Dear Graduate Student,

This document is to help you navigate the Stafford Loan/Financial Aid process while you are attending Boston University. To insure a smooth financial aid process, please carefully read this document.

This document is divided into five sections:

- General Overview
- Information for New Students
- Information for Continuing Students
- Summer Term Loan Process
- Other Information

Metropolitan College’s Financial Assistance Office offers comprehensive financial aid services to graduate students. We administer scholarships, loans and assistantships. We also provide information to help students make thoughtful decisions about options for financing a Boston University graduate education. For many students, financial assistance is essential in funding their education. Our goal is to ensure that all students with drive and determination to complete our professional programs have the opportunity to do so.

**GENERAL OVERVIEW**

Because the federal government does not award grants or scholarships to graduate students, the only forms of financial aid available are student loans and assistantships.

If you are interested in an assistantship please contact your program office about assistantship opportunities.

To qualify for a federal loan, you must be a graduate degree candidate enrolled at least half-time (6 or more credit hours or 2 courses) each semester. A Federal Direct Stafford Loan allows the student to borrow up to $20,500 per academic year. A Graduate PLUS loan allows the student to borrow up to total cost of attendance.

**INFORMATION FOR NEW STUDENTS**

To apply, for a Federal Direct Stafford loan the student needs to complete a FAFSA (2010/2011), Master Promissory Note, Entrance Counseling, and a Stafford Loan Request and/or Graduate PLUS Loan Request form. Links are available on the MET Financial Aid website at [www.bu.edu/met/financial_aid](http://www.bu.edu/met/financial_aid).

It is import that you complete the financial aid process at least a month prior to the start of the semester.

In summary: There are four components to obtain the Federal Stafford loan:

1) Complete the FAFSA form
2) Fax in the loan request form
3) Complete Entrance Counseling
4) Complete the Promissory Note

**INFORMATION FOR CONTINUING STUDENTS**

Continuing students are required to fax a Stafford Loan Request Form to the Boston University MET Financial Aid Office (617-353-4190) for the fall and spring semesters and again in the summer. The loan request form is found on the MET Financial Aid website; [www.bu.edu/met/financial_aid](http://www.bu.edu/met/financial_aid). You also must file a new FAFSA every year.

**INFORMATION FOR SUMMER STAFFORD LOAN**

Students must be enrolled at least par-time (6 credits)
2011/2012 FAFSA is required for:
- New students
- Students that received a Federal Stafford Loan in the summer of 2010
- Students that are enrolled in classes that start on or after 7/1/11

2011 Summer Loan Request Form needs to be faxed to 617-353-4190

**OTHER INFORMATION**

- Distance Education website: [www.bu.edu/disted](http://www.bu.edu/disted)
- Refunds: Federal Loan refunds will generate automatically, or you may request your refund to be deposited electronically to your bank
- You may only receive financial aid once for a course. Therefore, if you are repeating a course for which you already received financial aid you will not be eligible for financial aid for the same course.
- In order to receive financial aid a student is required to maintain satisfactory academic progress.
- To verify your loan status please visit the student link [www.bu.edu/studentlink](http://www.bu.edu/studentlink) and go to MONEY MATTER and then to STUDENT ACCOUNT INQUIRY.

Wishing you a successful academic year,
Robyn Friedman