Dear Future Husky, Out of concern for all members of the current and future BU family the Financial Aid office will not be providing in-person counseling until further notice. Please call or email our office with questions or schedule a phone appointment.

Looking for additional financial aid information? The following pages will walk you through the financial aid process at Bloomsburg University and answer several frequently asked questions.
Looking for scholarships? As a public university our scholarship funding is limited but Admissions does its best to award as many deserving students as possible. Awarded students will receive a scholarship notification from Admissions in the mail by mid-March. Scholarship opportunities can also be obtained through high schools, religious, civic, and community organizations.

**Additional Resources**

- [Next Steps](#)
- [Other Ways to Pay](#)
- [FAFSA Checklist](#) - for those who still need to submit their FAFSA

[YouTube videos on Federal Direct Student Loans, Federal Direct Parent Plus Loans, and FAFSA Verification]
FILE

File the FAFSA starting Oct. 1st at FAFSA.gov.
• List BU on your application as your 1st school/current school.
• Our Federal School Code is: 003315
• If PA State resident, complete by May 1 for potential state aid eligibility.
• Scholarships for incoming students are packaged through the Admissions office.
• Current students may apply starting Jan. 1 at bloomu.edu/scholarships.

RECEIVE

Once your FAFSA is processed, your financial aid will be determined.
You will receive a Financial Aid award notice electronically.

REVIEW

Review your financial aid in order to determine what you still owe!
You may need to provide our office with additional forms which can be found on your MyHusky "To Do List".

ACT

Take action ASAP! Failure to provide our office with requested items will delay your financial aid!
• Accept/decline Federal Direct Loans on your MyHusky account.
• To reduce loans email us at: buaid_loan@bloomu.edu
• Complete the registration to-do list item for each semester once assigned.
• Not sure what we need? Call, email or stop by!

FINALIZE

To finalize your Direct subsidized/unsubsidized student loans, You must complete the following:
Visit studentaid.gov and log in using your FSA ID (Username/Password).
• Complete Entrance Counseling
• Complete the Master Promissory Note (MPN)

Additional Financing Options (if needed):
• Payment plan offered through the Bursar Office.
• Direct Parent PLUS Loan - log on using the Parent FSA ID at studentaid.gov.
• Private/Alternative Educational Loan - search online for these loans in order to compare lender options.

CONTACT US
Office of Financial Aid
570-389-4297
buaid@bloomu.edu
**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Q. What is financial aid?**

**A.** Financial aid helps students and families/supporters pay for college. It may consist of grants, scholarships, work study and even loans. The first step is to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

**Q. When should I complete the FAFSA?**

**A.** The FAFSA opens every Oct. 1. You should complete it as soon as possible by visiting [FAFSA.gov](http://FAFSA.gov). If you are a PA State resident, the deadline for the PA State Grant is May 1. Be sure to never pay a fee to file the FAFSA. Please include BU’s Federal School Code 003315 when filing.

**Q. Do I need to complete the FAFSA every year?**

**A. YES!** Eligibility for federal student aid does not carry over from one award year to the next. You will need to complete the FAFSA for each award year for which you plan to be a student, including summer. Keep in mind that financial circumstances change from year to year and we get that. If something substantial changes contact us!

**Q. How do I apply for Student Federal Direct Loans?**

**A.** Remember, loans are also part of financial aid!

1. **Step 1:** Complete the FAFSA at [FAFSA.gov](http://FAFSA.gov).
2. **Step 2:** Accept your loans on your MyHusky account.
3. **Step 3:** Complete Entrance Counseling at [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov) by logging in using your FSA ID.
4. **Step 4:** Complete the loan agreement Master Promissory Note (MPN) at [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov).

**Q. How can I get more money?**

**A.** Students are always awarded with their maximum eligibility based on their qualification from the FAFSA. However, based on federal loan limits, students may not have enough funds to cover all of their educational costs. If you need additional funding beyond the aid you were awarded, you may consider a tuition payment plan, Parent PLUS loan or a private/alternative educational student loan. We do not recommend who to use for private loan borrowing.
Q. What is verification and why was I selected?
A. This process is mandated by the U.S. Department of Education to confirm the accuracy of the information reported on the FAFSA. It does not mean that you did anything wrong but is simply a data check that our office must conduct. We will send emails to your Husky email address and a “To Do List” will be generated in your MyHusky account. Failure to turn in the items requested will result in failure of funds being released.

Q. What happens if my parent’s income has changed or been reduced since I filed the FAFSA?
A. If any time during the year your family has a major change in their/your financial or family circumstances, be sure to contact us! We can’t always increase your aid but we’re happy to consider new information if things have significantly changed.

Q. What is a Parent PLUS loan?
A. This is a federal loan available to parents to borrow for their dependent, undergraduate student, to help pay for educational expenses. It is based on a credit check with the interest rate predetermined by the federal government. It is important to note; the parent is the borrower of the loan and is responsible for repayment of the loan. For more information visit studentaid.gov.

Q. Do I have to repay my student loans while I’m in school?
A. In most cases, you are not required to pay your student loans while you are in school as long as you are enrolled at least half-time (6 credits). There are no prepayment penalties for paying your student loans. You can always make interest only payments or pay on any portion of your loans while attending school if you choose.

Q. What is the Cost of Attendance (COA)?
A. The COA is basically the student’s budget here at BU. It is the total average amount it will cost the student to attend in an academic year and includes things like the tuition, fees, room, board, books/supplies, transportation and personal expenses. The COA does not equal your actual tuition bill.

Q. What is Satisfactory Academic Progress?
A. In order to continue receiving federal student aid, you need to make satisfactory academic progress (SAP). Essentially, you need to maintain a certain grade point average and complete enough classes in order to successfully complete your degree/certificate in the required time frame established here at BU. Federal student aid includes: grants, loans, and work-study. We recommend students read our SAP policy at bloomu.edu/aid.

Q. How do I contact financial aid?
A. You can call us at 570-389-4297 or email us at buaid@bloomu.edu.