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School of Health Professions
Physician Assistant Program
What is Financial Aid?

FINANCIAL AID is defined as assistance to pay for your educational expenses. These expenses include tuition, fees, books, supplies, instruments and living expenses while in school. Any assistance is considered “financial aid” regardless of the source. These sources are:

- **Grants**—Funds from Federal and State sources that do NOT require repayment
- **Scholarships**—State, Institutional, Organizational funds that do NOT require repayment
- **Loan Programs**—Money that must be paid back. May consist of Federal, State and Private loans
- **Departmental Payments/Waivers**—Assistance with tuition/fees while in school
- **Veteran’s Benefits**—Hazelwood, Ch. 33, etc. Please contact the TTUHSC VA Coordinator at (806) 743-7549 for more details.

It is estimated that the average Physician Assistant student will leave school with at least $100,000 in Federal Student loan debt. You do not have to borrow the maximum allowed. You should create a budget and only borrow the amount you need to cover your expenses.

**Items that are covered by Financial Aid**
- Tuition & Fees
- Books & Supplies (including lab equipment)
- Housing and food
- Transportation
- Health Insurance
- Personal and miscellaneous (medical, dental, clothing, cleaning, etc.)
- Travel and living expenses for away rotations
- Computer (covered during 1st year; only if program requires computer; additional application required)
- State Professional License Exam
- Travel costs for residency/job interviews

**Items that are NOT covered by Financial Aid**
- Automobile payments
- Consumer debt (credit cards, loan payments)

Understand the effects of Credit and Consumer debt

Understand all of the terms and conditions of credit cards and loans.

Private loan programs can help bridge the financing gap between your expected costs and what you can fund through savings and financial aid. As with any educational loan, it is in your best interest to be conservative and only borrow what you absolutely need.

Remember, all loans must be repaid!
Who is Eligible to Receive Financial Aid?

To be eligible to receive financial aid, you must be accepted and matriculated in a degree-granting program. Health Professions students must be enrolled at least half time (6 hours for undergraduate or 5 hours for graduate) to be eligible for financial aid.

How Do I Apply For Financial Aid 2021-2022?

Complete a 2021-2022 FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

Go to: https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa

Follow the instructions as directed.

PLEASE NOTE: We are Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. Our school code is: 016024.

- As a PA student, you are now considered a graduate/professional student on the FAFSA. This means you are no longer required to provide parent information on your FAFSA. HOWEVER, students who enter the PA program with less than 72 completed college hours will still be considered as an undergraduate student and may be required to provide parent information on the FAFSA. Please check with our office if you are not sure if you fall into this category.

- Students completing a 2021-2022 FAFSA are encouraged to use the IRS Data retrieval tool when completing their FAFSA. This tool allows the Federal Processor to access your tax return information directly from the IRS.

- Students who do not use the data retrieval tool, as well as those with unique filing situations, may be selected for verification. This means additional forms will be required before your financial aid file can be processed.

- Once your FAFSA has been processed, the data will be sent to our office. Please allow at least 5 business days for the data to be reviewed and processed.

- You will receive an email from the Student Financial Aid Office if we need any additional information to finish processing your file.

- All Student Financial Aid emails are sent to your TTUHSC Student Email Account. Please be sure to check this account for correspondence from our office.

Please note, the FAFSA is now processed using prior, prior year tax information.

- You will no longer have to wait until you (and your spouse if married) have completed the current year’s tax return.

- 2021-2022 FAFSA will be available beginning October 1, 2020 (instead of January 1, 2021)

- You will use 2019 Income Tax Information for the 2021-2022 FAFSA

### Types of Financial Aid Loans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Loan Type</th>
<th>Features/Benefits</th>
<th>How do I apply?</th>
<th>How much can I borrow?</th>
<th>Interest Rate</th>
<th>Repayment?</th>
<th>Additional Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subsidized</td>
<td>As of 7/1/12, grad students are not eligible for this loan</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsubsidized</td>
<td>No payments while in school. Can pay interest while in school</td>
<td>Complete the FAFSA</td>
<td>$20,500 annually</td>
<td>7/1/20-6/30/21</td>
<td>6 months after you graduate, leave school or drop below halftime status</td>
<td>Different repayment plans available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Plus</td>
<td>No payments while in school. Can pay interest while in school. Ability to sign without co-signer may be available</td>
<td>Complete the FAFSA</td>
<td>$138,500 lifetime aggregate limit</td>
<td>4.30%</td>
<td>Grad Plus: no grace period; enter repayment as soon as you leave school. Can request a postponement of payment.</td>
<td>Private loans might have repayment incentives and/or interest rate reduction options. Contact your lender for more information.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Financial Aid Process—Time Line

October 1st of each year, new year’s FAFSA becomes available.
Student completes Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)  https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/afasfa
TTUHSC receives FAFSA data from the Federal processor electronically.

March: TTUHSC begins sending missing information emails to the student if additional documents are needed. Student returns those necessary documents to complete the financial aid file.

May: TTUHSC emails award notice to the student. The award offer outlines the programs and funding the student is eligible to receive for the school year.
Student completes the Federal Direct Loan Application process for the year. (only for students borrowing Federal Direct Loans).
Student completes Grad Plus/Alternative loan application (only for students borrowing one of these loans)

10 days prior to the start of each semester:
Federal Direct Loan processing service electronically sends loan funds to the school
Financial aid funds (loans, grants, & scholarships) are posted towards student’s tuition accounts

The week before the start of each semester:
Student Business Services Tuition Due date
HSC SBS Office sends any refunds to student based on student’s refund preference (update on WebRaider).

Questions Concerning Student Business Services (SBS) Processes

Please contact Student Business Services (SBS) at (806) 743-7867 for questions regarding:

- Tuition and fee information, tuition payment options, and payment plans
- How refunds are processed or how to set up direct deposit information
- How to submit 3rd party payment information

Web Resources

US Department of Education  www.studentaid.gov/
FinAid-Student Guide to Financial Aid  www.finaid.org
Federal Student Aid-Mange Loan  https://studentaid.gov/h/manage-loans
Texas Financial Aid Information  www.collegefortalltexans.com
FastWeb Scholarship Search  www.fastweb.com
Air Force Scholarship Opportunities  www.airforce.com/education/ongoing-education
Army Scholarship Opportunities  www.goarmy.com/amedd/allied-health.html
Navy Scholarship Opportunities  www.navy.com/navy/careers/healthcare.html
Rural Health Info Hub  https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/topics/scholarships-loans-loan-repayment

Contact Information

For Financial Aid questions & concerns, please contact:

Ashley Walker, Financial Aid Advisor, Graduate Health Professions Students  Ashley.Walker@ttuhsc.edu
TTUHSC 3601 4th Street, MS 8310, Lubbock, TX 79430  Room 2C400, Lubbock Campus
(806) 743-3025  Financial.Aid@ttuhsc.edu
www.ttuhsc.edu/financial-aid

For questions regarding registration, enrollment verifications, deferments, establishing residency and Veteran’s benefits, please contact:  TUHSC Registrar’s Office  (806) 743-2300  Room 2C400, Lubbock Campus