

# Financial Aid Checklist



## Welcome to Financial Aid

### Need some answers?

Dial the help line experts at the Bronco Express Service Center, (269) 387-6000. Or find us on the Web, [www.wmich.edu/finaid](http://www.wmich.edu/finaid). You can e-mail your questions to [finaid-info@wmich.edu](mailto:finaid-info@wmich.edu).

See **your** financial aid award and payment information on GoWMU!



### Financial Aid Application Process

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- First-time applicants: Request a Personal Identification Number (PIN). Get one for you **and** one for your parents at [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov).
  - Everyone: File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, every year. Do it faster on the Web at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). Some aid is awarded until it's gone, so apply early. March 1 is the priority date for Michigan aid.
  - First-time applicants: Be admitted to a degree program and submit all required transcripts.
  - Everyone: Watch your Western e-mail. You will be notified if you have application **requirements** to complete. Get the details on GoWMU.
  - First-time applicants: Complete the Payment Authorization and Electronic Process consent when you logon to GoWMU for the first time.
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### After You Get Your Award Letter

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- Everyone: Watch your Western e-mail. Review your **award payment schedule** on GoWMU. Complete any tasks, turn in any documents as directed.
  - Everyone: Decline or reduce any student loans you do not want using the Financial Aid Adjustment Form. Get it on the Web at [www.wmich.edu/finaid/forms.html#award](http://www.wmich.edu/finaid/forms.html#award).
  - First-time borrowers: Complete a Master Promissory Note for your student loans. Get the information on our Web site, and on GoWMU.
  - First-time borrowers: Complete the required direct student loan entrance counseling at [studentloans.gov](http://studentloans.gov)
  - Everyone: Report your private scholarships and additional resources for the year. Get the scholarship resource form at [www.wmich.edu/finaid/forms](http://www.wmich.edu/finaid/forms).
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### Prior to Payment of Your Aid

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- Everyone: Continue to review your **award** and any missing **requirements** on GoWMU.
  - Everyone: Finalize your enrollment for the semester by the end of each semester's drop/add period.
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### After Your Aid Pays

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- Everyone: Stay enrolled. Withdrawing from classes could result in the loss of your aid, and may affect future eligibility for aid.
  - Everyone: Complete your courses. You must make Satisfactory Academic Progress toward your degree to maintain eligibility for aid. Learn more about eligibility on our Web site.
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### Notes

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