



# Timeline for Financial Aid

## October

File FAFSA

**All Students:** October 1 of each year, the FAFSA ([www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)) becomes available for the next school year. You will need your (and typically your parents') financial and tax information from two years preceding the academic year for which you are filing a FAFSA. For example, to complete a FAFSA for the 2021-2022 academic year, you will need financial and tax information from the 2019 tax year.

Your FAFSA must be received by Winona State by mid-May to ensure your financial aid will be available to pay on your student account by the upcoming Fall semester's 1<sup>st</sup> payment due date ([www.winona.edu/billing](http://www.winona.edu/billing)).

You will need to *create* your FSA ID at [www.fsaid.ed.gov](http://www.fsaid.ed.gov) to login and complete your FAFSA



## November

WSU starts receiving submitted FAFSAs

**All Students:** Winona State can begin seeing the FAFSA information for students submitted with school code (002394).

Students may receive a letter that requests additional information to their Student e-Services account and permanent mailing address. Approximately 1/3 of all students will receive these letters, to verify the information on their FAFSA is correct.

**Continuing WSU Students:** begin applying for Foundation Scholarships.

## January-April

Preliminary Awards

**Incoming Freshmen:** will receive a letter to their permanent address with their initial *estimated* award letter. This letter will be an estimate because Winona State must wait for the MN State Legislature to determine some costs and aid amounts.

**Continuing WSU Students:** award letters will not be available until mid-to-late-June.

**All Students:** are reminded to notify WSU Financial Aid Office of any outside scholarships they have been awarded.

## May-June

Awarding

**All Students:** Financial Aid awarding starts for all students. Incoming freshman will be sent an updated official award letter. Continuing students will also be notified of their official award and may review on e-services.

Monitor your Student e-Services account for your financial aid award letter. Once you receive your award, **review and accept or decline any aid which has been offered.**

First time Federal Student Loan borrowers (subsidized or unsubsidized) must complete the loan pre-requirements (MPN and Entrance Counseling) at [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov).

Optional alternative loan eligibility may be available to you. Optional loans must be applied for directly with the lender of your choice and often may require a co-signer (visit the WSU financial aid website for further information)

Students eligible for Work Study will be notified via their award letter. Available Work Study jobs can be found and applied for on the WSU website.

## August-September

Disbursement/ Payment

All scholarships, grants and certified loans will be applied to the balance of the student's Fall bill beginning on the second Friday of the semester.

Students who wish to avoid late fees on their student account should have their student bill paid off by the September payment due date. Students who have an account balance remaining after this due date will automatically be placed on the Extended Payment Plan and will be assessed a \$30 fee. ([www.winona.edu/billing](http://www.winona.edu/billing))

## November-December

\$0 Account Balance

Students who do not have a \$0 account balance prior to Spring Registration will not be able to register for Spring classes.

If you are having trouble paying your account balance or need help accepting your financial aid, please contact the Financial Aid Office to meet with a counselor.

\*If you have not yet accepted your financial aid for the upcoming Spring semester, be sure to do so, so your aid is applied to your Spring bill on the second Friday of the Spring semester.

