

Financial Aid Checklist



Welcome to Financial Aid

We can help!

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

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

Billing questions?

Sometimes your financial aid award doesn't cover your entire bill for the semester. You can see your billing information anytime on GoWMU by selecting the Payment and Account Information link. The most current statement is available after the 15th of every month. You can also view your account balance.

For questions on how to pay, or payment plans, check out Accounts Receivable online at www.wmich.edu/accounts-receivable/faq/payment.

Financial Aid Application Process

- First-time applicants: Request an FSA ID. Get one for you **and** one for your parents at fsaid.ed.gov.
 - Everyone: File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, every year. Do it faster on the Web at 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 email. 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 Receive Your Award Letter

- Everyone: Watch your Western email. Review your **award payment schedule** on GoWMU. Complete any tasks, turn in any documents as directed.
 - Everyone: Decline or reduce any student or parent loans you do not want using the Financial Aid Adjustment form located in GoWMU.
 - First-time borrowers: Complete a Master Promissory Note for your student or parent loans at studentloans.gov. Get more information on our website, and on GoWMU.
 - First-time borrowers: Complete the required direct student loan entrance counseling at studentloans.gov
 - Everyone: Report your private scholarships and additional resources for the year. Get the Scholarship Resource form at www.wmich.edu/finaid/resources/forms.html.
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Prior to Payment of Your Aid

- 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

- 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 website, and check your status on GoWMU.
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Notes
