Student Financial Aid

Office of Financial Aid

The Office of Financial Aid is available to assist students in obtaining funds to attend the University. Aid is available in the form of loans, grants, and part-time employment or any combination of those programs. The total amount of aid the student receives depends on the level of financial need, submission of appropriate financial information and applications, academic records, and the availability of funds. Students are encouraged to contact the Office of Financial Aid to obtain appropriate application materials and to determine eligibility for the various forms of aid available. Students are also strongly encouraged to view the Office of Financial Aid website for up-to-date information. The Office of Financial Aid is located in the Student Services Building, 972-883-2941.

Changes in regulations or policy on a federal, state, university, private lending, or donor level could affect the types of programs, amounts available, and/or program requirements. A complete overview of the estimated cost of attending the University is available on our website at http://www.utdallas.edu/student/finaid/Estimated_Costs.htm.

Eligibility for Financial Aid

Most of the aid listed in this catalog is awarded on the basis of financial need. Students are encouraged to determine the amount of resources that they can provide toward their education and to compare it with the average cost of attending the University. Student cost of attendance budgets are reviewed annually in accordance with federally accepted guidelines. Federal guidelines outline what can be included in student budgets. The costs of tuition, fees, books, supplies, room and board, transportation, and a limited amount for other personal expenses are the basic components of student budgets. Unusual expenses, such as childcare costs or educational costs related to the student's medical disability, may be considered when they have been properly documented. Financial need is defined as the difference between the cost of attending the University and the amount a student and family can reasonably provide. The amount of the expected family contribution is based on federal guidelines reflecting total family income, assets, household size and number of family members currently attending post-secondary educational institutions.

In determining whether a student is considered independent or self-supporting, the Office of Financial Aid adheres to the standards set by the U.S. Department of Education to establish an applicant's dependency status. Graduate students are considered by these standards to be independent of their parents for the purpose of calculating a family contribution.

Students must submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form in order that a determination can be made of the expected resources available to the applicants. The FAFSA is available January 1st of each year for the subsequent academic year. The awarding of need based financial aid is based on the results of each year's FAFSA.
Selective Service

Male students between the ages of 18 and 26 must be registered with Selective Service to qualify for federal student loans or grant programs. This includes Federal Work-Study, Federal Stafford Loans, Graduate PLUS Loans, and Federal Perkins Loans. The Selective Service requirement also applies to Texas student loans and grant programs. Students may register with Selective Service by visiting their local postal office or online. Graduate students wanting to verify their Selective Service registration may do so online by visiting the Selective Service website. Effective January 1, 1998, the selective service requirement is also applicable to students applying for financial assistance funded by State revenue.

Required Course Load

To be considered for federal financial aid a graduate student has to be enrolled for a minimum of five semester credit hours of graduate coursework during each long term and a minimum of three semester credit hours of graduate study during any summer session.

Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy for Federal Financial Aid

The University of Texas at Dallas has a "Satisfactory Academic Progress" policy for a student receiving student financial aid. Generally, the student is expected to remain in good standing by the satisfactory completion of a minimum number of credit hours, based on a percentage of the credit hours attempted and completed. This completion rate may vary depending on the student's academic level and credit hour load. In addition, graduate students must maintain a GPA of 3.0 or above.

For online information on the Satisfactory Academic Progress policy, visit http://www.utdallas.edu/student/finaid/SAP.htm. For more detailed information the student should contact the Office of Financial Aid. A copy of the Satisfactory Academic Progress policy is made available to all recipients of financial aid and is available online on our web site.

Renewal of Financial Aid

For a student to be considered for a renewal of financial aid, a new Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and supporting documents must be submitted for each academic year. The awarding of renewal aid is subject to the same considerations used in awarding all previous financial assistance.

Revocation of Aid

Financial aid packages are reviewed by the Office of Financial Aid and canceled if the student fails to maintain a satisfactory record of academic progress or to enroll for and maintain the minimum number of course load hours. Aid packages may also be revoked because of changes in financial status. Partial or full repayment of awards may be required. In some instances, immediate repayment may be required. Students are responsible for reporting to the Office of Financial Aid any change in their financial situation, such as receipt or anticipation of additional scholarships, loans, or outside funding toward their educational expenses not represented on their award letter. The Office of Financial Aid is required, by federal and state regulations, to include as part of a student's financial aid award package all sources of financial aid being received by the student. Receipt of scholarships, grants, and loans from any source may
require a revision of financial aid awarded by UT Dallas. Information concerning student financial aid is accurate at the time of printing. Changes in regulations or policy on a federal, state, university, private lending, or donor level could affect the type and amount of programs available and/or program requirements. The Office of Financial Aid has detailed information available upon request.