FINANCING YOUR SLU EDUCATION
AN INVESTMENT IN YOUR FUTURE
FOR GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL STUDENTS

INSIDE:

• HOW TO FINANCE YOUR SLU EDUCATION
• HOW TO ACCEPT YOUR AWARD
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WHAT WILL IT COST TO ATTEND SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY?

Your award letter details an estimate of an average student’s costs at Saint Louis University. This serves to help you plan and budget for your expenses.

- **TUITION**: As a graduate/professional student, tuition is charged on a per-credit hour or per-semester basis, depending on your program of study.
- **ROOM/BOARD**: Be sure to budget the proper amount for living expenses, including rent and the cost of food.
- **FEES**: These items represent charges not covered by tuition. Common fees include the technology fee (which funds campus-wide wireless Internet access), recreation fee (which funds the recent renovation and expansion of Simon Recreation Center), readership fee (which provides daily copies of national newspapers on campus) and activity fee (which funds student organizations and campus programming).

CONSIDER ADDITIONAL COSTS

Some costs may not be charged directly to your student account or may vary depending on individual needs. It is important to budget for these items, as well.

- **BOOKS**: Books can be a significant cost. Depending on your program of study and the number of credit hours for which you are enrolled, they could cost as much as $1,000 per semester.
- **TRANSPORTATION**: Reasonable travel expenses include transportation to and from SLU, as well as transportation to and from your hometown for holidays and semester breaks.
- **MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES**: Your program of study occasionally may require you to purchase specific items to complete your coursework. It is important to budget for these miscellaneous expenses.
- **HEALTH INSURANCE**: Saint Louis University offers health insurance options for its students. For more information regarding SLU’s health insurance plans, visit [www.slu.edu/services/stuhcc/insurance.html](http://www.slu.edu/services/stuhcc/insurance.html). Medical students may contact the Medical School’s University Health Plan office at (314) 977-5666.

BUDGET WISELY

To ensure that you live a student’s lifestyle now rather than after graduation, careful budgeting is important, especially if you are borrowing funds to cover the cost of tuition and/or living expenses.

To estimate your loan repayments, visit [www.finaid.org/calculators/loanpayments.phtml](http://www.finaid.org/calculators/loanpayments.phtml).

VIEW SLU’S COMPLETE SCHEDULE OF RATES OR ESTIMATE YOUR COSTS AT FINAID.SLU.EDU/COSTS.
FINANCING YOUR SLU EDUCATION

Continuing your education is a significant investment, and there are several options to help you finance your educational costs.

SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS AND ASSISTANTSHIPS

Saint Louis University awards a variety of scholarships, fellowships and assistantships to students, and each specific program determines the criteria and recipients for each award. For more information, contact the academic department for your program of study.

It also is important to search for scholarships not affiliated with Saint Louis University. Some corporations, employers, churches and other organizations provide funds to graduate or professional students, and free scholarship database Web sites are available to search for these programs. You even can narrow your search using criteria such as race, ethnicity, program of study, hobbies and interests. Helpful Web sites include:

- www.fastweb.com
- www.collegeboard.com
- www.wiredscholar.com
- www.finaid.org/scholarships
- www.sfstl.org (St. Louis-area residents)
- finaid.slu.edu/med_search (medical students)

PAYMENT PLANS

SLU offers several payment plans to assist you in financing your education. Typical options include paying your balance in full each semester, or paying your balance in up to five monthly installments to make your payments more manageable.

You must enroll in a payment plan or pay your balance in full by Aug. 1, 2009, for the fall semester; or Jan. 4, 2010, for the spring semester. For detailed information, visit finaid.slu.edu/paymentplan.

LOANS

Loans are borrowed funds that must be repaid. Many graduate and professional students take advantage of loans to help finance their education as well as their living expenses. Some loans provide low- or no-interest options, and some do not need to be repaid until six months after graduation.

Borrowing options typically are divided into two categories: federal student loans and alternative loans.

Refer to page 5 for more information.

FEDERAL STUDENT LOANS

Your financial aid award letter details your Federal Loan eligibility only if you filed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). If you need to borrow funds beyond those available through the Federal Stafford Loan program, your next best option is to borrow using the Federal Graduate PLUS Loan program.

Federal loan programs offer a secure borrowing option even in today’s uncertain economy. The subsidized Stafford Loan should be the first borrowing option considered by graduate/professional students, followed by the unsubsidized Stafford Loan and then the Federal Graduate PLUS Loan. Detailed information regarding federal loan programs is illustrated below.

CHOOSING A LENDER

Loans are funded through a lender, and choosing a lender is an important decision – it involves a financial obligation that will be a part of your life for many years to come. You may choose any educational loan lender.

Saint Louis University provides a lender list that students can use to compare loan products and benefits. It’s an excellent starting point for obtaining current information and identifying lenders with the greatest resources. You may then choose any lender from that list or borrow from another that you prefer.

ALTERNATIVE LOANS

Alternative loans from lenders also are available to students. These loans are not federally funded. The interest rates on these loans often are variable, are not capped and are tied to the prime rate or the LIBOR index. The office of student financial services encourages students to take advantage of federal loan programs before exploring alternative loan options.

BORROW WISELY

Loans can help make your investment in yourself a reality. While borrowing can be a viable option, it is recommended that you borrow minimally. To determine how much you should borrow or what your loan repayment obligations may be – or for information about financial literacy – visit www.finaid.org/calculators.

VIEW SLU’S COMMONLY USED LENDER LIST AT FINAID.SLU.EDU/LOANS.
ACCEPTING AND CONFIRMING YOUR FINANCIAL AID AWARD

The next step is to view your financial aid award through mySLU, Saint Louis University’s online information portal. There, you can accept or decline the individual components that comprise your financial aid award.

IF YOU HAVE NOT PREVIOUSLY LOGGED INTO MYSLU:

1. Visit password.slu.edu and log in using your SLUNet ID and temporary password. Your SLUNet ID is the portion of your SLU e-mail address before the “@” symbol; your temporary password consists of the characters “Id” followed by the last six digits of your Banner ID number. For example, if your Banner ID was 000123456, your password would be “Id123456.” Note that the “I” in “Id” is capitalized.

2. Click Change Password on the left side of the screen and set a new password according to the guidelines shown. Your password must contain at least one capitalized letter and one numeric character.

3. Keep your SLUNet ID and password in a safe place. Log out of the password management site and continue with the instructions below.

TO ACCESS THE MYSLU PORTAL AND CONFIRM YOUR AWARD:

1. Log into myslu.slu.edu using your SLUNet ID and password.

2. Select the Student tab.

3. Select Financial Aid Awards from the Student Financial Services section.

4. Select Aid Year 2009-2010 from the drop-down box and click Submit.

5. Carefully read the terms and conditions of your financial aid award and review the amounts listed.

6. Choose to accept the full amount, accept a partial amount or decline an amount for each component of your financial aid award:
   - To accept the full amount for all awards, click Accept Full Amount All Awards.
   - To accept a partial amount of an award, indicate that choice in the Award Decision dropdown box, type the desired amount in the Award Partial Amount box and click Submit Decision.
   - To decline an award, indicate that choice in the Award Decision dropdown box and click Submit Decision.

If you accept a student loan as part of your financial aid award, you also may be required to complete a Master Promissory Note (an agreement between a borrower and lender). Refer to page 5 for more information.

CHECKLIST

- File the 2009-2010 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Saint Louis University's FAFSA school code is 002506.
- Accept/confirm financial aid awards via the mySLU portal; refer to page 6 for detailed instructions.
- Submit any outstanding documents as indicated within the Financial Aid Requirements section in the Student tab of the mySLU portal.
- If you have accepted a Stafford Loan, complete the online Master Promissory Note (legal agreement between the lender and borrower) with the lender(s). For specific instructions, or to review SLU’s list of commonly used lenders, visit finaid.slu.edu/loans.
- Visit finaid.slu.edu/loans to project a more accurate estimate of costs as they pertain to your program of study.
- Complete the application and Master Promissory Notes for the Graduate PLUS loan at finaid.slu.edu/loans if you need additional assistance financing your educational costs.
- Contact us with any questions.

FINING SLU's LIST OF COMMONLY USED LENDERS, VISIT FAINAID.SLU.EDU/LOANS.

TIMELINE

MARCH – MAY

- Review and receive your financial aid award.
- Accept your financial aid package.

JUNE – JULY

- Determine how to finance your SLU education.
- Ensure your file is complete.
- Apply for all loans.

JULY

- Enroll in a payment plan.
- Billing statements are issued.

AUG. 1

- Payment arrangements are due for the fall semester.

DECEMBER

- Billing statements are issued for the spring semester.
- Enroll in a payment plan.

JAN. 1

- Payment arrangements are due for the spring semester.
- Start filing your 2010-2011 FAFSA.

SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

OFFICE HOURS:

GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL STUDENTS:
ONE GRAND BOULEVARD
DUBOIS HALL, ROOM 121
ST. LOUIS, MO 63103
PHONE: (314) 977-2300 OR (800) SLU-FOR-U
FAX: (314) 977-3437 • E-MAIL: SFS@SLU.EDU

LAW STUDENTS:
3700 LINDELL BOULEVARD
MORRISSEY HALL, ROOM 125
ST. LOUIS, MO 63108
PHONE: (314) 977-3369 OR (800) SLU-FOR-U
FAX: (314) 977-3437 • E-MAIL: FIN_AID@LAW.SLU.EDU

MEDICAL STUDENTS:
1402 SOUTH GRAND BOULEVARD
SCHWITALLA HALL, ROOM 229
ST. LOUIS, MO 63104
PHONE: (314) 977-9840 OR (800) SLU-FOR-U
FAX: (314) 977-9811 • E-MAIL: SFP@SLU.EDU

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