Financial Assistance

Guide to Your College of General Studies
January Boston-London Program
Freshman Federal/State Financial Aid Award 2019

We are pleased to offer you a Boston University financial aid award for the College of General Studies (CGS) January Boston-London Program.

- Your Spring Semester 2019 financial aid award has been posted to your BU web account.
- Your Summer Term 2019 award will be available in April 2019.

For more information about the CGS January Boston-London Program, we urge you to visit CGS at bu.edu/cgsnow.
For more information about program finances, visit BU Financial Assistance at bu.edu/finaid/apply/cgs-boston-london.

Next Steps

Acknowledging the spring semester in Boston portion of your award offer online at bu.edu/finaid/apply/incoming/next-steps. Please pay careful attention to all instructions. Acknowledging your award offer affirms that you understand and agree to the terms and conditions specified in this guide.

Pay the required nonrefundable enrollment deposit by the date stipulated by BU Admissions. The deposit deadline may differ from the deadline to acknowledge the Spring Semester portion of your award. Your award offer may be withdrawn if you do not acknowledge your award and pay the enrollment deposit by the specified deadlines.

You will be notified if documentation is needed to verify family income to finalize your award and credit funds to your student account.

How Financial Aid Awards Are Determined

Your eligibility for federal financial aid is based on your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

- Federal financial aid eligibility is based on the information you report on your FAFSA and formulas enacted by the US Congress.
- Funding provided to Boston University from the federal government for the Federal Work-Study program is very limited.
- State grant awarding is also based on the information you report on your FAFSA and on your state of residence, state eligibility requirements, and the availability of state funds.

For more information, visit bu.edu/finaid. Follow the links to the “State Grants” page.

How to Maintain Your Eligibility

Terms and conditions of awards are subject to change in subsequent years.

1. Maintain satisfactory academic progress. To be eligible for renewal of any financial aid, you must complete at least 12 credits in each semester of the prior academic year. To be eligible for federal and state funds, you must meet the following grade point average (GPA) requirements: after completion of one academic year, a minimum GPA of 1.70; after completion of two years, a cumulative GPA of at least 2.00. Enrollment at other institutions is not considered in these determinations. Boston University also requires that students meet this same standard for federal, state, and private credit-based loan certification.

Awards are usually offered for the full academic year, and academic progress is reviewed at the end of each academic year. However, summer term financial aid will be canceled, and summer term loans (federal, state, and private) will not be certified, if a full-time student fails to earn at least a 1.00 grade point index (GPI) or fails to successfully complete at least 8 credits during the spring semester.

Students who withdraw during the spring semester after the beginning of classes will not be eligible for federal/state financial aid until they have completed at least 12 credits, with a minimum GPA of 2.00, in their first semester of enrollment, unless extenuating circumstances are documented. Eligibility for federal funds is limited to 6 years of full-time undergraduate enrollment.
2. Apply for federal and state financial aid every year. Application materials for the 2019/2020 academic year will be available in October 2018. Renewal of federal/state financial aid is contingent upon your meeting all eligibility criteria. The type and amount of future aid will depend on your calculated financial eligibility and available funds. Academic requirements for renewal of federal and state funds are stated above. However, priority for those applying to be first-time BU need-based scholarship recipients will be based on the availability of funds and the strength of your academic record. Applicants who did not receive BU Scholarship aid in a prior year generally receive $1,000 – $12,000 in need-based BU Scholarship, depending on eligibility. A minimum annual GPA of 2.50 for the prior academic year and a minimum of 12 successfully completed credits each semester of the prior academic year are required for you to be considered for first-time BU need-based scholarships.

3. Fulfill your financial obligations to the University. You cannot receive financial aid and have an outstanding balance due from a prior enrollment period. Thus, you must promptly pay any remaining balance owed.

**Summer Financial Aid**
The summer term portion of your award offer will be issued and posted to your BU web account in April of 2018. Your summer award will be identical to your spring award.

**Federal Grant Programs**

**Federal Loans**

**State Scholarships/Grants**
For information about scholarship and grant programs from your state of residence, go to [bu.edu/finaid/types-of-aid/scholarships-grants/state-grants](http://bu.edu/finaid/types-of-aid/scholarships-grants/state-grants).

**Massachusetts No Interest Loans**
For information about the Massachusetts No Interest Loan program, go to [bu.edu/finaid/types-of-aid/loans/student-loans/ma-no-interest-loan](http://bu.edu/finaid/types-of-aid/loans/student-loans/ma-no-interest-loan).

**Contacting BU Financial Assistance**
We will be happy to assist you and your family with questions about the application process, eligibility criteria, and financing options. Beginning on the first day of class, information about your specific aid application, eligibility, and award will not be disclosed to your parent or guardian without your consent. Via the Student Link you can:
1) Consent to the release of certain information to a parent
2) Establish ShareLink access for a parent to view certain academic and financial information.
For more information, review the Boston University Policy Regarding Release of Information to Parents and Guardians, available at [bu.edu/reg/academics/ferpa](http://bu.edu/reg/academics/ferpa).

Visit our website at [bu.edu/finaid](http://bu.edu/finaid).

**Call** 617-353-2965, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. ET. If our telephone lines are busy, we suggest that you call later in the week, before noon or after 2 p.m. ET.

**Email** at finaid@bu.edu. In most cases you will get a response within two business days. Please include your name and Boston University ID number in any email communication. BU Financial Assistance will routinely address communications to students at their BU email account. We urge you to check your email account frequently and forward information to any family member helping you with college expenses.

Mail your correspondence to the assistant director responsible for your application. The name of your assistant director, based on the first two letters of your last name, is listed at [bu.edu/finaid/contact-us](http://bu.edu/finaid/contact-us).

We recommend First Class US mail when submitting materials directly to BU Financial Assistance. Certified mail is discouraged.

Fax to us at 617-358-2792. Our receipt of documents by fax can be confirmed only after two business days.

Meet with a Financial Assistance representative during one of our new student open house events. Meet with your assistant director by appointment at any point throughout the year to help you and your family plan how to manage your educational expenses.

**Tuition Remission**
At Boston University, tuition remission may cover up to 100 percent of tuition for 8 semesters in a degree program for unmarried dependent children of eligible most full-time employees who have an assignment of at least a nine-month duration. An employee’s spouse, and employees who are students themselves, may also receive tuition remission benefits. Amounts are not guaranteed and students should advise BU Financial Assistance if the actual benefit amount approved by BU Human Resources will differ from that stated on the financial aid award notification. The employee must apply for this benefit prior to the beginning of each semester.

Application forms are available at BU Human Resources and online at [bu.edu/hr](http://bu.edu/hr). If you indicated on your financial aid application that you expect to receive tuition benefits through Boston University or through another institution, our estimate of those benefits, based on the information you report to us, may be included on the enclosed award notification.

**What If I Withdraw or Take a Leave of Absence from the University?**
Notification of withdrawal and requests for a leave of absence should be made in writing to the University Service Center, 881 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA 02215, or faxed to 617-358-1819. For further information, call 617-358-1818 or go to [bu.edu/uscc](http://bu.edu/uscc).