

Financial Aid Information

It is never too soon to think about how you will pay for your graduate education.

Financial aid for Master of Science in Education (MSEd) students is handled by Student Financial Services.

For more information and answers to questions, contact Student Financial Services by phone or on the web:

www.northwestern.edu/sfs
gradfinaid@northwestern.edu
(847) 491-8950

Prospective matriculated students should complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid Form (FAFSA) around the same time as completing the MSEd application. Northwestern's financial aid process can be completed **only** after your acceptance into the MSEd program.

Matriculated students are eligible for federal loans only if they are registered for two or more units. Matriculated students registered for less than two units may be eligible for alternative loans.

Non-matriculated students are not eligible for federal loans but can apply for alternative loans.

Once accepted, you will want to submit the *Confirmation of Intention to Register* form to the MSEd office ASAP (**at least six to eight weeks** prior to the first quarter that will be covered by the loan). Financial aid officers add students to the tracking system **AFTER** the registrar's office adds them to the registration system. Financial aid applications are processed in order, based upon the date materials are received and recorded. The earlier you submit the form, the better!

Loan Options

1. Subsidized Stafford loans up to \$8500/yr (1yr=3 quarters, you may apply for more aid after 3 quarters)
2. Unsubsidized Stafford loans up to 10,000/yr. (1yr=3 quarters, you may apply for more aid after 3 quarters) The amount is \$18,500 if student does not use Subsidized Stafford loans.
3. Perkins loans up to \$1,500/quarter
4. Alternative loans like CitiAssist

Application Process for Prospective Matriculated Students - if planning to take 2 or more classes per quarter

Prior to Acceptance

1. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid form:
www.fafsa.ed.gov
2. Submit the completed FAFSA application electronically to NU (code #E00617)
3. Call the Office of Student Financial Services (847/491-8950) to confirm the receipt of your FAFSA

*Note: This analysis may take several weeks and must be **complete** before the NU Financial Aid Office can determine eligibility.*

After Acceptance

4. To get **general information** about financial aid, go to the student loans website at:
www.studentloans.northwestern.edu/

To get information about different types of loans and to download loan forms click on "**Northwestern Loans**".

5. Review the **loan checklist** at:
www.tgs.northwestern.edu/financialaid/studentloans/forms/
6. To **apply for loans**, go to:
www.studentloans.northwestern.edu/services.html
Follow the instructions.
7. If filing a **paper application**, submit completed application and signed Master Promissory Note (MPN) to:
Student Financial Services
555 Clark St., 1st Floor,
Evanston, IL 60208
Fax # (847) 467-2451
8. Complete an entrance counseling session (see *Loan Checklist*)
9. The easiest and fastest method to check on the status of your financial aid is to log onto Northwestern's student services website, CAESAR:
www.northwestern.edu/caesar
Note: You must have a NetID and password in order to log onto CAESAR. See "Checklist for New Students" form in acceptance packet. Contact the MSEd office with questions (847) 467-1458.
10. Complete any "To Do" items listed on CAESAR, such as the Stafford Loan Entrance Interview online
11. Check that loans have been applied to your account by selecting the following Menu options within CAESAR: For Students, Financial Services, View My Account
12. IF CAESAR does not answer your questions about how aid has been applied to your account, call (847) 491-8950 for further information
13. Once all previous steps are complete, email specific questions to
gradfinaid@northwestern.edu

**Application Process for
Prospective Matriculated Students
- if planning to take only 1 class
per quarter**

*This is the same process for Non-
Matriculated Students – Please see below...*

**Application Process for
Prospective Non-Matriculated
Students**

After Acceptance

1. Apply to alternative loan programs such as CitiAssist or TERI online:
www.citiassist.com
www.accessgroup.org
www.teri.org
www.keybank.com

2. Follow steps 10-13 above

FOR MORE INFORMATION

FAFSA: www.fafsa.org
Student Financial Services:
www.northwestern.edu/sfs
847/491-8950
gradfinaid@northwestern.edu

Additional Sources for Financial Aid

Hispanic Scholarship Fund

Information about scholarships for students of Hispanic heritage. (www.HSF.net)

Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois

Minority students who are residents of Illinois and intend to seek administrative, faculty, or staff positions in the State of Illinois upon completion of their degrees may be eligible.
(<http://www.dfi.siu.edu/>)

American Association of University Women

The AAUW Educational Foundation supports aspiring scholars, teachers and activists.
(www.aauw.org)

Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC)

Students who are planning to be teachers in Illinois may be eligible for the Illinois Future Teacher Corps Program. (www.collegezone.com)

**For an additional database of available
Scholarships:**

<http://www.tgs.northwestern.edu/financialaid/fellowshipsandscholarships/multiculturalfunding/mascholarships/>

Financial Aid/Scholarship Databases:

- www.fastweb.org
- www.collegeanswer.com
- Coalition to Increase Minority Degrees:
<http://mati.eas.asu.edu:8421/hyperamp/db.html>

Loan Forgiveness:

Teachers may not need to pay back the entire balance on student loans. For more information visit:
studentaid.ed.gov/PORTALSWebApp/students/english/teachercancel.jsp

We hope this guide will be helpful. Please understand, it is not a substitute for any specific guidelines, instructions or requirements relating to your application and processing of financial aid. Please make sure you carefully review all instructions, deadlines, etc. imposed by Student Financial Services and posted on their website:
www.northwestern.edu/sfs.

Master of Science in Education

Sophie Haroutunian-Gordon, Ph.D.,
Director

**Master of Science in Education
Guide to:**

Financial Aid

