



Dollar\$ and \$ense

FALL/WINTER 2018

The FAFSA® Goes Mobile:

File for 2019-2020 Financial Aid Beginning October 1

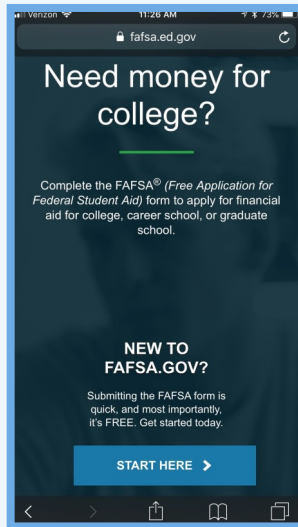
Although it may seem like the 2018-2019 academic year just started, it is not too early to start planning ahead. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for aid in the 2019-2020 academic year becomes available October 1, 2018. There are certain benefits to filing early:

- Some aid is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Completing the FAFSA early allows you to better plan. For instance, many scholarships require you to complete the FAFSA. Also, you may be required to submit additional documents to the financial aid office before your financial aid can be determined or disbursed (credited to your account). Allocating plenty of time for the financial aid process is the best way to ensure that your financial aid pays on time.



Tip:

Use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to import tax information directly from the IRS to avoid mistakes.



Mobile Options

- **Redesigned, mobile-friendly FAFSA® website launched in July 2018**
- **myStudentAid Mobile App**, the official app of the U.S. Department of Education's Federal Student Aid office

First-time Filers: Get Your FSA-ID Now

If you will be filing the FAFSA for the first time, be sure to get your FSA ID as soon as possible. It can take up to three business days before you can use it. Your FSA ID serves as your electronic signature for various Department of Education websites, including fafsa.gov.



IMPORTANT DATES

October 1, 2018

The 2019-20 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) becomes available at fafsa.gov and myStudentAid mobile app.

February 1, 2019

Deadline to submit the online student health insurance waiver for the winter semester
[Waiver Deadlines and Health Insurance Plan Costs by Program](#)

June 30, 2019

Deadline to file a 2018-19 FAFSA. Corrections or updates must be submitted by September 14, 2019.

INSIDE:

- Making \$ense of Student Loan Interest Rates and Fees
- 8 Easy Steps to Financial Aid Success
- Understanding Your Student Account
- Keeping Track of Your Loan Balance

...and more!



The **Buzz** on Scholarships



The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship is funded by the state of Florida and provides scholarships for high achieving high school students. Award amounts are disbursed based on the number of credits a student is enrolled for by

the end of the drop/add period for the first eight weeks for both fall and winter semesters. Minimum enrollment requirements apply. The Academic Scholars award is also available in the summer. Rates are established annually by the Florida Department of Education. Florida Academic Scholars and Florida Medallion Scholars who earn a bachelor's degree in 7 semesters or fewer may receive funding for one semester of graduate study.

Repayment Requirements

Students who drop or withdraw from any class(es) for which Florida Bright Futures funds were received must return the Bright Futures funds for those classes in order to remain eligible. NSU President's Scholarship funds may not be applied toward the repayment of these funds once the add/drop period has passed.

Renewal Requirements	Florida Academic Scholars	Florida Medallion Scholars
Minimum cumulative GPA (unrounded and unweighted)	3.0*	2.75
Minimum hours per semester for full-time funding (12+ hours)	12	12
Minimum hours per semester for three-quarter funding (9-11 hours)	9	9
Minimum hours per semester for half-time funding (6-8 hours)	6	6

**Florida Academic Scholars with 2.75-2.99 will renew as Florida Medallion Scholars.*

NSU Changes Reporting For Education Tax Credits (1098-T)

Each year, NSU is required to report to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) information about tuition, fees, scholarships, and grants posted to your student account if you, or your parent(s), file a federal income tax return. NSU provides this same information to you in your IRS Form 1098-T each January. The reported information may be used to determine eligibility for educational tax credits, such as the American Opportunity Credit. For details, visit irs.gov. NSU does not provide tax advice.

NEW: Due to a change in reporting requirements beginning with the 2018 tax year, NSU will report the amount you **paid** in box 1 on your 2018 Form 1098-T. In the past, NSU reported qualified tuition and related expenses **billed**.

[Receive Your IRS Form 1098-T electronically instead of in the mail](#)

To receive IRS Form 1098-T electronically, NSU requires your consent. With electronic delivery, you will receive an email directing you to your

secure SharkLink account to download the form once your tax information is ready. Without your consent, you will receive a paper Form 1098-T by mail which takes longer to receive and increases the chance of the form getting lost, misdirected, or misplaced. No matter what delivery method, you must have a valid address on file. To verify your address, login to [SharkLink](#), click on the green WebSTAR tile and "Personal Information." For more information visit nova.edu/bursar/tax1098.html.

Stay on Track With Your Educational Plan With Degree Works

The university is currently in the process of transitioning to a new degree audit system called Degree Works. Degree Works is a comprehensive degree audit tool that helps you

phase. Once a program is available in Degree Works, it will be considered the system of record. At this point, CAPP will no longer be updated and should not be used. While



keep track of the courses you have already completed and the ones you still need to complete to graduate. Degree Works will eventually replace the university's current system, CAPP: Curriculum, Advising, and Program Planning. It offers many benefits and additional tools to both students and advisors.

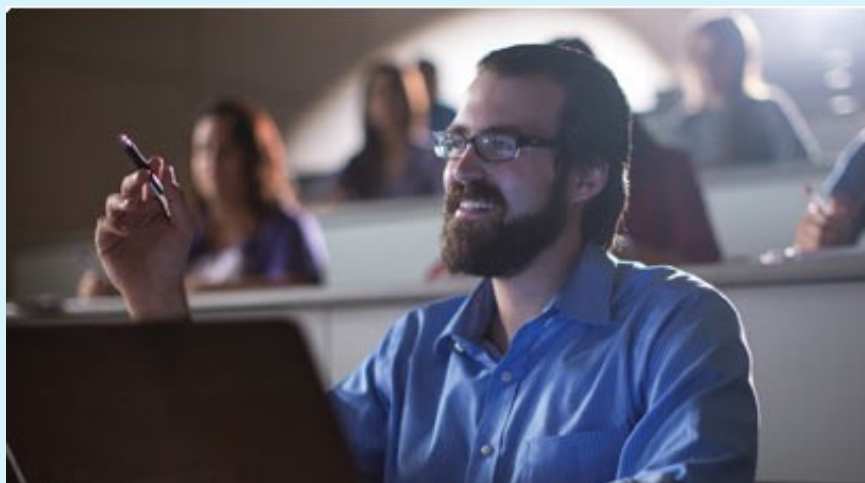
Beginning with the Fall 2018 semester, Degree Works is available to undergraduate students who entered the university during the 2017-2018 and the 2018-2019 academic years. NSU's graduate programs for these academic years will be transitioned next, followed by the professional programs. Students may continue to access their degree audit tools through SharkLink (My Academics page > I WOULD LIKE TO...section) and will be directed to a webpage listing [which programs are currently available in Degree Works](#) during the transitional

both Degree Works and CAPP are useful tools, they do not substitute checking in with your academic advisor or program office to ensure you are progressing toward your goal. For more information on Degree Works, including the student user guide and tutorial videos, visit:

<https://www.nova.edu/registrar/degreeworks.html>.

Degree Works Features

- **Student Educational Plans** map out course requirements for your entire course of study until degree/certificate completion.
- **What-if and Look-ahead analyses** answer questions such as "What if I change my major?" and "How would I progress toward graduation if I completed four courses instead of three next semester?"
- **User-friendly GPA calculators** answer questions such as "What grade do I need to get in this course to maintain my GPA?"
- **Improved Transfer Course Display** shows exactly how coursework completed at other institutions applies toward your course of study at NSU.



The following is a brief description of important steps in the annual financial aid process. For more detailed instructions, visit the NSU financial aid website at nova.edu/financialaid/apply-for-aid/index.html.

1 Complete the FAFSA

Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) annually at fafsa.gov or use the MyStudent Aid mobile app. It becomes available each October 1 for aid in the following award year. The earlier you apply, the better your chance of being considered for maximum award amounts.

2 Identify and Apply for Scholarships

Institutional and external scholarship opportunities are available to assist you in meeting your educational goals. The best resource for up-to-date information is the NSU scholarship website. Commit to continuously identifying and applying for scholarships. This type of aid does not have to be repaid.

3 Plan for Housing and Meals

Your financial aid budget includes a housing and meal component. Please ensure that you budget for these expenses if you intend to live on campus. For information about living on campus, visit Residential Life & Housing at nova.edu/housing/.

4 Check Your Financial Aid Status

Regularly check your financial aid status in SharkLink to ensure that you have no outstanding require-

ments. Now is a good time to confirm your admission status. You must be fully admitted in order for your financial aid funds to disburse.

5 Submit Additional Documentation

Some students may be required to submit additional documents prior to being awarded. You will be notified of outstanding requirements via your NSU email. Your requirements (outstanding and completed) can also be viewed on your financial aid page in SharkLink.

Financial aid award notifications are sent to your NSU email. Students who are new to NSU will receive their first financial aid award notification by both email and postal service. The award notice lists all awards that you are currently eligible to receive. Receipt of additional awards or changes in your eligibility will result in a revised award notice sent to your NSU email. Before accepting, reducing, or declining your award(s), carefully review the [Terms and Conditions of your Award Notice](#) which outline eligibility requirements and your obligations as a financial aid recipient.

6 Accept, Reduce, or Decline Your Loan(s) or FWS Award

Your Award Notice will provide you with detailed instructions on how to accept, reduce, or decline your loans or Federal Work-Study (FWS) awards. Since most grants and scholarships are considered gift-aid, there is no need for you to actively accept these types of aid. They will be automatically accepted for you.

7 Complete Entrance Interview and Master Promissory Note

If you are a first-time federal loan borrower, you will also be required to complete Entrance Counseling and a Master Promissory Note (MPN) online at studentloans.gov before your loan funds can be disbursed. The MPN is a legal and binding contract that establishes the terms of loan repayment. In most cases, you will not be required to complete another MPN, and you can borrow additional direct loans on a single MPN for up to 10 years. If you are applying for a Federal Direct PLUS for the first time as a graduate/first-professional student or a parent borrower, you or your parent(s) will be required to complete and sign a PLUS MPN that is separate from the one used for subsidized and unsubsidized loans.

8 Register for Classes

You need to familiarize yourself with the enrollment requirements defined by your program office, as well as by the financial aid program through which you are receiving aid. Enrollment requirements for federal and state grants vary. Students awarded Federal Direct Loans must be enrolled at least half time in courses that are required for degree or certificate completion (degree-applicable). Half-time enrollment is defined as 6 credits per semester for undergraduate students. For graduate and first-professional students, half-time status varies by program. Be sure to register as early as possible to ensure timely disbursement of your financial aid funds.

Basics from the Bursar: Understanding Your NSU Student Account

The term “bursar” is derived from the Latin word for purse. Once you know that, you’ll know that the Office of the University Bursar, or bursar’s office for short, is responsible for managing the financial affairs for the university. Following is a simple outline of the correlations between financial aid, class registration, billing, and payment and how they affect your student account.



Completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at fafsa.gov or via the *MyStudent-Aid Mobile App*

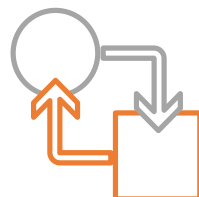
every year is the first step in securing funding. Use NSU’s federal school code, 001509, for NSU to receive your information. Regularly check your financial aid status in SharkLink and complete any outstanding requirements promptly so that your financial aid can be awarded and paid to your account. For detailed information, visit the financial aid website:

- [How to get started](#)
- [Next steps once you've received your financial aid award notice.](#)



Payment Due

Once you register for classes, your tuition and fees are charged to your account. Payment is due at the time of registration.



Transactions

Other charges may be added. If you are eligible for financial aid, your financial aid award will be credited (disbursed) to your account.

Loans disburse seven days prior to the beginning of the semester. Institutional scholarships, federal grants, and state grants/scholarships disburse after the end of the registration or drop/add period for your program. You must ensure that you meet all financial aid requirements, such as entrance counseling and master promissory note completion for first time loan borrowers, so that your financial aid funds can disburse as scheduled.



NSU eBill notifications are sent in the middle of each

month, usually on the 15. To avoid a late fee, don’t wait for your NSU eBill statement before paying your balance. If you’d like to grant access to your account information to a parent, spouse, or other person, you can add them as authorized users in NSU eBill. This will also give them the ability to pay on your behalf.



Attend Classes

If you make changes to your schedule, this may impact your financial aid eligibility. Many

sources of aid are awarded based on enrollment. The best way to keep track of your student account is to regularly log into SharkLink to monitor activity.



Submit payment once your schedule is finalized if you haven’t already. If your financial

aid exceeds your institutional charges, you may receive a [refund](#). It is wise to set up a [direct deposit authorization](#) for quick processing of your refund.



Avoid Holds

Late fees and holds are placed on student accounts that still have an outstanding balance on the 30th day of the semester/term.



Register

Register early for best access to limited classes. Ensure that the courses you register for are

required for your degree (degree-applicable). Financial aid can only disburse for degree-applicable courses. View your degree evaluation in SharkLink (My Academics page > I WOULD LIKE TO section) to see what courses are still required or contact your academic advisor/program office for guidance.

For detailed information regarding policies, visit the [bursar website](#). For questions regarding your student account, call the bursar’s office at (954) 262-5200.

Making Sense of Student Loan Interest Rates and Fees

What is Interest?

Interest is paid to the lender as a cost of borrowing money. Interest is calculated as a percentage of the unpaid principal amount. Unlike other forms of debt, such as credit cards and mortgages, Direct Loans are daily interest loans, which means that interest accrues daily. Depending on whether your loans are subsidized or unsubsidized, you may or may not be responsible for paying the interest that accrues during all periods. [Learn the differences between subsidized and unsubsidized loans.](#)



Money-Saving Tip

You can significantly reduce your student loan balance by making interest payments while in school. Check out our [Unsubsidized Direct Loan Scenario](#).

If you choose not to pay the interest that accrues on your loans, the unpaid interest may be capitalized, which adds the interest to your loan balance and increases the size and cost of the loan. [Learn more about capitalization.](#)

How is Interest Calculated?

The amount of interest that accrues on your loan between your monthly payments is determined by a daily interest formula. This formula consists of multiplying your loan balance by the number of days since you made your last payment and multiplying that result by the interest rate factor. The interest rate factor is determined by dividing your loan's interest rate by the number of days in the year.

Daily Interest Formula

$$\text{Interest Amount} = (\text{outstanding principal balance} \times \text{interest rate factor}) \times \text{number of days since last payment}$$

Interest Rate Updates



Interest rates for federal student loans, including Direct Subsidized, Direct Unsubsidized, and Direct PLUS Loans, are determined by federal law and generally change effective July 1 of each year. Interest rates for loans first disbursed on or after July 1, 2018, and before July 1, 2019, are listed below:

Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans for Undergraduates—**5.05%**

Direct Unsubsidized Loans for Graduates and Professional Students—**6.6%**

Direct PLUS Loans for Parents or Graduates/Professionals—**7.6%**

Loan Fee Updates Effective October 1

Most federal student loans have fees. Fees are percentages of the total loan amount. The loan fee is deducted proportionately prior to each loan disbursement you receive. This means the money you receive will be less than the amount you actually borrow. You are responsible for repaying the entire amount you borrowed, not just the amount you received.

Loan Type	First Disbursement Date	Loan Fee	Fee Example
Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans	On or after 10/1/17 and before 10/1/18	1.066%	\$58.63 on a \$5,500 loan
	On or after 10/1/18 and before 10/1/19	1.062%	\$58.41 on a \$5,500 loan
Direct PLUS Loans	On or after 10/1/17 and before 10/1/18	4.264%	\$426.40 on a \$10,000 loan
	On or after 10/1/18 and before 10/1/19	4.248%	\$424.80 on a \$10,000 loan

Keeping Track of Your Loan Balance

If you borrow student loans, don't wait until you graduate to figure out how much you owe. Monitoring your borrowing can help you determine:

1. remaining eligibility for loans with aggregate limits
2. repayment options and monthly repayment amounts after you graduate or drop below half-time enrollment

Tracking Your Loan Balance

To identify your current federal student loan balance, login to the [National Student Loan Data System](#) with your FSA ID. This U.S. Department of Education platform will allow you to view your total federal loan balance as well as important details about each individual loan. Once you have identified your current loan balance, you can use the [repayment estimator](#) located at [studentloans.gov](#) to determine repayment options available as well as your monthly repayment amount based on your current balance.

Direct Loan Aggregate Limits (Maximum lifetime borrowing limits)

Aggregate Limits for Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans	Subsidized	Total (subsidized & unsubsidized)
Dependent Undergraduate Students (excluding those whose parents can borrow PLUS loans)	\$23,000	\$31,000
Independent Undergraduate & Dependent Undergraduate Students whose parents can borrow PLUS loans	\$23,000	\$57,500
Graduate & Professional Students	\$65,500*	\$138,500
Select Health Professions Students**	\$65,500*	\$224,000

* Effective for loan periods beginning on or after July 1, 2012, graduate and professional students are no longer eligible for Direct Subsidized Loans. Aggregate loan limits for graduate and professional students include loans received for undergraduate study. The \$65,500 subsidized aggregate loan limit shown here for graduate and professional students includes subsidized loans received for loan periods beginning before July 1, 2012, and prior subsidized loans received for undergraduate study

** Select Health Professions Students at NSU include students in the allopathic medicine, dental medicine, optometry, osteopathic medicine, pharmacy, and Ph.D. clinical psychology programs.

Minimize your debt, so you can maximize your future!

For questions about your loans, repayment options, or strategic borrowing tips, contact the financial aid office's:

Debt Squad | 877-547-8509 | debtmgmt@nova.edu



Frequently Asked Questions

REGISTRAR

Q: I have completed all requirements for an academic certificate. Will it be mailed to me?

A: Not unless you complete a degree application online. As you near the end of your studies for the certificate, review your transcript online in SharkLink, including certificate title, grades, and degree audit. If everything looks good, complete your [degree application](#), which has a \$30 fee. Your transcript will not be updated to reflect an awarded certificate nor will your certificate be mailed unless you complete this step.

Q: How do I get my diploma?

A: You have to complete an online [degree application](#) before your NSU credential can be awarded. The best time to do so is at the beginning of your last semester/term. Failure to submit your completed degree application on time will prevent you from graduating and will affect your degree completion date. For details, visit the [Registrar's website](#).

Q: How do I register to vote?

A: Florida offers [online voter registration](#). You will need your Florida driver license or identification card issued by the Florida Department of Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles. The deadline to register for an upcoming election is 29 days before that election. You can also register to vote in person. Contact your [local election office](#). NSU students in Puerto Rico can find more information online at <https://www.fvap.gov/puerto-rico>.

FINANCIAL AID

Q: Where can I find information about scholarships?

A: The best place to start is the [NSU scholarship website](#). You can conduct searches for institutional, external, international, and featured scholarships.



Q: I made a mistake on my FAFSA. What should I do?

A: Go to fafsa.org and select "Make a correction." Do not submit a new FAFSA for the same academic year. If your financial situation has changed, you can not update your FAFSA because the information was accurate as of the FAFSA base tax year. However, you may submit a [Request for Professional Judgment](#) for this circumstance. For more details on correcting your FAFSA, visit <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/next-steps/correct-update/#corrections> or contact the financial aid office.

BURSAR

Q: What's a Refund Check Cancellation/Stop Payment Form ?

A: You can use this [bursar form](#) to cancel a refund check that's been issued to you from your NSU student account. You may chose to use the funds to pay a balance that has become due on your account or have the refund returned to your lender to reduce your outstanding loan balance.

NSU
Florida

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN
UNIVERSITY

**Enrollment and
Student Services**

Horvitz Administration Building
3301 College Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33314-7796

nova.edu/financialaid
nova.edu/bursar
nova.edu/studentinsurance
nova.edu/registrar
nova.edu/nsucard

(954) 262-3380 · 800-806-3680

Student Financial Assistance

finaid@nova.edu

University Bursar

bursar@nova.edu

University Registrar

nsuregistrar@nova.edu

Student Health Insurance

studenthealth@nova.edu

Help Desk

help@nova.edu

SharkCard Services

nsucard@nova.edu

Dollar\$ and \$ense

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