2019-20 Financial Aid Next Steps Checklist

Graduate Students

Once you receive your financial aid offer, there are additional steps you must take to receive your aid. (Please note that not all of these steps may apply to you.)

☐ **Accept or decline your aid.**
1. Log into PioneerWeb at https://pioneerweb.du.edu.
(If this is your first time logging in, your password will be your 6-digit birthday in the MMDDYY format.)
2. Click on the *Student* tab.
3. Click on *Accept/Decline Financial Aid* in the "Financial Aid Information" box.
4. Select the 2019-2020 Aid Year.
5. Click on the *Terms and Conditions* tab, review and click "Accept."
6. Click on the *Accept Award Offer* tab.
   a. Choose Accept or Decline in the drop-down box next to each type of aid in offered status.
   b. If you wish to only accept a portion of a loan, type that amount in the "Accept Partial Amount" box.
7. Click "Submit Decision."

☐ **Estimate your bill.**
Utilize the Estimated Billing Worksheet to help you determine your University bill for the summer quarter. Once you have an idea of how much you will owe DU after all of your financial aid has paid to your student account, you can determine how much you need to borrow in additional loan funding (if any).

☐ **Apply for an additional credit-based loan (if needed).** There are two options:

- **Graduate PLUS loan**: These are federal loans with a fixed interest rate of 7.08% available to graduate students who have no adverse credit history. Repayment of this loan is deferred until you graduate. If you need additional loan funding, we recommend this loan instead of a private loan from a bank or credit union, as Grad PLUS loans typically have more favorable terms for borrowers.

  To apply for a Graduate PLUS loan, go to https://studentaid.gov/ and click on the **Apply for a Grad PLUS Loan** link under the "Apply for Aid" menu. You'll need to log in with your FSA ID to complete the application.

- **Private student loan**: These are loans available from private lenders, such as a bank or credit union. Rates and terms vary, and the interest rate is based on your (or your co-signer's) credit. We recommend that you exhaust all federal loan options before applying for a private student loan. Apply directly with the lender of your choice. Learn more about private loans and find a link to our preferred lender list by visiting our website.

☐ **If you accepted a Direct Unsubsidized loan, and you are a first-time borrower at DU, complete loan requirements.**

1. Go to https://studentaid.gov/. Then, under the "Complete Aid Process" menu,
2. Complete the Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loan MPN, and
3. Complete Entrance Counseling.
   (You'll need your FSA ID to complete both of these requirements.)

☐ **Sign up for a payment plan (optional).**
DU offers a no-interest payment plan that may help you cover a portion of your bill. Utilizing this plan will reduce the amount you may need to borrow in loan funding. Learn more at www.du.edu/bursar/payments/payment-plans.

☐ **Sign up for direct deposit (optional).**
If your financial aid—including loans—is more than the total of your charges, you will receive a refund from the Bursar's office. To expedite the receipt of your refund, we recommend setting up direct deposit. To do so:

1. Log into PioneerWeb at https://pioneerweb.du.edu.
2. Click on the *Student* tab.
3. Click on *Direct Deposit Info* in the "My Statement / Payment" box.

Learn more about disbursement and refunds on our website.

☐ **Keep an eye on your account in PioneerWeb.**
Be sure to periodically check your financial aid requirements on the Student tab of PioneerWeb. Any item listed with a red flag requires additional action, and may prevent your financial aid from paying to your student account in a timely manner.

UNIVERSITY *of* DENVER

FINANCIAL AID