Financial Aid Office's Mission

The Office's mission is to provide services and programs to all Northeastern students in support of financing their education. Through the services provided, it is the Office's intent to assist students in identifying important deadlines and funding suitable for their educational objectives. Through the programs provided, it is the Office's intent to educate students on being proactive in the application process, creating a budget, tracking expenditures, managing student loan debt and saving over time. Federal Title IV and State-based financial aid programs will be administered with integrity in order to help as many students as funding will permit.

Borrowing Federal Direct Loans at NEIU:

This information is intended for any Northeastern student that plans to borrow during the 2015-2016 award year. The award year covers the following semesters - Fall 2015, Spring 2016 and Summer 2016. Student borrowers must complete the FREE Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or FAFSAalong with the Federal Direct Loan Request Form in order to be considered for the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program.

Northeastern requires new borrowers to complete an online entrance loan counseling session (effective for five years) and complete an electronic Master Promissory Note (eMPN) for their first Direct Loan. If you are a transfer student and received Direct Loans at another institution you may not be required to submit another application.

The importance of reviewing your Federal Direct Loan Borrowing History:

• Borrowers have online access to their Direct Loan account information 24 hours a day. 7 days a week to review aggregate borrowing limits, default, bankruptcy history and servicer contact information.
• Borrowers may have multiple servicers who act as ‘holders’ of loans borrowed. To find out which servicer is currently holding your loan, log into www.studentloans.gov using your Parent Information Number (PIN) and Password from completing your Federal Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
• Borrowers can choose from several repayment plans that are designed to meet the needs of any borrower and can switch repayment plans as necessary.

It is in the student's best interest to keep repayment simple, all your Federal Direct Student Loans with banking institutions can be consolidated into one Direct Loan. For more information on Federal Direct Consolidation Loans, log into www.studentloans.gov.

Maintaining your Federal Direct Loan Eligibility:

• Borrowers must be U.S. citizens, permanent residents or eligible non-citizens – the applies both to the Federal Direct Loan and Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS).
• Borrowers who have exceeded their aggregate borrowing limits are not eligible to receive any federal assistance until such have been resolved.

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Financial Aid Office Federal Direct Loan Processing Flow:

**Step One:**
- Review most recent award offer using www.studentaid.gov/aidcenter.
- Complete student information entrance counseling session (required for first-time borrowers).
- Complete the electronic Master Promissory Note (MPN) on the Direct Loan website – required for all borrowers (effective for TEN years).
- Submit Federal Direct Loan Request Form.
- Deposited students should be sure to list a parent as the first reference on the MPN.

**Step Two:**
- Financial Aid Office certifies and transmits loan request to the federal processor for origination and disbursement.
- Borrower is prompted to sign MPN online.
- MPN is complete.
- Borrower signs for on-campus loans.
- Borrower signs for alternative/private loans.
- Borrower signs for PLUS.
- Processing time: Approximately 3-4 business days.

**Step Three:**
- **In case of balance due:**
  - Direct Cost
  - Tuition and Fee** $2,400.00
  - Books* $2,400.00
  - Health Insurance** $1,589.00
  - Fees* $1,316.40
  - Room and Board $6,589.00
  - **Total** $24,372.40

- **Cost of Attendance:**
  - Graduate NA NA $20,500 or Cost of Attendance
  - Alternative/Private Loan* NA NA Cost of Attendance

- **Initial Financial Need** $10,533.00
- **Tuition, fees, health insurance, and books** $2,400.00
- **Financial Need for Borrowing** $2,033.00
- **Annual Loan Limit:** $7,000.00
- **Grace Period:** 6 months
- **Servicer:** Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students
- **Deferment:** Each time a student drops below half-time enrollment

**Step Four:**
- **IN CASE OF BALANCE DUE:**
  - Direct Cost
  - Tuition and Fee** $2,400.00
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**Student Loan Borrower Information:**
Northeastern students interested in borrowing through the Direct Loan Program, should first review what grant and scholarship assistance is available since the Cost of Attendance at Northeastern is more affordable than most colleges and universities. Borrowers can complete the following chart below for the maximum loan limits for two semesters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Loan Type</th>
<th>Maximum Annual Loan Limits</th>
<th>Dependency Status</th>
<th>Expected Remaining Annual Unmet Need</th>
<th>Expected Remaining Unmet Need for 2nd Semester</th>
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**Cost of Attendance and How It Affects Your Loan Amount**

The Cost of Attendance is viewable from the FINAID Awards Channel. The Cost of Attendance is an estimate of the total cost of attending Northeastern for one year and is used to establish the maximum dollar amount (your Estimated Cost of Attendance) that a student is eligible to borrow. The Estimated Cost of Attendance is determined by adding together the following costs:

- Tuition and fees
- Books
- Health insurance
- Room and board

- Transportation

The Federal Direct Subsidized Loan eligibility is determined by subtracting the Expected Family Contribution (EFC), grants, scholarships and tuition and fee waivers from the Cost of Attendance. This remaining amount is defined as Unmet Financial Need. Please note that a student must maintain six (6) credit hours to be eligible for Federal Perkins, Federal Direct Loans and most alternative/private loans.

**The Language of Loans:**

- **Approval Code:**
- **Initial Financial Need** $10,533.00
- **Annual Loan Limit:** $7,000.00
- **Grace Period:** 6 months
- **Servicer:** Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students
- **Deferment:** Each time a student drops below half-time enrollment

**Loan Type Definitions:**

- **Direct Loan:** A legally binding contract between you and your lender, which contains terms and conditions of the loan.
- **Principal:** The original loan amount charged for the use of borrowed money.
- **Interest:** A percentage of your outstanding principal loan amount charged for the use of borrowed money. Interest rates for alternative/private loans vary based on creditworthiness.
- **Deferment:** An organization that provides student loan relief to borrowers to have more than one servicer.
- **Parent:** A specified period between you and your lender, which contains all the conditions and terms under which the borrower promises to repay your loan.
- **Servicer:** A legally binding contract between you and your lender, which contains terms and conditions of the loan.
- **Estimated Loan Amount**

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**Cost of Attendance and How It Affects Your Loan Amount**

The Cost of Attendance is viewable from the FINAID Awards Channel. Based on actual enrollment for the current term and anticipated enrollment for the upcoming term), the budget line items are calculated and displayed. Financial assistance – including grants, scholarships, tuition waivers and loans – cannot exceed the Cost of Attendance for the current year in terms indicated. This includes any external scholarships and alternative/private loans.

Federal Direct Subsidized Loan eligibility is determined by subtracting the Expected Family Contribution (EFC), grants, scholarships and tuition waivers from the Cost of Attendance. This remaining amount is defined as Unmet Financial Need. Please note that a student must maintain six (6) credit hours to be eligible for Federal Perkins, Federal Direct Loans and most alternative/private loans.

**Estimated Cost of Attendance 2015-2016:**

- **Tuition and Fee** $2,400.00
- **Books** $2,400.00
- **Health Insurance** $1,589.00
- **Fees** $1,316.40
- **Room and Board** $6,589.00
- **Total** $24,372.40

*Note: The above chart is provided as a general example of loan limits and does not reflect the actual loan amounts awarded to individual students.*

We wish you a successful year and thank you for making Northeastern Illinois University your college choice!