

\$\$UMMS Financial Aid Newsletter\$\$

University of Michigan Medical School
Financial Aid Office
April 2020

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Coronavirus and Forbearance Info for Students, Borrowers, and Parents from Federal Student Aid

[Federal Student Aid \(Links to an external site.\)](#) are actively monitoring the new coronavirus/COVID-19 outbreak. If you're concerned about your studies or loan repayment, they can help you understand what to do in certain circumstances.

Currently interest all federal direct loans has been reduced to 0% effective March 13th through September 30th. For students/graduates that are currently in repayment, payments will automatically stop from March 13, 2020 through September 30, 2020. No action is needed on the part of the borrower.

FSA will be adding information for students, borrowers, and parents to their page on a regular basis, so please check their [website \(Links to an external site.\)](#) frequently.

New Academic Term Structure

As you are aware, beginning with the 2020-2021 academic year the term structure for the Medical School will be a three term structure rather than two. There are many benefits to this change, it will also change the way financial aid is disbursed and tuition is charged.

This email sent to all medical student in February, explaining our new academic term structure at UMMS:

Dear Medical Students –

Beginning in June 2020, the medical student academic term structure will change to more closely align with that of Central Campus. This means that we will move from our current Fall/Winter term structure to a Fall/Winter/Summer term structure. The yearly tuition charge will be spread evenly across each term and disbursement of financial aid will occur at the beginning of each term.

This process will bring several wins to our program, including having all four cohorts in the same term at the same time, more transparent on/off ramps for our students pursuing dual degrees or a leave of absence, student eligibility for University tuition payment plans, efficiency for our IT and mpathways student support systems, more reliable budget planning for our students, and compliance with Financial Aid and Registrar governance.

In academic year 2020-2021, each of the 4 cohorts (M1, M2, M3, M4) will have three terms. Beginning in 2021-2022, the 1st, 2nd and 3rd years will have 3 terms, the 4th year will complete their year in two terms. Again, just like you experience today, the yearly tuition charge will spread evenly across each term.

More information will be forthcoming from the OMSE Financial Aid and Registrar's Office.

All best,

*Rajesh S. Mangrulkar, MD
Marguerite S. Roll Professor of Medical Education
Associate Dean for Medical Student Education
Associate Professor of Internal Medicine
Associate Professor of Learning Health Science*

*Tamara L. Gay, MD
Assistant Dean for Student Services
Associate Professor of Psychiatry*

2020-2021 Financial Aid Notification Process

The Financial Aid Notification process for the 2020-2021 application year is in full swing! Award notices will begin to go out before the end of the month and will continue on a daily basis after that. You will receive an email message to your umich email account when your 2020-2021 Financial Aid Notification is available for you to view/print on Wolverine Access.

If you are required to submit additional application materials, you will be sent an email regarding missing documents. This email will direct you to the View Financial Aid Documents Section on Wolverine Access, which will provide links for further information or to PDF documents for you to print and submit to our office. All additional application materials must be received **by May 1** to consider your application for all aid programs. This **DOES NOT** include GradPLUS applications.

Avoiding Student Loan Scams

Borrowers across the country have reported receiving phone calls, emails and solicitations offering them relief from their federal student loans or warning them that student loan forgiveness programs would be ending soon. Don't let yourself get scammed! Please read this [article](#) for more information.

Scholarship Thank You Letters

It is important to remember, if you have received a scholarship from a living donor, you are expected (required) to write a thank you note to the donor of your scholarship EACH YEAR that you receive the funds.

If you are receiving a scholarship from a living donor you will receive a letter in the early fall from Development giving you specific information on submitting your thank you letter. We are no longer

holding fall disbursements, rather, you will have ample time in the fall to write a thoughtful and informative thank you letter to your benefactor. A later deadline will be given and submission of your thank you letter will be required prior to winter disbursement.

This only refers to scholarships for which the donor is still living. If you receive a scholarship and the donor of those funds is deceased, a thank you letter is not necessary.

Electronic Promissory Notes
Please read this section carefully

If you are being offered a Loan for Disadvantaged Students (LDS) **for the first time** as part of your financial aid package, you will be given instructions to electronically sign your promissory note. When you view your Financial Aid Notification on Wolverine Access, you will be provided with a link that will take you to “eSign Loan Documents” within Wolverine Access. Instructions for electronically signing your promissory notes (s) are explained in this section. In addition, the note that you will be signing is a “Master Promissory Note” similar to the Direct Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN). You will not have to sign another LDS promissory note as long as you are receiving aid from the University of Michigan Medical School. If you receive subsequent LDS loans, you will be required to sign a Rights and Responsibilities Statement each year.

If you are a first time Direct Loan borrower, you will be required to sign a Master Promissory Note (eMPN) as well as do Entrance Counseling on-line. You will receive instructions for signing the eMPN and doing the On-Line Entrance Counseling when you view your Financial Aid Notification on Wolverine Access.

Spring/Summer 2020(M4 only) and Fall 2020 Financial Aid Disbursement Schedule

Financial Aid disbursements the upcoming Spring/Summer and Fall terms are scheduled to be delivered according to the schedule below. Funds over and above the amount of tuition and fees will be refunded to you. If you have a direct deposit authorization on file the funds will be deposited directly into your designated account. This will provide you with the quickest access to your living expense funds. You can set up direct deposit in the Student Business section of Wolverine Access. Select Direct Deposit. If you have a direct deposit authorization on file from previous years it is not necessary to complete a new one, unless you have changed financial institutions. If you do not have direct deposit, the funds will be mailed to your local address as listed in Wolverine Access. Please be sure that this address is accurate and up to date.

Note: You must be registered receive financial aid. All negative service indicators must be resolved before registration can be completed. Any payments due should be made as soon as possible, electronically through the Student Business section of Wolverine Access.

Sp/Summer Term Disbursement M4 only 6/5/20	
Fall Term Disbursement Dates	
M1	7/24/20
M2	8/28/20
M3	8/28/20
M4	8/28/20
Note: You must be registered for at least 6 credit hours before financial aid can be disbursed.	

Please note – Wolverine Access does not allow us to evenly split institutional aid (scholarship, need-based grant, LDS and other institutional loans only) across three terms. Please plan accordingly.

- The percentage split for Clinical Trunk and Branch 1 students is 33% in Fall, 33% in Winter and 34% in Sp/Summer term.
- The percentage split for Branch 2 students is 33% in Sp/Summer 33% in Fall and 34% in Winter term.
- Federal Direct Loans (Unsubsidized and GradPLUS) are not affected and are split even across all three terms.

The three terms for the Scientific Trunk are not quite even in length and we have tried to accommodate that through the disbursement percentages.

- Scientific Trunk students will see 37% of their institutional aid disbursed in Fall term, 36% in Winter term and 27% in Sp/Summer term. Federal Direct Loans should also be disbursed using these same percentages.

The yearly tuition charge will be split evenly across the three terms and will occur at the beginning of each term. Tuition charges will be deducted from financial aid awards first, before funds are released for living expenses. Sp/Summer 2020 M4 term tuition will be charged at the current, 2019-20 rate.

2020-2021 Tuition Due Dates

Sp/Summer 2020	6/30/20	M4 students
Fall Term 2020	8/31/20	M4 students
	8/31/20	M3 students
	8/31/20	M2 students
	8/31/20	M1 students
Winter Term 2021 (tentative)	1/6/21	M4 students
	1/6/21	M3 students
	1/6/21	M2 students
	1/6/21	M1 students
Sp/Summer 2021	TBD	M3 students
	TBD	M2 students
	TBD	M1 students

The process for viewing bills in Wolverine Access will remain the same. For information regarding the payment schedule and for answers to frequently asked questions, please see the Student Financial Operations website at www.sfo.umich.edu/faqs.html.

Because some financial aid disbursements will not be made until AFTER billing statements are generated, all aid that is ready to be disbursed will appear on your statement as “anticipated aid”. Any balance remaining is your responsibility to pay PRIOR to the due date.

2020-2021 Stafford and Grad PLUS Loan Interest Rates

Unsubsidized Stafford Loans disbursed between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2013 – 6.8%
 Unsubsidized Stafford Loans disbursed between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014 – 5.41%
 Unsubsidized Stafford Loans disbursed between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015 – 6.21%
 Unsubsidized Stafford Loans disbursed between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016 – 5.84%
 Unsubsidized Stafford Loans disbursed between July 1, 2016 and June 30 2017 – 5.31%
 Unsubsidized Stafford Loans disbursed between July 1, 2017 and June 30 2018 – 6.0%
 Unsubsidized Stafford Loans disbursed between July 1, 2018 and June 30 2019 – 6.595%
 Unsubsidized Stafford Loans disbursed between July 1, 2019 and June 30 2020 – 6.08%
 Unsubsidized Stafford Loans disbursed between July 1, 2020 and June 30 2021 – TBD

Graduate PLUS Loans disbursed between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2013 – 7.9%
 Graduate PLUS Loans disbursed between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014 – 6.41%
 Graduate PLUS Loans disbursed between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015 – 7.21%

Graduate PLUS Loans disbursed between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016 – 6.84%
Graduate PLUS Loans disbursed between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017 – 6.31%
Graduate PLUS Loans disbursed between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018 – 7.0%
Graduate PLUS Loans disbursed between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019 – 7.595%
Graduate PLUS Loans disbursed between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020 – 7.08%
Graduate PLUS Loans disbursed between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021 – TBD

Loans disbursed prior to July 1, 2006 will remain variable.

GradPLUS Loan for Graduate or Professional Students

If you have exhausted your Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan eligibility for the year, you have the option of requesting a GradPLUS loan to cover your remaining need. In order to apply you must submit an additional form to our office. You can find the Federal Direct GradPLUS Loan Request form [here](#).

Applicants must not have an adverse credit history and must have exhausted all eligibility in Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Loans for the academic year. The interest rate is 7.08% and begins to accrue once the loan is disbursed. *This is an unsubsidized loan.* Graduate PLUS loans are eligible for in-school deferment.

Homebuying Webinars Presented by PhysicianLoans

PhysicianLoans is once again offering the Home Finance Workshops in webinar form. Like the live presentations, they are strictly informational in nature and presented with no sales angle or bias. The schedule for the May webinars is now available. Simply go to [PhysicianLoans](#) website and click on the Free Webinar logo to view the current month's dates and to register to attend.

Special Needs Fund

The Financial Aid Office has limited funds available from a number of sources for special needs of students, over and above the standard budgeted expenses. Some of the more common expenses that can be considered are emergencies (family emergencies, medical expenses, etc.), individually arranged clerkships (domestic and international), uninsured medical and dental expenses, USMLE prep course (request in conjunction with Office of Student Programs), research, conference travel, etc. Funding is not necessarily 100% of the request; there are limits on many of these items. **In order to be eligible for Special Needs Funds, students must first submit a financial aid application for the year in which funds are being requested. Students are required to provide parental information for eligibility determination. This is not a requirement if applying for research conference travel.** For further information on this program, please see our [website](#).

GradCare Health Insurance Charges

Please remember, if you borrowed funds to cover your GradCare Health Insurance premiums, you are responsible for making the payments to your Student Account when the charges appear. GradCare charges are billed monthly to your Student Account. These **must be paid monthly** to avoid late fees. If a negative service indicator is placed on your student account as a result of non-payment of these charges, you will not be able to register for winter term until it is resolved. The 2019 calendar year monthly student premiums are listed below.

Coverage	2020 rates (your cost)
You only	\$229.67
You+one adult	\$506.67
You+child(ren)	\$439.67
You+adult and child(ren)	\$716.67

If you take a leave of absence, your GradCare coverage is continued. Your account will continue to be billed the monthly premiums and it is your responsibility to make payments. If you go on leave of absence and wish to have your GradCare coverage discontinued, you must contact the GradCARE Student Help Line at 734-615-2000. Remember, before you can return to registration, you must have GradCare or another comparable health insurance policy in place.

Any questions regarding GradCare should be direct to the University of Michigan Benefits Office at (734) 615-2000 or (734) 615-0258.

The University of Michigan Medical School Financial Aid Office
5100 Taubman Health Sciences Library
1135 Catherine Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-5726
<http://medicine.umich.edu/medschool/education/md-program/financial-aid>
(734) 763-4147 (phone)
(734) 764-9473 (fax)
medfinaid@med.umich.edu