How does DU compare?

**Graduation Rate**
Percentage of full-time DU students who graduate within 6 years (most graduate within 4 years).

- **77.5%**

**Loan Default Rate**
Percentage of borrowers entering repayment and defaulting on their loan

- **1.9%**

**University of Denver**

**National**

**Median Borrowing**
Students who borrow at DU typically take out $25,000 in Federal loans for their undergraduate study. The Federal loan payment over 10 years for this amount is approximately $261.03 per month. The precise amount you borrow will likely be different.

**What You Should Do Now**

- **File your 2015 federal tax returns as soon as possible.** Filing your tax returns prior to completing the FAFSA will simplify and expedite the process.

- **Request Your Federal Student Aid ID**
  - Both students and parents need to have their own Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID.
  - Website: [https://fsaid.ed.gov](https://fsaid.ed.gov)

- **Submit the 2016-17 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**
  - Available January 1, 2016
  - Website: [www.FAFSA.ed.gov](http://www.FAFSA.ed.gov)
  - DU School Code: 001371
  - Priority deadline is February 15

- **Submit additional documentation, if requested.** We’ll send you an email if additional documentation is needed in order to verify that the information on your application is correct. All requested documents must be submitted before we can finalize your financial aid award.

- **Receive final award letter.** As long as all requirements have been satisfied, we will email you a final award letter in early April.

**QUESTIONS? Contact us!**

Ph: (303) 871-4020 | Email: finaid@du.edu

Learn more about the Value of a DU Education at [www.du.edu/apply/admission/why-du](http://www.du.edu/apply/admission/why-du)

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**Steps to Managing UNMET COST**

[Image of campus]
**STEP 1: Determine Unmet Cost**

To determine how much the first year will cost, subtract all of your financial aid from the **Cost of Attendance** listed on your award letter. This will be listed as your “Unmet Cost.”

**Calculating Your Unmet Cost**

Estimated Cost of Attendance
(listed on your award letter)

minus

Your Total Financial Aid
(gift aid + work-study + loans*)

equals

Unmet Cost

*include the loans on your award letter if you plan to borrow them.

**Remember:** Because your cost of attendance includes indirect costs (such as personal expenses), your unmet cost is **not** what you will be billed by DU. To calculate your quarterly bill, utilize the Estimated Billing Worksheet included in your Award Packet or online at www.du.edu/financialaid/resources/award.

**STEP 2: Consider a Payment Plan**

Consider utilizing the no-interest DU Tuition Payment Plan to cover a portion of the cost.

- It reduces the amount students and parents must borrow.
- The annual amount is split into 6 payments (2 payments per quarter).
- There is a $50 enrollment fee.
- There are no interest charges.

Learn more at www.du.edu/bursar/payments/payment-plans

**STEP 3: Determine How Much You May Need to Borrow**

From your unmet cost (Step 1), subtract the expected amounts from:

- Other private scholarships
- Student and/or parent savings
- Current earnings (to use with Payment Plan)

Estimated Loan Amount Needed to Cover Costs: $______________

**Note:** You cannot borrow above your cost of attendance. In other words, your **total aid**—including scholarships, grants, loans, work-study and other resources (such as employer-paid tuition benefits)—cannot exceed your cost of attendance.

You have two supplemental credit-based loan options:

- Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan
- Private Education Loan

Learn about credit-based loan options at www.du.edu/financialaid/undergraduate/typesofaid/loans

**STEP 4: Borrow Sensibly**

What to keep in mind about student loan debt:

- Plan how much you can afford to borrow **over all four years**.
- Utilize the loan(s) offered in your award letter—which have fixed interest rates and multiple repayment options—before borrowing a Federal Parent PLUS loan or private education loan.
- **Only borrow what you need** so you’ll minimize the amount you have to repay after graduation.
- Apply for as many **private scholarships** as you can—it’s money you don’t have to repay!
- Look for a **part-time job** at www.du.edu/studentemployment and borrow less by using the money you earn to pay for expenses.
- **Live like a student now** so you don’t have to after you graduate!

**Student Loan Resources**

- **Private vs. Federal Loans:** www.du.edu/financialaid/resources/privatevsfederal
- **Student Loan Comparison Calculator:** https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/loans/student-loan-comparison-calculator
- **Federal Loan Repayment Plans:** http://studentaid.ed.gov/repay-loans/understand/plans
- **DU’s Preferred Private Loan Lender List:** www.du.edu/financialaid/resources/privateloans
- **Federal Loan Repayment Estimator:** https://studentloans.gov/myDirectLoan/mobile/repayment/repaymentEstimator.action

Utilize our **Scholarship Search** to find additional funding that you don’t have to repay!

Go to www.du.edu/financialaid and click on “Scholarship Search.”