

STUDENT A / , E K K <

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## INTRODUCTION

"Navigating the world of financial aid can be a difficult process. The mission of the Financial Aid at Lamar University is to assist in obtaining financial resources which will enable them to pursue their educational goals and maintain compliance with institutional, state, and federal regulations. We have an experienced staff committed to helping guide students through the process. I invite you to contact our staff by email, telephone, or in person with any questions or concerns about financial aid."

**Dr. Reginald Brazle**  
Director of Scholarships,  
Financial Aid and  
Veteran Affairs

## USING THE Financial Aid HANDBOOK

This handbook is organized to provide an overview and reference book to the various aid programs and disclosures. If you have any

Expected Family Contribution (EFC) -

Aid Enrollment Status Chart	
UNDERGRADUATE	GRADUATE
FullTime= 12 or more hours	FullTime= 9 or more hours
ThreeQuarterTime= 9-11 hours	ThreeQuarterTime= 6-8 hours
HalfTime= 6-8 hours	HalfTime= 5 hours
LessthanHalfTime= 5 hours orless	Lessthan HalfTime= 4 hours orless

## TYPES OF Federal AID

Lamar University offers a wide range of financial aid consisting of various federal, state, and institutional programs designed to assist you and your

## Howto Apply

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### Disbursement Requirements

- Accept your award on the Self Service Banner
- Complete the [TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve](#)

### Academic Achievement Requirements

One of the following is required;

- Score above the 75th percentile on a college admissions test (e.g., SAT or ACT)
- Graduate from high school with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 (on a 4.0 scale) to receive the grant as a freshman
- Have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 (on a 4.0 scale) on your college coursework to receive a grant for each subsequent term

### Award Amount

- 

### Payment/Disbursement

- 1.5763 T (Demonstration) (net disbursements)

- Full-Time -~~\$~~4,000 (annual)
- Three Quarter-Time -~~\$~~3,000 (annual)
- Half-Time -~~\$~~2000 (annual)
- Less than half-time not eligible for a disbursement

State HB Grant (TUGBUG) -

## Continued Eligibility

**Lamar Promise** The Lamar University Promise ensures that sufficient grant and/or scholarship assistance will be provided to cover the full amount of fall and spring state tuition and fees for undergraduate Texas residents meeting certain eligibility criteria.

**How to Apply**

- Complete FAFSA or TASFA by February 1<sup>st</sup> of each year

Eligibility Requirements

- Complete FAFSA or TASFA (if applicable) and submit all Aid documents by February of each year
- Be a degree-seeking, in-state, undergraduate student eligible for Texas state tuition
- Be a dependent student per the Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Dependency Requirements
- Have a Household Adjusted Gross Income (per IRS Regulations) of no more than \$25,000
- Enroll as a full-time Lamar University student (12 or more semester credit hours per Fall and Spring semester)
- Be within the program eligibility limit of four academic years (or three years, if a transfer student)
- Be eligible for full federal Pell Grant award.
- Be meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress
- "

Award Amount

- Annual award amounts differ based on the amount of state tuition not already covered by gift aid

Disbursement (Payment)

- Money is typically disbursed once a semester
- Disbursements occur after the 12<sup>th</sup> class date

- Meet the basic eligibility criteria to receive • š μ v š aid
  - Have financial need
  - Been enrolled at least half-time in your program of study
  - [Meet Satisfactory Academic Progress \(SAP\)](#)
- Disbursement (Payment)
- Students earn a paycheck and are paid bi-weekly for hours worked

Visit <https://www.lamar.edu/financialaid/types-of-aid/work-study.html> for more information.

## VETERAN OPPORTUNITIES

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The U.S. Department of Education releases official cohort default rates once per year. A cohort default rate is the percentage of a school's borrowers who enter repayment on certain Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program

of Education. It also explains the terms and conditions of your loan(s). You must complete the entrance counseling and sign the MPN before you receive a loan payment.

If you receive a federal student loan payment, you will be required to complete exit counseling once you graduate or stop attending at least half-time. Exit Counseling provides vital information to prepare you to repay your federal student loan(s). A hold will be placed on your LU transcript until we receive confirmation that the exit counseling has been completed.

**Federal Direct Subsidized Loan** - This loan is available to undergraduate students with financial need. ED pays the interest on this loan while you are enrolled in school at least half-time. Repayment on this loan begins six months after you graduate, leave school, or drop below half-time enrollment. If you are a first-time borrower on or after July 1, 2013, there is a limit on the maximum period of time you may receive Direct Subsidized Loans. If this limit applies to you, you may not receive Direct Subsidized loans for more than 150% of the published length of your program.

#### How to Apply

- Complete a [FAFSA](#)

#### Eligibility Requirements

- Meet the basic eligibility criteria to receive federal scholarship aid
- In good standing in accordance with [LU Satisfactory Academic Progress Standards](#) for scholarship aid
- Demonstrate financial need as determined by the FAFSA
- Enrolled at least half-time as a regular student in an eligible degree or certificate program
- Must be classified as an undergraduate student

#### Award Amount

The amount you are awarded will depend on:

- Your financial need
- Your classification
- Your dependency status
- Yearly and aggregate loan limits

#### Disbursement Requirements

- Accept the loan on your Self Service Banner
- Complete Entrance Counseling
- Sign a Master Promissory Note (MPN)
- Enrolled at least half-time

#### How and When your Loans Disburse

Your loan will disburse no earlier than 10 days before your scheduled enrollment begins. Loans are typically disbursed once a semester, however if you are enrolled in the accelerated program or receiving a loan for only one semester, you will receive two disbursements within the semester. The first, no more than 10 days prior to your first class day and the second half-way through the semester.

#### [Learn More...](#)

**Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan** This loan is not based on financial need and may be awarded to both undergraduate and graduate students.

you are in school and during grace periods and deferment or forbearance periods, or you can allow it to accrue and be capitalized (that is, added to the principal amount of your loan). If you choose not to pay the interest as it accrues, this will increase the total amount you have to repay because you will be charged interest on a higher principal amount. Repayment on this loan begins six months after you graduate, leave school, or drop below half-time enrollment.

#### How to Apply

- Complete a [FAFSA](#)

#### Eligibility Requirements

- Meet the basic eligibility criteria to receive federal aid

#### Disbursement Requirements

- Accept the award on Self Service Banner
- Complete Entrance Counseling
- Sign a Master Promissory Note (MPN)
- Enrolled at least half-time

#### How and When Your Loan Disburses

Your loan will disburse no earlier than 10 days before your scheduled enrollment begins and typically disbursed once a semester, however if you are enrolled in the accelerated program or receiving a loan for only one semester, you will receive two disbursements within the semester. The first, no more than 10 days prior to your first class session.

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- The parent must sign the Master Promissory Note (MPN) at <https://studentaid.gov>
- Student must be enrolled at least half-time

#### How and When the Loan will Disburse

This loan will disburse no earlier than 10 days before your scheduled enrollment begins. Loans are typically disbursed once a semester, however if you are enrolled in the accelerated program or receiving a loan for only one semester, you will receive two disbursements within the semester. The first, no more than 10 days

[Learnmore.....](#)

## Yearly and Aggregate Federal Direct Loan Amounts

Alternative Loans- Private student loans provided by banks, credit unions, and other lenders can help bridge the gap between the amount of aid you have already received for college and the total cost of attendance. Alternative loans are available through private lenders and require a separate loan application.

### IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES

#### Priority Deadline

To maximize your opportunity for grants, submit your FAFSA by February 1 of each year.

#### Visiting/ Transient Students

A visiting student, also referred to as a transient student, is a student taking courses at Lamar University, not seeking a degree. These students are not eligible for federal financial aid.

#### Study Abroad

Students enrolled in a program of study abroad approved for credit by the home institution may be considered enrolled at the home institution for the purpose of applying for assistance under federal Student Aid Programs.

#### Repeat Coursework

The Department of Education has published regulations which impact students who repeat courses. Here at L, these repeat courses may impact your financial aid eligibility and awards. For a repeated course to count toward your enrollment status for financial aid purposes, you may only repeat a previously passed course once. If you enroll in a previously repeated course a third time, the course will not count toward your enrollment for financial aid purposes.

number of times a student can receive aid for a course that the student has only earned an F or U. If a student earns a D or higher in a course, the student may only receive aid for the course one more time even if the degree plan requires a C or higher.

- Applies to both undergraduate and graduate students.
- Course repetitions required by degree plan are exempt.
- Any reduction in enrollment status under these guidelines affects aid award amounts. The student's official enrollment status with the Office of Student Aid for reporting, and student loan deferment purposes will include repeated courses.

### Program of Study

Students should enroll in courses that are required for their declared Program of Study. If you are enrolled in courses that do not count toward your "Program of Study", these courses cannot be used to determine your enrollment status for aid purposes unless they are eligible remedial courses. Students will not receive federal aid or state and institutional grants or loans for courses that are not in their "Program of Study". A "Program of Study" is defined as courses needed to complete a degree or eligible certificate program.

### Verification

Students selected for verification are encouraged to complete and submit all required paperwork to the Office of Student Aid in a timely manner. Consequences for not completing paperwork may result in the delay of funding, as well as possible limited, and/or loss of funds.

Except for students selected for Verification Tracking Groups V4 and V5, verification documents must be received by the institution no later than 120 days after your last date of enrollment for the 2021-2022 award year or September 1, 2021, whichever is earlier. If selected for Verification Tracking Groups V4 and V5, institutions must submit identity and high school completion status verification results no later than 60 days following the institution's first request to the student to submit the documentation.

To allow time for accurate processing we encourage you to complete the verification process as soon as possible but no later than two weeks before your last date of enrollment for the 2021-2022 award year. If you complete verification after you are no longer enrolled, you may only be eligible to receive Federal Pell Grant funds. Verification is complete once the school has all the requested documentation and a valid FAFSA.

A Verification Guide for Students is published each year on the Office of Student Aid website. You can view the 2021-2022 guide [here](#).

### Accepting Awards

Grant funds awarded (with the exception of the TEACH Grant) are automatically accepted by the Office of Student Aid. Additional documents may be required for to receive the TEXAS Grant. You will be notified of these requirements via Self-Service Banner.

Federal student loans, the TEACH Grant and Work-Study will require positive confirmation by accepting your offer on the Self-Service Banner account. If accepting student loans, you may accept a partial amount if you do not wish to receive the full



disbursement of Federal student loan funds. Students who are beginning enrollment in the last module or who only have one course remaining in the semester before graduating, may not be eligible for Federal Loan disbursement.

The Business Office is responsible for disbursing the Federal aid. There are two ways disbursement may take place:

- Crediting and payment of eligible institutional charges
- Payment to the recipient by means of a refund to the student

The first funds disbursed will be used to pay any and all charges on your account. These charges may include, but are not limited to tuition, fees, books, fines, and prior term balances. Refunds are disbursed via the One Card according to the following:



and returned to the applicable program(s).

**-Ceasing Attendance**

After beginning attendance in the semester if you drop a course(s) or cease attendance, your financial aid may be reduced or canceled. Please see the sections titled "Financial Aid Freeze Date/ Pell Recalculation Date (PRD)" and "Withdrawals & Return of Title IV (R214)" for more information.

**Entrance Counseling**

Entrance counseling is designed to help you, the borrower, understand what it means to take out a student

Loan. During the counseling you will learn things like:

- How the loan process works
- Your rights and responsibilities as a borrower
- How to manage education-related expenses
- Other financial resources to consider to help pay for your education

If you have not previously received a Direct Loan or Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL), the Federal Government requires you to complete entrance counseling to ensure that you understand the responsibilities associated with the loan.

PRD for Students Enrolled in a  
Traditional Program

one module you may have more than one census date. The PRDs only activated in the event that you attend the associated module, if not, the latest PRD

## Withdrawal from Programs Offered in Modules

A module is any course that does not span the entire length of the payment period (semester). Example of



withdraw.

- You are considered an “Unofficial Withdrawal” if you stop attending without providing official notification of your intent to withdraw.

withdraw. If your post withdrawal disbursement includes loan funds, we must first get your permission in writing before we can disburse these loan funds to you. Failure to receive written notification will result in the cancellation of the loan funds.

The Return of Title IV Worksheet can be found at <https://ifap.ed.gov/sites/default/files/attachments/201907/CreditHourWorksheets2017.pdf>

~~SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS~~

1. GPA (Undergraduate students must maintain a cumulative

### How to Apply

Step 1: Fill out the FAFSA, indicating you are unable to provide information about your parent(s).

Step 2: Your FAFSA will be rejected. Once you receive notification from LU that your FAFSA has been received, complete the

Allowable Adjustments to the COA  
The

## Incentive Compensation

> u CE University does not provide payment or compensation to any person involved in student recruiting, admissions activities, or the awarding of Federal Title IV funds based on success in securing enrollments or • š μ v š aid.

### Helpful Links

\*Visit <https://www.lamar.edu/financial-aid/resources/deadlines-and-dates-for-financial-aid.html> for important • š μ v š aid dates.

\*View our Frequently Asked Questions at <https://www.lamar.edu/financial-aid/resources/faqs-for-aid-scholarships.html>

\*Instructions on how to upload your missing • š μ v š aid documents can be found at <https://www.lamar.edu/financial-aid/document-upload.html>