Financial Aid Pathway

Complete Financial Aid Application Process
We know that trying to finance higher education may seem like a daunting task, but the Financial Aid Office is here to help you. At Asbury University we want to partner with you in funding your education. It is most advantageous to think of funding your education as a partnership between:

- **You** (the student and family),
- **The Government** (federal and state),
- **The Institution** (Asbury University), and
- **Outside Sources** (civic organizations, businesses, etc.).

Asbury University offers federal financial aid to eligible students who are pursuing a degree on a full-time basis (12 or more credits per semester). Part-time federal aid may be available to eligible students taking between one and eleven hours each semester. Full-time and part-time state aid is also available to eligible students.

**FAFSA-Free Application for Federal Student Aid (Undergraduate and Graduate students)**
To receive financial aid determination at Asbury University, students must complete the
- **FAFSA** (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) for each academic year.
  - It is available January 1 and should be submitted as soon as possible for optimum consideration.
  - The Asbury University School Code is 001952.

**Graduate Aid Application (Graduate students only)**
All Graduate students wishing to be considered for federal financial aid must complete a Graduate Aid Application annually. This form, along with the FAFSA, will enable us to determine your financial aid eligibility.

The following table provides information regarding full-time and part-time aid status for undergraduate and graduate students.

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<tr>
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<th>Full-time aid status</th>
<th>Part-time aid status</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate students</td>
<td>12 or more credit hours</td>
<td>6-11 credit hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate students</td>
<td>9 or more credit hours</td>
<td>5-8 credit hours</td>
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**Financial Aid Pathway Tip!**
FAFSA should be completed as soon as possible after January 1 for maximum state aid consideration. If your taxes are not yet done, you may use previous year's returns and/or current W2s to estimate your FAFSA. Your FAFSA information must be updated after your current return is filed.

Federal TEACH Grant for Education Students
Students who are pursuing degrees or certifications in education programs may be eligible for grants through the TEACH Grant Program (Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education). Eligibility for this grant is based upon specific criteria. Students who are interested in pursuing a TEACH Grant should visit the Federal Student Aid TEACH Grant website to review the eligibility criteria, TEACH Grant counseling, TEACH Grant Service Obligation and the TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve.

**What is a TEACH Grant?**
The U.S. Department of Education's Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education Grant (TEACH Grant) Program provides funds to students who are completing or who plan to complete coursework that is required to begin a career in teaching, and who agree to teach full-time for at least four years:
- As a highly qualified teacher;
- At a school or educational service agency (ESA) servicing low-income students;
- And
- In a high-need field.
The four years of teaching must be completed within eight years after you complete or otherwise cease to be enrolled in the program for which you received a TEACH Grant. This teaching requirement is known as your TEACH Grant service obligation.

**Financial Aid Pathway Tip!**
Students who are interested in pursuing a TEACH Grant and who have completed the requirements identified at the Federal Student Aid TEACH Grant website should notify the Asbury University Office of Financial Aid in writing at financial.aid@asbury.edu.

**Selected for Verification?**
Some students who have completed the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) may be selected for a review process called Verification. For students who have been selected for verification, Federal regulation states that prior to disbursing federal student aid, Asbury University must confirm the information you and your spouse reported on your FAFSA. To verify that accurate information was provided, the Financial Aid Office at Asbury University will compare your FAFSA with the information on the Verification Worksheet and with any other required documentation. If there are differences, your FAFSA information may need to be corrected. You must complete and sign the Verification Worksheet, attach any required documents, and submit the worksheet and other required documents to the financial aid office. The University may ask for additional information. If you have questions about verification, contact the Financial Aid Office as soon as possible so that your financial aid will not be delayed.

**Financial Aid Pathway Tip!**
If you are selected for verification, the Asbury University Financial Aid Office will notify you using your Asbury University email account and will provide the required documentation for the review process. Students should review and complete the verification process as soon as possible.

**My Financial Aid Package**
Financial aid eligibility and award information are determined AFTER students have:
- Completed the admissions requirements for their selected program of study
• Been admitted to Asbury University
• Completed the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

Students may access financial aid award information online through the Asbury University Online Services Portal. Students should review their award information and contact the Asbury University Office of Financial Aid at financial.aid@asbury.edu with any questions. Award information may change depending on a student’s enrollment status after the official drop/add deadline.

**Financial Aid Pathway Tip!**
Upon completion of all of the steps listed above, students should review their award information online through the Asbury University Online Services Portal. Questions regarding financial aid award information should be directed to the Office of Financial Aid as soon as possible.

**Entrance Counseling and Master Promissory Note**
Students borrowing Federal Direct Unsubsidized/Subsidized student loans are required to complete Entrance Counseling and to sign a Master Promissory Note. Parents borrowing Federal Direct PLUS loans for their dependent students and graduate students borrowing Federal Direct PLUS loans are required to submit a Master Promissory Note, but are not required to complete Entrance Counseling. These processes may be completed online at StudentLoans.gov. Some financial aid awards may be delayed or removed if these processes are not completed.

**Financial Aid Pathway Tip!**
After you have completed your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and have reviewed your financial aid award information online through the Asbury University Online Services Portal, students should go to StudentLoans.gov to complete Entrance Counseling and to sign the Master Promissory Note. Students should complete these processes prior to the start of the semester. Loans will not be processed until completion of these items.

**Registration Changes**
Changes to a student’s course registration may affect a student’s financial aid eligibility and award. Changes to registration include dropping, adding and withdrawing from courses. These registration actions may change the number of credit hours in which a student is enrolled or impact a student’s satisfactory academic progress. Making registration changes can impact a student’s financial aid status and/or eligibility. Prior to making official changes to their course registration, students should contact the Asbury University Office of Financial Aid to determine whether changes could affect their financial aid status.

**Financial Aid Pathway Tip!**
Always contact the Asbury University Office of Financial Aid prior to making any official changes to your course registration to determine whether changes will affect your financial aid status.

**My Financial Aid Refund**
The financial aid disbursement process begins after the official drop/add deadline for each semester. The disbursement process may take 3-4 weeks beyond the official drop/add deadline. Students who are anticipating a refund should plan ahead and make the necessary arrangements to operate without these funds until the disbursement process is completed.

**Financial Aid Pathway Tip!**
Asbury University understands that financial aid is important to many students. Your financial aid refund is being processed as quickly as federal and institutional policy allows. Until it arrives, students should make the necessary arrangements to live without these funds.

**Academic Progress**
Maintaining academic progress is an essential step on a student’s financial aid pathway to success. The awarding of financial aid is based on Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP); therefore, the Asbury University Office of Financial Aid monitors the passing rate and cumulative grade point averages of all students receiving aid. It is important that students review and understand the Academic Progress and Financial Aid expectations. Students who have questions regarding academic progress should contact the Office of Financial Aid as soon as possible.

**Financial Aid Pathway Tip!**
Perform well in your courses! If financial aid is important and necessary for you in the pursuit of your academic goals, then performing well in your courses will help you maintain satisfactory academic progress.