

2025-2026 Financial Aid Facts

Undergraduate Accelerated Programs

Starting Summer 2025, Fall 2025, or Spring 2026



How do I apply for Financial Aid?

1. Apply for a FSA User ID at StudentAid.gov. This will act as your electronic signature.
2. File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at StudentAid.gov. If your first term starts on or after May 1, file the FAFSA for the upcoming academic year. Eastern's school code is 003259.
For example, if your first term starts May 19th, 2025 you would file the 2025-2026 FAFSA.
3. Complete the Master Promissory Note and Entrance Counseling for the Federal Direct Loan at StudentAid.gov. You will use your FSA User ID to sign into the website.

What happens next?

Based on the results of your FAFSA and your full acceptance into the University, we will process an estimated Financial Aid package for you on your my.Eastern.edu account. In some instances, we may need to request additional information from you. If you are missing any paperwork, an email will be sent to your **Eastern email account** with instructions on how to view Required Documents using my.Eastern.edu. After ALL of your documents are received and you are registered for classes, your financial aid eligibility will be finalized.

What types of Financial Aid are available?

Aid	Award Range		Criteria
Federal Pell Grant	Yearly amounts range up to \$7,395		-must be eligible per the results of the FAFSA -award amount is dependent upon registered credit hours
PA State Grant	Yearly amount up to \$5,015		-must be a Pennsylvania resident -must be enrolled at least part-time (<i>for State Grant purposes, part-time equals 5 credits per term and full-time equals 10 credits per term</i>) -more State Grant information listed on the back of this form
LifeFlex Grant	Amounts determined by Financial Aid based on results of the FAFSA and other aid eligibility		-must be enrolled in an online, undergraduate LifeFlex program -more information listed on the back of this form
Federal Direct Loans (Yearly)	0-24 credits completed Up to \$3,500 Subsidized +\$2,000 Unsubsidized +\$4,000 Unsubsidized (Indep. only)	25-54 credits completed Up to \$4,500 Subsidized +\$2,000 Unsubsidized +\$4,000 Unsubsidized (Indep. only)	55+ credits completed Up to \$5,500 Subsidized +\$2,000 Unsubsidized +\$5,000 Unsubsidized (Indep. only)

Definitions for Subsidized & Unsubsidized Loans are on the back of this form.

Please note: An undergraduate student who has already earned their first bachelor's degree is not eligible for the Federal Pell Grant or PA State Grant.

Questions? Contact the Financial Aid Office at 610-225-5102 or by email at finaid@eastern.edu.

Glossary

Financial Aid- Financial aid includes scholarships, grants, and loans and is added to your financial aid package.

LifeFlex Grant- Every student that is pursuing an online, undergraduate LifeFlex program will be eligible for a LifeFlex Grant. The amount will vary based on need and eligibility for Federal and State Grants, however the most a student would ever pay out of pocket is \$249 per credit (standard tuition rate prior to any grants is \$566 per credit).

Student Aid Index (SAI) When you file the FAFSA, the Federal Government will assign you an SAI. This is a numerical figure used by the Financial Aid Office to determine your aid eligibility. This is not a dollar amount. It does not represent the actual amount you are required to pay toward your education.

Subsidized Direct Loan- The Federal Government will pay the interest on this loan while you attend school.

Unsubsidized Direct Loan- Interest will accrue on this loan while you attend school. You have the option on paying the interest throughout the school year, or paying the interest when you later enter repayment.

Disbursement or Disbursed- These words are used when financial aid (including grants, scholarships, and loans) are sent to the school. The Student Accounts Office will receive the financial aid and then disburse it to your student account.

Frequently Asked Questions

How will my PA State Grant eligibility be determined?

Based on the length of each term in your program, every two terms will be combined to ensure you receive the maximum State Grant eligibility. The Spring 1 and 2 terms correspond to a Winter State Grant and Fall 1 and 2 terms correspond to Fall State Grant. A separate Summer State Grant application is needed to determine the Summer 1 and 2 State Grant award. You must be registered in both Spring terms to receive a Winter State Grant, both Fall terms for a Fall State Grant, and both Summer terms for a Summer State Grant. Please be sure to complete the FAFSA by May 1st and the Summer State Grant application by August 15th (notification is sent via email) to ensure that you receive the maximum eligibility, based on your enrollment.

How much will I have to pay out of pocket?

Students will pay anywhere between \$82 per credit and \$249 per credit out of pocket after all grants and scholarships are applied. If the only grant you receive is a LifeFlex Grant, you will pay no more than \$249 per credit. If you receive a Pell Grant and/or a PA State Grant, it will change your LifeFlex Grant amount, but overall, you will still pay a lower out of pocket per credit amount than \$249 per credit.

When will my financial aid be applied to my bill and when will I get a refund?

Each reporting term (summer, fall, and spring) has one disbursement date after all the add/drop periods have concluded for the particular reporting term. All financial aid will be disbursed on the scheduled disbursement date for each reporting term assuming you have met all the criteria for the financial aid. If that results in a credit on your bill, the Student Accounts Office will then start the refund process, which typically takes 10 business days from the disbursement date. We strongly recommend that students sign up for eRefund on their myEastern account under the Student Accounts link.

I have a question about my bill. Who do I call?

The Student Accounts Office is responsible for billing you each term, applying financial aid to your Eastern student account, sending refunds, and helping to set-up payment plans. Student Accounts can be reached at 610-341-5831 or via email at student.accounts@eastern.edu.

Questions? Contact the Financial Aid Office at 610-225-5102 or by email at finaid@eastern.edu.