

Afford Your Eastern Education

Unpacking your Financial Aid Package

Eastern University is passionate about helping students and families afford an EU education. Below, we'll help you unpack your Financial Aid Package, and also point you toward resources and opportunities that can help you cover your remaining costs. Please contact the Financial Aid Office to discover additional ways to make your Eastern education affordable.

UNPACKING YOUR FINANCIAL AID PACKAGE:

- **Your Financial Aid Package** outlines Eastern University's estimated yearly cost, and then deducts the scholarships and aid that you have been awarded. Any updates to your financial aid package will be available on the Financial Aid link in your MyEastern portal.
- **Loans** are money you have to pay back. Loans can include Direct Subsidized Loans, Direct Unsubsidized Loans, Direct Parent PLUS Loans, and Private Alternative Loans.
- **Grants & Scholarships** are awards that you don't have to pay back. *Enjoy!*
- **Activities-Based Awards:** These awards require regular participation in the specified activity as defined by each group. Lack of participation will result in this award being removed from your financial aid package and replaced with the original Merit Scholarship you were awarded upon acceptance.

HOW WILL I KNOW WHAT TO PAY?

Your initial Financial Aid Package provides you with an estimated balance with and without loans. In early June, your official Student Account bill will be posted to your MyEastern portal. We encourage families to review eastern.edu/tuition for the most up-to-date costs.

HOW CAN I PAY MY REMAINING BALANCE?

At this point, you may be wondering, "How can I pay my remaining balance?" Eastern University is committed to helping you afford your education. Here are a variety of options which can help you manage your remaining balance:

Scholarships: Once you've explored all internal scholarship opportunities at eastern.edu/scholarships, we encourage students to check with their guidance counselor, local organizations and clubs, their employer, etc. to see if they offer outside scholarship opportunities. Eastern also has an extensive list of outside scholarships and scholarship search engines available at eastern.edu/scholarships.



The Financial Aid Office
610-225-5102 | finaid@eastern.edu

Church Matching Grant: We invite churches to help their youth secure the resources needed to finance their education at a Christian university. When a church provides funds toward a student's bill, Eastern will match the funds up to \$500 per semester for a student who has financial need based on the results of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). If a student does not show financial need based on the FAFSA, the maximum matching amount will be \$250 per semester. Learn more at eastern.edu/scholarships.

Ministerial Discount: We provide a \$1,000 Ministerial Discount per academic year for eligible undergraduates who are full-time church staff, missionaries, or are dependents of a full-time church member or missionary. Learn more at eastern.edu/scholarships.

Student Employment: This program allows eligible students the opportunity to work on campus, gain valuable work experience, and earn money that can be used toward their tuition bill or any other expenses they may have. Earned funds are issued biweekly to employed students, and are not automatically applied to their student bill. Learn more about student employment at eastern.edu/studentemployment.

Payment Plans: Eastern offers a variety of payment plan options that allow you to spread out your balance each semester between 2-5 months. Learn more at eastern.edu/payment-options. For any questions about payment plans, please contact our Student Accounts Office at **610-341-5831** or student.accounts@eastern.edu.

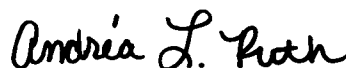
Parent PLUS Loan: We recommend that parents consider applying for a Parent PLUS Loan to help their student afford their education. Parents can apply for an amount of their choice, all the way up to the total cost of attendance minus the aid that has already been awarded to the student. If the Parent PLUS Loan application is approved, parents are eligible to borrow up to the remaining cost of attendance minus all aid that has already been awarded. If the Parent PLUS Loan is denied, students will receive an additional \$4,000 in Direct Unsubsidized Loans. Learn more at eastern.edu/parent-plus to see if this option is the right fit for your family.

Private Alternative Loan: There are a variety of private loans available to explore with low-interest rates and most with no fees at eastern.edu/private-loans. Many private loans also offer opportunities for other family members (grandparent, aunt, uncle, etc.) to support the student's education.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT THE FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

Our team wants to ensure that you are taking advantage of all the opportunities available to you. Please reach out with any questions you may have. We look forward to speaking with you!

Sincerely,



Andreea L. Ruth '06, MBA '10
Director of Financial Aid



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