Financial Assistance

Boston University Financial Assistance

Boston University Financial Assistance serves students by coordinating most forms of financial aid to students, including BU scholarships and federal loans. Application forms and information are available at www.bu.edu/finaid. For more information contact BU Financial Assistance at 617-353-2965, finaid@bu.edu, or at 881 Commonwealth Ave., 5th Floor. Financial aid advisors and assistant directors work with designated students. When you talk with them, please make a note of the matters discussed, the name of the staff member with whom you talked, and the date. If you are applying or reapplying for financial assistance, please be aware of deadlines for all forms and documentation. Deadlines, accuracy, and completeness of forms are extremely important.

BU Financial Assistance routinely sends important communications to students at their BU e-mail accounts. It is expected that students will check their e-mail frequently and share important financial aid information with their family.

2.30 GPA

Boston University need-based grant award renewal requires that students maintain satisfactory academic progress, namely, a minimum of a 2.30 annual GPA each academic year and successfully complete no fewer than 12 credits each semester of the prior academic year with no incomplete ("I") grades. In order to be eligible for federal and State funds and credit-based loan certification for their sophomore year, freshmen must achieve a 1.70 cumulative GPA, juniors and seniors must have a 2.00 cumulative GPA. These are very serious criteria; if you do not meet them, you will not qualify for financial support. A single semester with less than 8 earned credits or less than a “1.00” GPI will result in loss of aid immediately.

8 semesters

Please note that financial assistance is usually available for only 8 semesters. If you enter a major or program that takes longer, please plan the finances accordingly. It is possible to appeal for a ninth semester of aid, but funding is not guaranteed. Visit Boston University Financial Assistance and discuss your options.

Private Scholarship Sources

Boston University Financial Assistance has very helpful links to free private scholarship search services on the web at http://www.bu.edu/finaid (follow the links to “Private Scholarships”). They include: College Board Scholarship Search, Yahoo Financial Aid Search, CollegeNET MACH25 Scholarship Search, and Fast Web Scholarship Search. For example, the College Board Scholarship Search is a computerized database of outside scholarships, loans, and internships sponsored by private, non-profit agencies. The computerized format allows students to quickly search through the scholarships and retrieve information on the scholarships criteria and where to call or write for the applications. Since most of the scholarships have early deadlines, we suggest the students use scholarship search in the Fall to seek scholarships for the upcoming academic year.

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