



# WISE INVESTMENT

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Big Rewards  
Your Guide to Financial Aid



National Public  
University  
U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT



Percentage of undergrads  
who receive some form  
of financial aid



of 2017-2018 grads were  
employed or furthering  
their education by fall 2018



Best Values in  
public colleges nationwide  
KIPLINGER PERSONAL FINANCE MAGAZINE

# TO-DO LIST



Check off boxes as you complete each step.

Below are your next steps for financial aid and making payment arrangements.



Review your Miami Financial Aid Offer.



Apply for federal aid if you have not done so at **FAFSA.gov**.\*

- a. Enter (or create) your Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID at **fsaid.ed.gov**.
- b. Choose 2020-2021 for the school year for which you are applying for aid.
- c. Enter the required financial information.
- d. Use Miami's school code: 003077.

*\*You must file a FAFSA each year to be considered for federal aid.*

## FAFSA Filing Deadlines

### Oxford Campus

Incoming First-year Students

Priority I deadline: Dec. 1

Priority II Deadline: Feb. 1

Returning, Transfer, and Graduate Students

Feb. 1

### Regional Campuses

All Students | Priority I deadline: Feb. 1



Finalize your Financial Aid Offer. For instructions visit **MiamiOH.edu/FinalizeAid**.

- a. Submit verification documents if your Financial Aid Offer indicates "Tentative Offer." See page 9.
- b. Accept or decline aid as appropriate (this is not needed for scholarships or grants, except TEACH grants).
- c. Report your enrollment plans if you are enrolled less than full time or attending just one semester.
- d. Report any other aid you will receive such as tuition assistance, outside scholarships, and other outside aid.
- e. First-time loan borrowers visit **StudentLoans.gov** and complete *required*:
  1. Entrance Counseling
  2. Loan Agreement for a Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loan - Master Promissory Note (MPN)
  3. Informed Borrower Tool



Review the "How Much Do I Owe Annually?" box in your Financial Aid Offer to determine remaining costs and see the Self-Help section for additional financing options.



If your parent(s) plan to borrow a Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan (PLUS), **submit** the application no later than June 1, 2020, at **StudentLoans.gov**. See page 7.



Apply for private loans, if you plan to do so, no later than June 1, 2020. **MiamiOH.edu/FastChoice**. See page 7.



Submit your final high school transcript to Miami's Office of Admission.



Consider completing the FERPA Release Form at **MiamiOH.edu/FERPA** to grant parents or other individuals access to view your information. See page 10.



Pay your bill by the due date. See **MiamiOH.edu/Billing** for due dates. Also see **MiamiOH.edu/PaymentPlans** for payment options. See page 9.



Set up RedHawk Refunds at **MiamiOH.edu/RedHawkRefunds**. See page 9.

Financial aid will be disbursed to your Miami (bursar) account, after all requirements are met, according to Miami's disbursement schedule. See **MiamiOH.edu/DatesandDeadlines** for more information.







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# COLLEGE COSTS

Your education is one of the most important investments you will ever make. Learn how to finance your Miami University education.



## Cost of Attendance (COA)

This is the estimated total cost of attending Miami for one academic year. The COA is based on direct (billed to you by Miami) and indirect (not billed by Miami) costs.

### Direct Costs (billed to you by Miami University)

These are charges included in the COA that you/your family pay directly to Miami.

- Estimated charges for one academic year of tuition and fees.
  - » Tuition – Charges assessed for classes.
  - » Fees – Charges assessed for other college services (e.g., technology access, recreational center use).
- Housing – Includes residence hall charges for on-campus living.
- Food – Includes the cost of a meal plan.

### Indirect Costs (not billed by Miami University)

These are estimated expenses in the COA that are not paid directly to Miami.

- Estimated transportation.
- Estimated costs for books and supplies.
- Housing – an estimate of rent and utilities for off-campus living.
- Food – an estimate of the cost of food for off-campus living.
- Miscellaneous costs such as personal hygiene, laundry, clothing, and reasonable recreation.
- Other costs specific to certain student circumstances related to attendance, such as dependent care during periods of class attendance or study, expenses related to disabilities, study abroad, educational loan fees, and others.

### Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

The EFC is an eligibility index that institutions use to determine how much financial aid you would receive if you were to attend college. Your EFC is based on information provided on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Your EFC is the same no matter which school you attend and is calculated according to a formula specified by law.

### Financial Aid Eligibility

Eligibility for need-based financial aid is calculated with this formula:

#### Financial Aid Need =

Cost of Attendance (COA) - Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

### Net Price

Your Net Price is the amount of direct and indirect costs remaining after all Gift Aid (see page 5) is applied. Net price can be covered through a variety of sources, including: savings, income, payment plans, and education loans.

# TYPES OF AID

Below are the types of aid available, Gift Aid and Self-Help. One or more types of aid may be included in your financial aid offer, depending on need and eligibility. Typically aid is evenly split between the fall and spring semesters.

## Gift Aid

These are funds that do not have to be repaid, unless the student fails to meet certain criteria, such as a service requirement that is specified as a condition of the Gift Aid or not completing the academic term for which the aid was awarded. Gift Aid includes grants, scholarships, remissions, awards, waivers, etc. Gift Aid can be awarded based on many factors, including (but not limited to) financial need, academic excellence, athletic, musical, and/or theatrical talent, affiliation with various groups, and/or career aspirations.

## Scholarships

Scholarships are a type of Gift Aid that are typically based on merit, such as academic excellence, talent, affiliation with various groups, career aspirations, or a combination of merit and need.

To receive scholarships awarded by Miami, students must enroll full time (see page 10). A separate scholarship application is not needed. Scholarships are awarded based on ACT or SAT test scores and transcripts provided with your admission application.

Merit scholarships are awarded to new first-year students who are entering Miami in the fall semester. Scores for ACT or SAT tests taken after December 1 will be considered if received by February 1.

Scholarships outside of Miami University may also be available. Visit [MiamiOH.edu/Scholarships](https://miamiOH.edu/Scholarships) to learn more.

## Miami Access Fellows (Oxford campus)

This scholarship program is designed to make Miami accessible to academically competitive Ohio resident students whose total family income is \$35,000 or less. A student must be admitted to the Oxford campus as a first-time freshman or a dependent student approved for relocation from the Middletown or Hamilton campus. Students must meet program requirements to remain eligible for up to four years. Learn more at [MiamiOH.edu/Access](https://miamiOH.edu/Access).

## Grants

Grants are a type of Gift Aid that are typically based on financial need. Most federal and state grants are need-based aid and do not need to be repaid. You must complete a FAFSA each year for consideration. See the Grant Eligibility Chart for more information. Amounts listed are based on full-time enrollment. Grant amounts are prorated for students with less than full-time enrollment. Visit [MiamiOH.edu/Grants](https://miamiOH.edu/Grants) for details.

### GRANT ELIGIBILITY CHART

Type	Federal Pell Grant	Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)	Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG)	Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education Grants (TEACH)	Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant (IASG)
Available To	Undergraduate students who demonstrate exceptional financial need and have an Expected Family Contribution below a certain threshold established by the federal government. The Pell Grant award amount is prorated based on Enrollment Status.	Undergraduate students who demonstrate exceptional financial need. Priority is given to Federal Pell Grant recipients.	Undergraduate Ohio students with exceptional need attending <b>Oxford Campus</b> . In some cases Regional students may be eligible.	Students awarded in exchange for specific future teaching service in designated high-need fields and low-income elementary and secondary schools. If a student does not complete the required teaching service, the grant becomes a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan that must be repaid.	A federal grant to qualifying students with a parent or guardian who died as a result of U.S. military service in Iraq or Afghanistan after September 11, 2001. If a student is eligible for a Federal Pell Grant, he or she cannot receive an IASG.
Other Info	2019-2020 amounts ranged from \$657 to \$6,195 (full time) with an EFC less than \$5,577. Maximum lifetime eligibility: 12 full-time semesters.	Offer amount is \$100 - \$4,000 per year; limited funding available.	2019-2020 maximum amount was \$2,000 (full time) with an EFC less than \$2,191. Maximum lifetime eligibility: 10 semesters.	Amount is up to \$4,000 per year. Maximum lifetime amounts: undergraduate: \$16,000; graduate: \$8,000. Learn more at <a href="https://miamiOH.edu/TEACH">MiamiOH.edu/TEACH</a> .	The grant award is equal to the amount of a maximum Federal Pell Grant for the award year.

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## Self-help

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Self-help is your contribution toward your education using a combination of loans, student employment such as Federal Work-Study, and/or savings.

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## Educational Loans

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These forms of financial aid must be repaid. Educational loans have varying fees, interest rates, repayment terms, and/or borrower protections.

Following is loan information for students and parents to help pay remaining net costs after Gift Aid is deducted. A FAFSA must be submitted for all loans *except* private loans. Loans must be repaid with interest. Families should borrow only what is needed to finance their student's education. First-time loan borrowers must complete the following at [studentloans.gov](https://studentloans.gov):

1. Entrance Counseling, which is a mandatory online counseling session you must complete before you can access the loan funds.
2. Master Promissory Note (MPN), which is your promise to repay your loan(s), fees, and interest.
3. Informed Borrower Tool.

### Smart Borrowing Tips

- **Understand Loan Details and Terms:** please read and understand your student loan Entrance Counseling and MPN details before accepting your loan(s).
- **Borrow Only What You Need:** reduce education costs by only borrowing what you need to cover direct costs (e.g., tuition, fees) billed to you by Miami.
- **Be Aware of Loan Costs:** total loan costs include principal (the amount you borrow), fees and interest, which all must be repaid.
- **Borrow Only What You Can Repay:** your student loan payment should not be more than 8-10% of your future monthly income.



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## Federal Student Loans

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Federal student loans are funds that must be repaid by the student. To be eligible, the student must be enrolled at least half time in an eligible program of study.

There are three types of Federal Student Loans:

- **Federal Direct Subsidized Student Loan:** These are loan funds provided *to the student* by the U.S. Department of Education, through Miami. Undergraduate students with financial need can qualify for a subsidized loan, provided they have filed the FAFSA. The government pays the interest on the loan while the student remains enrolled at least half time and during certain periods when the government allows deferment of repayment. There are annual limits on the amounts that may be borrowed, which vary by the student's academic year.
- **Federal Direct Unsubsidized Student Loan:** These are loan funds provided *to the student* by the U.S. Department of Education, through Miami. Undergraduate students and graduate students, regardless of their need, may qualify for an unsubsidized loan, provided they have filed the FAFSA. Interest accrual begins immediately, and the student can choose to pay the interest while enrolled or upon entering repayment. There are annual limits on the amount that may be borrowed, which vary by the student's academic year and whether the student is dependent or independent of their parents.
- **Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan:** These are loan funds provided *to graduate students* by the U.S. Department of Education, through Miami. This federal loan program allows graduate students with no adverse credit history to apply for a loan amount up to their Cost of Attendance each year, less any other financial aid received.



## Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loans (PLUS)

PLUS loans are funds provided **to the parents** of dependent undergraduate students by the U.S. Department of Education, through Miami. This federal loan program allows parents with no adverse credit history to apply for a loan amount up to the COA each year, less any financial aid received by the dependent student. Repayment of principal and interest begins immediately once the loan is fully disbursed with some options to delay payment available. Parents of dependent students may apply for this loan at [StudentLoans.gov](https://studentloans.gov).

## Private Loans

Private loans are typically from a commercial lender and are used to pay educational expenses up to the annual COA, less any financial aid received. Private loans have varying interest rates, fees, and repayment options and usually require the applicant to be creditworthy, or have a creditworthy cosigner. Repayment generally begins immediately.

Miami certifies private loans from any lender and disburses loans to the student's account. Those interested in private loans should carefully research and choose a lender to best meet their needs.

### LOAN INFORMATION TABLE

Type	Federal Direct Subsidized Student Loan	Federal Direct Unsubsidized Student Loan	Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan	Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan (PLUS)	Private Loan
<b>Available To</b>	Undergraduate U.S. citizens and permanent residents; <b>must demonstrate financial need.</b>	U.S. citizens and permanent residents; <b>no financial need requirement.</b>	Graduate/professional students. Based upon satisfactory credit check.	Parents of dependent students. Based upon satisfactory credit check.	Undergraduates and graduates; parents of undergraduates.
<b>Other Info</b>	Fixed interest rate; repayment begins six months after a student leaves school or drops below half-time enrollment; <b>interest does not accrue while in school.</b>	Fixed interest rate; starts six months after a student leaves school or drops below half-time enrollment; <b>interest accrues while in school.</b>	Fixed interest rate; loan repayment begins 60 days after the entire loan is disbursed. Students may request deferral to postpone repayment until six months after the student leaves school or drops below half-time enrollment; <b>interest accrues while in school.</b>	Fixed interest rate; loan repayment begins 60 days after the entire loan is disbursed. Parents may request deferral to postpone repayment until six months after the student leaves school or drops below half-time enrollment; <b>interest accrues while in school.</b>	Loan programs vary; visit <a href="https://miamiOH.edu/FastChoice">MiamiOH.edu/FastChoice</a> or specific lender's website.



### ANNUAL & AGGREGATE LOAN LIMITS

Year (credit hours)	Freshman (0-29)	Sophomore (30-63)	Junior/Senior (64+)	Graduate
<b>Loan Limit</b>	Dependent – \$5,500 Independent – \$9,500	Dependent – \$6,500 Independent – \$10,500	Dependent – \$7,500 Independent – \$12,500	\$20,500
<b>Aggregate (Lifetime) Limit</b>	<b>Dependent: \$31,000</b> (no more than \$23,000 may be subsidized)  <b>Independent: \$57,500</b> (no more than \$23,000 may be subsidized)			\$138,500 (no more than \$65,000 may be subsidized)

To comply with the 2008 Higher Education Opportunity Act, Miami follows a Student Loan code of conduct. Visit [MiamiOH.edu/Loans](https://miamiOH.edu/Loans) to read the Student Loan Code of Conduct and learn more about loans.



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## Employment

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Miami is committed to helping students pay for educational expenses by offering on-campus employment. Student employment fosters responsibility, encourages time management, and offers skill development and leadership opportunities. Miami offers Federal Work-Study and regular wage employment. Job classifications and wage rates are the same for each. View employment information and apply for jobs at [MiamiOH.edu/StudentEmployment](https://MiamiOH.edu/StudentEmployment).

### Federal Work-Study

Work-Study is a federal program offered and administered by Miami that provides opportunity for part-time employment to students with financial need to help pay their educational expenses. Students are responsible for finding qualified employment.

Federal funds pay 65% and the Miami employer pays 35% of the student's wages, therefore many Miami departments prefer to hire work-study students. If you indicated an interest in work-study on your FAFSA, filed by February 1, and are eligible, your financial aid offer may contain work-study. Work-Study funds are not calculated in your EFC the following year and are not credited to your bill. Miami pays you on a bi-weekly basis based on hours worked and hourly wage.

### Regular Wage Employment

Students who want to work to help pay for their education but do not qualify for work-study are encouraged to apply for jobs at Miami. Employing departments pay 100% of earned wages.



# Changes to Financial Aid Offers

Miami reserves the right to change your offer based on, but not limited to:

- Adding or dropping classes.
- Additional aid the student receives.
- Changes in residency and/or campus.
- FAFSA adjustments.
- FAFSA verification process.
- Failure to maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) ([MiamiOH.edu/SAP](http://MiamiOH.edu/SAP)).
- Housing plan changes (Oxford campus).

## Verification

Verification is a federally mandated process to confirm the accuracy of data provided by selected applicants on the FAFSA. To complete the verification process, the student, their parent(s), or spouse, if applicable, are required to provide certain documents to the school for review. If the documentation the student provides doesn't match what was reported on the FAFSA, verification can result in changes to the student's financial aid eligibility, and/or financial aid offers.

If your FAFSA is selected for verification, you will receive an email requesting federal tax return transcripts, a verification worksheet, and other documents.

**This request will be sent to your Miami email account.** Be sure to monitor your Miami email to complete required verification. **You will not receive Federal/State aid until you complete verification.** Verification details are available at [MiamiOH.edu/Verification](http://MiamiOH.edu/Verification).

You may request a review of your financial aid offer if your family's situation has changed after completing the FAFSA. You may be required to complete verification as part of the review. Contact Miami's One Stop to see if you qualify for a special circumstance review.

# Paying Your Bill

When your electronic bill is available you will be notified through your Miami email account. **Miami does not mail paper bills.**

Your bill will contain charges, payments, anticipated credits (including finalized financial aid), and payments made through Miami's Tuition Payment Plan. Visit [MiamiOH.edu/BillPayment](http://MiamiOH.edu/BillPayment) if you have questions about your bill.

## Tuition Payment Plans

Miami partners with a vendor to provide options for you to pay your semester bill over three to four equal monthly installments. Learn about payment plan details at [MiamiOH.edu/PaymentPlans](http://MiamiOH.edu/PaymentPlans).

## Refunds

If your financial aid exceeds University charges, you will receive a refund (your refund balance will appear in parentheses). You may use refunds to pay for education-related expenses. Refunds may be issued 14 days after a credit appears on your account in the following ways:

- **RedHawk Refunds** - directly deposited into your bank account; funds are usually deposited in 3-4 business days.
- **Paper Check** - mailed to your local address on file; checks are typically received 7-10 days after mailing. If the Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan (PLUS) causes the refund, the check may be mailed to the parent or student upon request.

Changes to financial aid or your student account after a refund is received could result in a balance due. Visit [MiamiOH.edu/Refunds](http://MiamiOH.edu/Refunds) to learn more and to sign up for RedHawk Refunds.





# ENROLLMENT, PRIVACY RIGHTS

## Enrollment Change or Withdrawal and Impact on Financial Aid

To be eligible for federal aid, all courses taken must apply to your degree program.

If you change enrollment prior to the end of the add/drop period, your grant, scholarship, and loan eligibility will be recalculated and you will receive a revised financial aid offer. Your enrollment will be frozen on the last day of the semester that it's possible to drop a class without a grade and this snapshot of your enrolled credit hours will be the basis of your financial aid. It is important that on this freeze date, you are enrolled in all the courses you plan to take. View dates and deadlines at [MiamiOH.edu/AcademicCalendar](https://MiamiOH.edu/AcademicCalendar).

Enrollment Status is your academic workload (or course load), as defined by Miami, in which you are enrolled for a defined academic period. This normally relates to the number of credit hours you take during a semester.

Miami's enrollment status criteria is as follows:

Enrollment	Undergraduate (credit hours)	Graduate (credit hours)
Full-time	12+	9+
$\frac{3}{4}$ time	9 – 11.99	7 – 8.99
$\frac{1}{2}$ time	6 – 8.99	5 – 6.99
Less than $\frac{1}{2}$ time	Less than 6	Less than 5

## Your Personal Information and Privacy Rights

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords eligible students certain rights with respect to their education records. An eligible student under FERPA is a student who is 18 years of age or older, or a student who attends a postsecondary institution at any age. Students may grant access to others to view their information. Visit [MiamiOH.edu/FERPA](https://MiamiOH.edu/FERPA) for more information.





# Resources

## One Stop

The One Stop provides the most common student services through a single office, for your convenience. Contact the One Stop for assistance with registration, enrollment, financial aid, billing, payment, and student records. For additional information, visit [MiamiOH.edu/OneStop](https://miamiOH.edu/OneStop).

### Oxford Campus

Campus Avenue Building

301 S. Campus Ave.

Oxford, OH 45056

Email: [OneStop@MiamiOH.edu](mailto:OneStop@MiamiOH.edu)

Phone: 513-529-0001

### Hamilton Campus

102 Mosler Hall

1601 University Blvd.

Hamilton, OH 45011

### Middletown Campus

114 Johnston Hall

4200 N. University Blvd.

Middletown, OH 45042

Email: [RegOneStop@MiamiOH.edu](mailto:RegOneStop@MiamiOH.edu)

Phone: 513-217-4111



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## Financial Aid Websites

### FAFSA.gov

File the FAFSA each year to be considered for financial aid.

### fsaid.ed.gov

Create and manage your FSA ID to access Federal Student Aid's online systems.

### StudentAid.gov

Learn how to financially prepare for college, apply for financial aid, and repay federal educational loans.

### Studentloans.gov

Complete Entrance Counseling, MPN and apply for Federal Direct Parent Plus (PLUS) Loan.

## Student Success Center

Miami's Student Success Center is a single resource to help Miami students stay on the path to graduation by providing advocacy, problem-solving and retention assistance to students. Learn more about the Student Success Center at [MiamiOH.edu/StudentSuccess](https://miamiOH.edu/StudentSuccess).

## Consumer Information

Miami students and families are encouraged to learn information about Miami, financial assistance, student outcomes, tuition and fees, and other information. Visit [MiamiOH.edu/consumer-info](https://miamiOH.edu/consumer-info).





