

# STUDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES

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The mission of the Office of Student Financial Services (SFS) is to provide our students the financial resources necessary to attend UTHealth Houston in a prompt and professional manner. SFS is responsible for preparing an annual Cost of Attendance (COA) report which estimates the cost of the student's educational and living expenses for the period of enrollment. The COA is used to determine a student's financial aid eligibility and award package. Federal, state, institutional and other resources cannot exceed the cost of attendance. Cost of Attendance reports can be found here (<https://www.uth.edu/sfs/cost-of-attendance.htm>).

SFS publishes a student newsletter, \$en\$e on a Dollar, to communicate up-to-date financial information and resources for students. The newsletter can be accessed here (<https://www.uth.edu/sfs/newsletters-and-information/>).

## Financial Literacy

The Office of Student Financial Services invites students to attend one or more of the following scheduled Financial Literacy sessions. These sessions were designed just for students to learn and discuss how decisions they make today, can affect them many years after they graduate, especially the amount they borrow in student loans. Additionally, students will get a closer look and deeper understanding of the importance of a budget, student loan management and strategies for finding the best repayment plan to fit their needs. Further information on topics and sessions can be found here (<https://www.uth.edu/sfs/financial-literacy/>).

## Types of Aid

UTHealth Houston offers financial support that includes federal grants and loans, state grants and loans, school-based scholarships and institutional loans based on the most current regulations or guidelines in effect at the time of the award.

## Applications

To be considered for financial aid, a student must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) using the school code 013956. Information provided on the student's FAFSA will be used to determine financial need. There is no priority deadline to submit the FAFSA application as awards are processed on a first come, first serve basis. However, students are encouraged to complete the FAFSA by March 15<sup>th</sup> of each year to meet the State's priority filing deadline.

## Veterans and Service Members

To initiate the application process for Veteran's Benefits such as the Post 9/11 GI Bill®, Vocational Rehab and Veterans Education Assistance Program (VEAP), we recommend all veterans contact the Office of the Registrar at 713-500-3388. Veterans and Service Members applying for federal financial aid funds are encouraged to contact their assigned financial aid counselor prior to the beginning of the award process.

GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government website (<http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/>).

## Eligibility

To receive federal aid, students must be enrolled in an eligible degree seeking program or certificate program (not all certificate programs at UTHealth Houston are eligible). Financial aid is available only for courses that are required of the program and for which students will receive credit toward completion of their degree. Additionally, students must be U.S. citizens or eligible non-U.S. citizens; have registered with Selective Service between the ages of 18 and 26, if male; not owe refunds on federal grants or be in default on federal education loans; have a valid social security number; and must maintain satisfactory academic progress and course credit compliance (Half-time enrollment in required courses per semester in which aid is received. Eligible Pell Grant students may receive an award if enrolled less than half-time.)

State Aid Mandatory Requirement: Males (any person assigned the sex of male at birth) subject to selective service registration must be registered or qualify for an exemption from selective service registration in order to be eligible to receive state financial assistance.

## Contact Information

Financial aid counselors are available Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to provide counseling on financial assistance programs available to students. Student Financial Services is located in the University Center Tower (UCT), 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor at 7000 Fannin.

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