



Information About Your Financial Aid Award

Important information about your award is included in this document. It explains the terms and conditions associated with federal and/or merit-based financial aid. For additional information please visit the Boston University School of Social Work (SSW) financial aid webpage at <http://www.bu.edu/ssw/admissions/msw/msw-financial-aid/>.

Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan Included in Financial Aid Package

The Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan included in your award, will appear as “tentative”. This is because your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) must be reviewed. Loans, unlike scholarships, must be repaid. You can find a loan repayment estimator at <https://studentloans.gov/myDirectLoan/mobile/repayment/repaymentEstimator.action> Your actual Unsubsidized Loan credit will be less than the amount you borrow because of an origination fee charged by the U.S. government. You may, by submitting a signed letter to the SSW Financial Aid Office, decline the loan, decrease the amount you were offered, or increase the amount up to the maximum of \$20,500. If you request an increase in the amount, you will be notified of your eligibility for that amount. You can find more information about loans (including credit-based loans) at http://www.bu.edu/ssw/admissions/msw/msw-financial-aid/financial_aid/.

Loans are disbursed to your Student Account in two equal halves at the beginning of each semester or summer session.

SSW Merit-Based Scholarships

Scholarship awards for incoming students are based on a combination of factors taken from the admissions application and rated by the faculty readers. Those factors include merit/academic performance, experience, recommendations, personal statement, and diversity. Merit-based scholarship award decisions for continuing students are based on the SSW cumulative GPA and the availability of funds. Scholarships are disbursed to your Student Account in two equal halves at the beginning of each semester. You can find more information about SSW Scholarships at <http://www.bu.edu/ssw/admissions/msw/msw-financial-aid/scholarships/> under “Scholarships”.

Maintaining Eligibility for Financial Aid

In order to maintain eligibility for financial aid you must:

1. Apply for financial aid each year. The SSW application will be available in January of the academic year. Renewal of financial aid offered is contingent upon meeting all eligibility criteria. The type and amount of future awards will depend on your calculated financial eligibility, your cumulative GPA, and the availability of funds. Decisions for continuing students are made by mid- June.

2. Inform the SSW Financial Aid Office of any changes in your name, address, enrollment status, or if you withdraw or take a leave of absence from the School.
3. Maintain satisfactory academic progress (SAP). You can find specific information about SAP at <http://www.bu.edu/ssw/files/2018/02/SAP-Policy-BUSSW.pdf>.
4. Provide all information requested by the Financial Aid Office this is required to process your financial aid, including materials needed for a process called Verification, which is verification of the information you provide on the FAFSA.
5. Inform SSW of any additional awards you receive since federal regulations require that your total financial aid does not exceed your calculated financial eligibility. If your total aid from all sources exceeds your calculated financial aid eligibility, a reduction in your financial aid may be required.
6. Fulfill your financial obligations to the University. Financial aid cannot be processed if you have a balance due from a prior semester.

Withdrawal or Leave of Absence From the University

SSW students who want to withdraw or take a leave of absence from the University must file an official Withdrawal/Leave of Absence Form with the SSW Director of Student Services, Off-Campus Program Directors, or the Online Program Administrator within five days of withdrawal.

Federal Work Study

SSW has limited Federal Work-Study funds to award to eligible full-time students. Students are paid hourly for working a specific number of hours per week in a position within or outside of the School of Social Work. Please see http://www.bu.edu/ssw/admissions/msw/msw-financial-aid/financial_aid/ under “Other Sources of Assistance”.

Entrance Counseling and Master Promissory Note

Students who receive a federal loan, including the Federal Unsubsidized Loan and the Federal Graduate PLUS Loan, are required to complete the Entrance Counseling and Master Promissory Note for both. These requirements may be completed at www.studentloans.gov.

Contact Us

If you have any questions about this or any other financial aid information, please feel free to contact the Financial Aid Office:

Ina Frye

Senior Manager of Financial Aid

Boston University School of Social Work
Financial Aid Office
264 Bay State Road
Boston, MA 02215

Phone: 617-353-1333

Fax: 617-353-5612

sswfa@bu.edu