

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

University of Michigan Medical School
Financial Aid Office
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2008-2009 Financial Aid Notification Process

The Financial Aid Notification process for the 2008-2009 application year has begun! You will receive an email message to your umich email account when your 2008-2009 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.

Electronic Promissory Notes *Please read this section carefully*

If you are being offered a Federal Perkins Loan or 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 notes. *You will not be sent paper promissory notes for these programs.* When you view your Financial Aid Notification on Wolverine Access, you will be provided with a link that will take to you “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 Perkins or 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’ve previously received a Federal Perkins Loan or Loan for Disadvantaged Students and signed a Master Promissory Note at the University of Michigan Medical School, you will not be required to sign another. LDS borrowers will still 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.

The process for University of Michigan Loan (UML) promissory notes has not changed. If you have been offered a UML as a part of your 2008-2009 financial aid package, we will be mailing the appropriate promissory notes to your current address, as it is listed in Wolverine Access. These notes must be signed and returned to our office before disbursement will occur.

If you have been offered a UML and still have Unsubsidized Stafford Loan eligibility, you will be given the option of declining the UML and replacing it with Unsubsidized Stafford. A memo will be included with the UML promissory notes that explains the advantages and disadvantages of doing this as well as instructions for requesting the change, should you decide to do so.

As usual, all promissory notes must be signed before funds can be disbursed.

Fall 2008 Financial Aid Disbursement Schedule

Financial Aid disbursements for fall term are scheduled to be delivered according to the schedule below. As with fall term, funds over and above the amount of tuition and fees will be refunded to you. If you have a direct deposit authorization on file with Payroll, 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 access the direct deposit authorization form at <http://www.payroll.umich.edu/formreq.html>. Print and complete the direct deposit authorization form, attach a blank voided check to the form and submit them to the Payroll Office. Please allow at least two weeks for processing. You may also set up direct deposit in the Student Business section of Wolverine Access. Select Direct Deposit. Be sure to allow 10 days for processing. 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.

Fall Term tuition charges for clinical students will be charged at the 2007-2008 rates, and **WILL NOT** be adjusted up to the 2008-2009 rates once they are officially approved by the University Regents in late July as they have been in the past. ***Beginning with the 2008-09 academic year, clinical students will be charged the prior year's tuition rate for fall term and the current year rate for the winter term.***

Note: You must be registered for fall term to 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, in person, at the Cashier's Office in the Student Activities Building on the corner of Jefferson and Thompson on Central Campus or electronically through the Student Business section of Wolverine Access.

Fall Term Disbursement Dates

M1	approximately August 4, 2008
M2	approximately August 18, 2008
M3	May 5, 2008
M4	May 12, 2008

Note: You must be registered for at least 7 credit hours before financial aid can be disbursed.

Change in Due Dates for Tuition/Fees

Last spring all students received an email addressing the upcoming changes in due dates for tuition and fees. This change is being implemented in order to better align due dates with the start dates of the terms. Because M3 and M4 students have a different term schedule, their payment schedule will now be different than the rest of campus. The new schedule is as follows:

2008-09 Academic Year Due Dates

Fall Term 2008	5/31/08	M3 and M4 students
	8/31/08	M1 and M2 students
Winter Term 2009	10/31/08	M3 and M4 students
	1/7/09	M1 and M2 students

The process for viewing bills in Wolverine Access will remain the same. May billing statements will be available in mid-May. 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. As

in the past, students may choose to pay their bill over a period of months using the UM Payment Plan. For information about the payment plan, go to www.sfo.umich.edu/bdgtinfo.html.

Because actual 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.

Stafford Loan Origination Fee Reduction

As a result of the Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2005, origination fees that are deducted from all Federal Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans are being gradually reduced over three years. For loans with first disbursements occurring between July 1, 2008 and June 30, 2009, the origination fee will be reduced from 2.5% to 2%. The up-front interest rebate amount will not be changing and will remain at 1.5% for all Direct Loans. Therefore, for loans first disbursed between the period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009, 1/2% will be deducted from all Federal Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans.

GradPLUS Loan for Graduate or Professional Students

On February 8, 2006, President Bush signed the Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2005, which made significant changes to the Higher Education Act of 1965, and reauthorized the Federal Family Education Loan Program. One of the major changes affecting students is that graduate and professional students are now eligible to borrow under the PLUS Loan Program up to their cost of attendance minus other financial aid. Applicants must not have an adverse credit history and must have exhausted all eligibility in Federal Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans for the academic year. The interest rate is 7.9% and begins to accrue once the loan is disbursed. *This is an unsubsidized loan.* Graduate PLUS loans are eligible for in-school deferment. Graduate and professional students were eligible for this program as of July 1, 2006.

If you have exhausted your Federal Stafford Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loan eligibility for the year, you have the option of requesting a GradPLUS loan to cover your remaining need for the year. You must submit two additional forms to our office before we can process the GradPLUS loan. These forms, the Federal Direct GradPLUS Loan Request Form and the Consent to Obtain Credit are available on our website at <http://www.med.umich.edu/medschool/financialaid/index.html> under "Forms".

2007-2008 Stafford Loan Interest Rates

Effective with loans disbursed on or after July 1, 2006, the interest rate on Federal Direct Subsidized and UnSubsidized Stafford Loans will be at a fixed rate of 6.8% for the life of the loan. Loans disbursed prior to July 1, 2006 will remain variable. Variable rate loans are currently at 6.62% through June 30, 2008. We will not know the July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009 variable rate until near the end of May, but it is anticipated to be less than 3%.

Deadline for Current Year (2007-2008) Financial Aid

The deadline for requesting financial aid for the **2007-2008** academic year is April 30, 2008. Please take a look at your budget. If you feel you have a need for additional funds for this academic year, please make your request as soon as possible.

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.** For

further information on this program, please go to our website at <http://www.med.umich.edu/medschool/financialaid/special.htm>

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 2008 calendar year monthly student premiums are listed below.

Coverage	2008 rates (your cost)
You only	\$166.67
You+one adult	\$369.99
You+one child	\$276.49
You+adult and child(ren)	\$536.73
You+two or more children	\$276.49

Thanks to the generosity of the Dean's Office, the annual premium for single coverage will be held to \$2000 again this year.

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 directed to Paula Meyer at 763-7981 or paumeyer@umich.edu.

After Dark Safety Program

The After Dark Safety Program, sponsored by the Office of Student Programs assists students with taxi service during hours of darkness. M-3 and M-4 students on clinical clerkships can be reimbursed up to \$5 per trip.

Eligibility Requirements

- *The trip must occur during hours of darkness;*
- *You are required to be at the hospital either pre-dawn or after dark hours;*
- *You are unexpectedly without transportation and do not have alternative, safe transportation;*
- *You must begin the trip from your residence, the University of Michigan Hospitals, Veterans Administration Hospital, or a University parking lot;*
- *You must make arrangements for the taxi to pick you up, pay the fare and **secure a receipt.***

Receipts must contain the following information:

- *Date and time of service*
- *Destination (to and from)*
- *Total cost*
- *Driver's signature/initials*
- *Name of clinical rotation*

The Medical School Financial Aid Office will disburse funds in reimbursement for the taxi service, provided the above conditions are met. You must submit receipts within fifteen days of service, not to exceed \$50 per request.

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