies that were already disbursed at the beginning of the payment period. For additional information regarding this policy, please refer to the University catalog.

Deferments

The University will process a deferment for a period of one term (a six-month period); however, the deferment period ends when the student is withdrawn. Also, if a student changes their schedule and is considered withdrawn after a deferment is processed, the lender will be notified and repayment on the loan will be initiated.

Accelerated Studies

Students may apply for financial aid to cover educational expenses for an academic year. Students who enroll in accelerated studies will be required to pay for those units (any units above 4.5) at their own expense.

Funding Requirements

Students receiving financial aid at the University will be awarded based on an academic year of 32 weeks of in-class instruction and a minimum of 36 units. Students receiving campus-based aid, state aid, and institutional aid will receive funds for up to 12 months when aid is available. Student loan recipients (WDF, PLUS, and Grad PLUS) may qualify for an additional loan upon successful completion of all courses in the prior loan period. All grades must be posted from the student's prior academic year and any accelerated coursework taken will not be counted towards the completion of the student's academic year. In addition, 32 weeks of in-class instruction (eight months) must be completed.

Unsatisfactory and Repeated course work

Unsatisfactory grades will not be counted toward completion of the payment period. These courses will be paid at the students expense. If a student wishes to repeat a course of which a satisfactory grade was already received this will also be paid at the students expense.

TEACH Grant

The Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education Grant Program (TEACH) provides grants of up to \$4,000 per year (based on sequestration laws) to students who intend to teach in a public or private elementary or secondary school that serves students from low-income families. This program is currently available to undergraduates in a degree that leads to teaching and graduate students pursuing a master's in an educational program. Students must maintain a 3.25 GPA. <http://studentaid.ed.gov/PORTALSWebApp/students/english/TEACH.jsp>

- Award range: \$157 to \$3,772 (disbursed on or before 10/1/21)
- Application deadline: June 30, 2022
- Date funding begins: July 2021

Federal Subsidized WDF Student Loan

This loan program assists undergraduate students with educational expenses. The interest rate is fixed at 3.73% for loans issued after July 1, 2021. (Graduate students are ineligible for subsidized funding.) WDF recipients are not required to make payments or pay the interest during full-time attendance; however, interest will begin to accrue on the first day after the last day of the six month grace period.

Loan Amount: For each academic year, a dependent student may borrow:

- Up to \$3,500 as a first-year undergraduate
- Up to \$4,500 as a second-year undergraduate
- Up to \$5,500 as a third-, fourth-, or fifth-year undergraduate
- Date funding begins is based on each student's individual program of study.

Federal Unsubsidized WDF Loan

This program is available to students who may not qualify for a subsidized WDF Loan or for students who may qualify for only a partial subsidized WDF loan. The interest rate is fixed at 3.73% for undergraduates and 5.28% graduates for loans issued after July 1, 2021. The terms and conditions are the same as the subsidized WDF Loan, except that the borrower is responsible for the interest that accrues while the student is in school and during the six month grace period.

Loan Amount: For each academic year, an independent student may borrow:

- Up to \$9,500 as a first-year undergraduate
(at least \$6,000 of this amount must be in unsubsidized WDF)
- Up to \$10,500 as a second-year undergraduate
(at least \$6,000 of this amount must be in unsubsidized WDF)
- Up to \$12,500 as a third-, fourth-, or fifth-year undergraduate
(at least \$7,000 of this amount must be in unsubsidized WDF)
- Up to \$12,500 as a fifth-year undergraduate credential student
(at least \$7,000 of this amount must be in unsubsidized WDF)
- Up to \$20,500 as a graduate student
- Up to \$33,000 as a graduate student in certain health professions

Loan Amount: Students may receive both subsidized and unsubsidized WDF Loans totaling up to the applicable WDF limit (based on grade level).

Date funding begins is based on each student's individual program of study and schedule.

Aggregate Stafford Loan Limits

Dependent Undergraduate	\$31,000 (\$23,000 maximum subsidized)
Independent Undergraduate	\$57,500 (\$23,000 maximum subsidized)
Graduate	\$138,500 (\$65,500 maximum subsidized)
Graduate in Certain Health Professions	\$224,000 (\$65,500 maximum subsidized)

Note: The graduate debt limit includes any Stafford Loans as an undergraduate.

View your borrowed loan amounts at <https://nslds.ed.gov/npas/index.htm>

Please borrow responsibly.

After the disbursement of loans, the student will need to issue a statement in writing if they wish to cancel or reduce their loans. This request must be submitted within 14 days of disbursement.

Fees:

- Loan Origination Fee: For first disbursements before October 1, 2020, a loan origination fee of up to 1.059% of the loan principal is also deducted proportionately from each loan disbursement.
- Loan Origination Fee: For first disbursements on or after October 1, 2020, a loan origination fee of up to 1.057% of the loan principal is also deducted proportionately from each loan disbursement.
- Insurance Premium: An insurance premium of one percent of the loan principal, called the Federal Default Fee, may also be deducted proportionately from each loan disbursement.

Please Note:

Credential Program — Students must complete the program residency requirement at NU. These programs must consist of a minimum of 36 quarter units in length and 32 weeks of instruction to be eligible for federal student aid (except for recipients of National University Scholarships), and students may only apply for financial aid as a fifth-year undergraduate.

Certificate Program — these programs must consist of a minimum of 36 quarter units in length and 32 weeks of instruction to be eligible for federal student aid.

Federal PLUS Loans for Parents

This is a credit-based loan program to assist parents of undergraduate dependent students with educational costs. The interest rate is 6.28% for all PLUS loans on or after July 1, 2020. Repayment begins once the loan is fully disbursed. A deferment can be requested by contacting your servicer.

- Loan amount: For each academic year, a parent may borrow up to the student's cost of attendance minus other aid, per undergraduate dependent student.
- Fees: Origination fee of 4.236% prior to October 1, 2020 and 4.228% on or after October 1, 2020, and federal default fees.
- Applications: Parent PLUS Loan Request which will be completed through <https://studentaid.gov>
- Date funding begins is based on each student's individual program.

Graduate PLUS Loan

The Graduate PLUS Loan is a government-insured education loan designed for graduate and professional students. PLUS loans are credit based and eligibility is not based on income. Eligibility is determined once students are awarded the maximum unsubsidized loans (\$20,500). Students are able to defer the loan while they are enrolled at least half-time. The interest rate is 6.28% for loans issued after July 1, 2020. Repayment may begin after loan is fully disbursed.

- Loan Amount: For each academic year, a graduate student may borrow up to the cost of attendance minus other aid.
- Fees: Origination fee of 4.236% prior to October 1, 2020 and 4.228% on or after October 1, 2020 and federal default fees.
- Date funding begins is based on each student's individual program.

National University Scholarship Programs

- Presidential: \$2,500
- Military: \$2,500
- Collegiate: \$2,000
- Transfer to Success \$5,000
- Veterans' Victory: \$5,000
- NU Scholar: Full-tuition and \$200 per course book stipend
- Honors Fellows for Social Change: Full-tuition for up to two years.

Application: Scholarship Application

Application deadline: Open, but subject to available funds

Date funding begins: Based upon receipt of the signed scholarship acceptance letter by the Scholarship Department.
<https://www.nu.edu/admissions/financial-aid-and-scholarships/>

Email: scholarships@nu.edu

Note: National University scholarships are considered last dollar scholarships. Last dollar scholarships are awarded to a student whose official Expected Family Contribution (EFC) and financial aid package totals are less than the cost of attendance(COA); resulting in unmet financial need. These funds are designed to supplement the student unmet need but are not a replacement of Federal and State grant aid and tuition assistance.

Awards are credited directly to the student account.

Private Loans

Private Loans are available through various lenders. They are credit-based and have a quarterly variable interest rate. Private loans will be certified up to the cost of attendance after all other funding has been awarded.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

The California Student Aid Commission: (888) 224-7268

WebGrants for Students (Cal Grant Info): <https://www.csac.ca.gov/webgrants-4-students>

The Federal Student Aid Information Center: (800) 4 FED-AID or (800) 433-3243

Free Application for federal student aid (FAFSA):

<https://studentaid.gov>- School Code is 011460

myStudentAid Mobile App- download through Apple App Store or Google Play store

Direct Loan MPNs/Entrance & Exit Counseling: <https://studentaid.gov>

National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS): https://nslds.ed.gov/nslds/nslds_SA/

Financial Literacy: <https://www.inceptia.org/>

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