Boston University School of Social Work

2015/2016 SSW FINANCIAL AID CHECKLIST

In order for your financial aid to appear as pending or as a credit to your Student Account, the following items must be complete and accurate. Please see below for more information:

☐ FAFSA COMPLETE AND ACCURATE
Your FAFSA data can be found online at www.fafsa.gov. If you used estimated 2014 Federal Income Tax information, you must update the FAFSA using your actual 2014 Federal Tax Return. For your convenience you can use FAFSA’s IRS Data Retrieval Tool.

☐ REGISTERED
You must be registered for the proper number of credits for your status. If you are a part-time student you must be registered for 6 to 11 credits to be eligible for financial aid. If you are a full-time student you must be registered for 12 or more credits in order to be eligible for full-time financial aid.

☐ ENTRANCE COUNSELING
If you are borrowing a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan and/or the Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan at BU for the first time, you must complete the Entrance Counseling requirement for each loan. You can complete this requirement at www.studentloans.gov.

☐ MASTER PROMISSORY NOTE
If you are borrowing a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan and/or the Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan for the first time, you must complete the Master Promissory Note requirement for each loan. You can complete this requirement at www.studentloans.gov.

☐ BU MEDICAL INSURANCE
*If you are taking 9 or more credits in one semester, you will be charged for the University’s medical insurance. If you have other, comparable medical insurance, you can waive the University’s medical insurance in the Student Link at www.bu.edu/studentlink under Money Matters, Medical Insurance. Please check the information carefully to make sure you don’t miss the waiver deadline.

*Online students are no longer automatically charged for medical insurance.

For more information, please contact Sandra Butler at sebutler@bu.edu or sswfa@bu.edu or 617-353-0489.
Sample

**Spring 2016 Standard SSW Online Student Charges**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BILLING ITEMS</th>
<th>ESTIMATED CHARGES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition for 6 Credits per semester ($730 X 6)</td>
<td>$4,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Services Fee $60</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Fee ($60 X 6)</td>
<td>360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Cost</td>
<td>4,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add Loan Origination Fee ($4,800 X 1.068%)</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Loan To Request To Cover Charges</td>
<td>$4,851</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please register for classes before completing and submitting your Loan Request Form.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:**

- If you are registered for more than 6 credits for Spring 2016, please perform calculation accordingly, using the example above.
- If you wish to borrow additional funds to help with living expenses, please add your desired amount to the amount calculated (up to a maximum of \$10,250 if eligible)
The unsubsidized Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan is a low-interest loan available to students for post-secondary educational expenses. Most matriculated students are eligible for an unsubsidized Direct Loan. The loan is made to the student who is then responsible for repayment of the loan. The interest rate is 5.84%, fixed for the life of the loan. Interest is charged while the student is enrolled in school, beginning after the loan is disbursed. Students may elect to pay the interest or have it capitalized (added to the principal) and pay it during the repayment period.

Eligibility is determined by a federally legislated analysis of family financial information provided on the 2015/2016 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) which must be completed to apply for the loan. The unsubsidized Federal Direct Stafford Loan may not exceed the annual and aggregate limits for the loan under the Direct Loan Program.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?
Students are eligible to participate in the Federal Direct Loan Program if they:

1. are U.S. citizens or permanent residents;
2. are enrolled in a degree program;
3. are registered for a minimum of 6 credit hours which are accepted towards the degree program and are not repeat classes;
4. demonstrate financial eligibility as determined by federal regulations;
5. do not have any outstanding balance from a prior period of enrollment at Boston University, and
6. are making satisfactory academic progress.

HOW MUCH MAY I BORROW?
The maximum annual (i.e. summer, fall and spring) loan limit for graduate and professional students is $20,500. The maximum cumulative Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan limit is $138,500 for graduate and professional students, this includes any amount borrowed for undergraduate study.

*Please note: If a Summer or Fall 2015 loan was processed for you using 2015/2016 FAFSA data, that amount will be deducted from your $20,500 annual loan eligibility.
HOW DO I APPLY?


2. If you have already signed a Master Promissory Note, you may not need to sign another promissory note. First time borrowers at Boston University will need to complete a **DIRECT LOAN MASTER PROMISSORY NOTE**. You can complete the promissory note on-line at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov). You will need your FSA ID to log in. Information on FSA ID can be found at [https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/filling-out/fsaid#pin-replacement](https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/filling-out/fsaid#pin-replacement). Boston University will be notified within 7-10 business days that you have completed your promissory note on-line.

   Failure to complete the promissory note requirement before the end of the loan period will result in cancellation of the loan.

3. **If you are a first-time borrower at Boston University, you must also complete an ENTRANCE COUNSELING session**, which is required by the federal government prior to the crediting of loan funds to your student account. You may complete this requirement on-line at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov). Entrance Counseling must be completed before your loan eligibility can be finalized and before your loan can be used to settle the balance on your student account.

WHEN WILL THE LOAN FUNDS BE AVAILABLE TO ME?

Once classes begin for the semester and your loan has been approved by the Direct Loan Center, the funds will be credited to your student account electronically. An **origination fee of 1.068 percent** is deducted automatically from the amount you borrowed. The net result is that the loan amount disbursed is less than the loan amount approved.

Your loan will be disbursed in two installments, one installment each semester. **For first-time borrowers, funds cannot be disbursed until the Entrance Counseling and Promissory Note requirements have been fulfilled. You must also be registered for the appropriate number of credits for disbursement to take place.** Once the semester begins, if there is a credit balance on your account after the loan funds are credited, you may request a refund by submitting an online request through the Student Link under Money Matters, Student Account Inquiry for an electronic transfer of funds or by completing and submitting a Credit Release Voucher for a paper check.
Spring 2016 FEDERAL DIRECT UNSUBSIDIZED LOAN REQUEST FORM – ONLINE STUDENTS

Maximum Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan Annual Eligibility is $20,500 ($10,250 for Spring only)

If you wish to apply for a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan, complete each section below and return this form to the School of Social Work Financial Aid Office using one of the following methods:

Fax to: 617-353-5612 Attn. Sandra Butler
Email Scaned Copy: sswfa@bu.edu
Mail to: Boston University
School of Social Work
Admission & Financial Aid Office
264 BayState Road
Boston, MA 02215

A. □ I WISH TO APPLY FOR A DIRECT LOAN IN THE AMOUNT OF $__________ (Spring Only).
B. □ I have filed a FAFSA.
□ I will be filing a FAFSA as soon as possible.

Note: You must be enrolled for at least 6.0 credit hours each semester to be eligible for a Federal Direct Loan. Your social security number must be on file in order for us to receive your FAFSA data. Your 2014 Federal Income Tax Return including all pages, schedules, and W-2s may be requested to verify data on your FAFSA.

Statement of My Responsibilities:

I understand my responsibility to promptly provide to the Office of Financial Assistance the following:

Number of credits: Spring 1 2016: _____ Spring 2 2016: _____

Anticipated Graduation Date: ___/___/___

List any funds anticipated for 2015/2016 from a source other than the Boston University Office of Financial Assistance. Include tuition reimbursement, private scholarships, etc.

Source ___________________ Amount $_________ Source ___________________ Amount $_________

_________________________________________ __________________________
Student name: Last Name First Name MI BU Identification Number

By my signature I acknowledge that the above information is true and correct. I understand that I must notify the SSW Office of Financial Assistance regarding any and all changes to the above information. I understand that changing my enrollment may reduce or eliminate my eligibility for a Direct Loan. I have read the instructions on Pages 1-3.

_________________________________________ __________________________
Signature Date
2015/2016 CREDIT-BASED LOANS

In addition to the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan, alternative credit-based loans provide supplemental assistance to students to help pay direct and indirect educational expenses. Approval is not based on calculated need, but the applicant and/or co-applicant must meet credit and other eligibility requirements.

Boston University has identified a number of loan programs, from which students can choose the one that best meets their needs. This list of programs is not exhaustive and you are always welcome to select other private loans not included in the list. You can find the list online at http://www.bu.edu/finaid/loans/credit/grad-other/index.html.

The 2015/2016 application for the Federal Graduate PLUS Loan, which is also a credit-based loan option, can be found online at the web address above with the other credit-based loan information.
How to create an FSA ID

The FSA ID — a username and password — has replaced the Federal Student Aid PIN and must be used to log in to certain U.S. Department of Education websites. Your FSA ID confirms your identity when you access your financial aid information and electronically sign Federal Student Aid documents. If you do not already have an FSA ID, you can create one when logging in to fafsa.gov, the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS®) at www.nslds.ed.gov, StudentLoans.gov, StudentAid.gov, and Agreement to Serve (ATS) at www.teach-ats.ed.gov.

**Step 1** When logging in to one of the websites listed above, click the link to create an FSA ID.

**Step 2** Create a username and password, and enter your e-mail address.

**Step 3** Enter your name, date of birth, Social Security number, contact information, and challenge questions and answers.

**Step 4** If you have a Federal Student Aid PIN, you will be able to enter it and link it to your FSA ID. You can still create an FSA ID if you have forgotten or do not have a PIN.

**Step 5** Review your information, and read and accept the terms and conditions.

**Step 6** Confirm your e-mail address using the secure code, which will be sent to the e-mail address you entered when you created your FSA ID. Once you verify your e-mail address, you can use it instead of your username to log in to the websites.

You can use your FSA ID to sign a FAFSA right away. Once the Social Security Administration verifies your information in one to three days, or if you have linked your PIN to your FSA ID, you will be able to use your FSA ID to access the websites listed above. For help, visit StudentAid.gov/fsaid.