

The Institute of World Politics Student Financial Aid Guide 2010-11

FAFSA Federal School Code: G41144

www.fafsa.ed.gov

(800) 4-Fed-Aid

Cost of Attendance

The cost of attendance (COA) or student budget covers the period in which you are enrolled and spans nine months for those enrolled Fall 2010 and Spring 2011. Your COA is made up of tuition, fees, school related supplies, and living expenses for the period in which you are enrolled. These expenses are listed below.

	Fall and Spring	Fall or Spring	Summer
Tuition and Fees*	\$16,300	\$8,150	\$8,075
Room and Board	\$15,000	\$7,500	\$3,750
Books and Supplies	\$1,000	\$500	\$250
Transportation	\$1,000	\$500	\$250
Personal Expenses	\$1,000	\$500	\$250
Total	\$34,300	\$17,150	\$12,575

*Tuition and fees listed are based 2009-10 rates and on 8 credits per term; your tuition and student budget will be adjusted to match your actual enrollment.

Eligibility

To apply for Federal loan, you must:

- be a citizen, national, permanent resident, or other eligible non-citizen of the United States;

- **be enrolled at least half time (at least 5 credit hours) in a program leading to a degree. This applies to the summer term as well as the fall and spring terms;**
- have a valid U.S. social security number;
- maintain satisfactory academic progress as defined by your specific program;
- be in compliance with Selective Service registration, if male;
- not be in default on any educational loan and not owe a refund on a grant or a loan at any institution;
- not have been convicted of certain drug offenses;
- comply with Federal regulations governing the use of funds for educational purposes; and
- be creditworthy if applying for the Federal Graduate PLUS loan.

Types of Student Loans

Federal Direct Stafford Loans

Students at IWP may borrow up to \$20,500 in Subsidized and Unsubsidized Federal Direct Stafford Loan funds per academic year based on the number of credit hours they plan to take. Students who feel they need more than the \$20,500 maximum may wish to seek a GraduatePLUS loan or alternative loans to further finance their educational costs.

The difference between a Subsidized Direct Stafford Loan and an Unsubsidized Direct Stafford Loan is that the federal government pays the interest that accrues on a *Subsidized* Direct Stafford loan while a student is enrolled in a degree-seeking program at least half-time. Conversely, the student is responsible for the interest, which accrues on an *Unsubsidized* Direct Stafford Loan while they are in school. Subsidized and Unsubsidized Direct Stafford Loan eligibility is, in part, determined by information submitted on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

Both the Subsidized and the Unsubsidized Stafford Loan have a fixed interest rate of 6.8%.

All first-time borrowers at IWP must complete an entrance interview regarding their rights and responsibilities as Federal Stafford Loan borrowers. Entrance counseling can be completed online.

Federal Direct Grad PLUS Loan

The Direct Graduate PLUS loan is a federally sponsored education loan for graduate students. You are eligible to borrow up to the full cost of education, including tuition, fees, living, book and transportation expenses, less any financial assistance received. We will not be able to certify your Direct Graduate PLUS application until you apply for the Stafford Loan.

Direct Graduate PLUS Loans have a fixed interest rate of 7.9% as set by the federal government. A minimum credit check is required for all Direct Graduate PLUS borrowers. If you are not eligible based on your own credit rating, you may become eligible if you obtain a co-signer for the loan.

To apply you must complete the federal aid application and apply for the maximum Stafford Loan for which you are eligible.

Additional Loan Requests

The Office of Financial Aid determines financial assistance based on the standard cost of attendance for a single student in a degree program. This budget requires that you live conservatively. Under certain circumstances, you may be able to borrow additional funds if needed. In order to be considered, an expense must be incurred within the student's enrollment period. A written letter of appeal should be addressed to the Director of Financial Aid to request additional loan eligibility beyond the Cost of Attendance detailed above.

Expenses Not Covered by the Cost of Attendance

We cannot increase your budget to cover expenses incurred outside of your enrollment (loan) period. In addition, we cannot cover the following expenses:

- Credit card bills and other consumer debt
- Car purchases and payments
- Moving expenses
- Job search expenses
- Expenses covered by insurance (e.g., medical)
- Elective expenses

You will need to adjust your expenses in other areas in order to accommodate expenses that are not covered in the cost of attendance as outlined above.

Borrowing Responsibly

Your decision to borrow money to finance your education represents a serious investment in your future. You may need to commit a significant portion of your future salary to achieve your current educational objectives. Most students find this commitment well worth making, but it still requires careful consideration of the future implications of your current financial decisions. We encourage you to calculate how much you will need to earn in order to cover your student loan debt by visiting <http://www.finaid.org>. Dealing with this long-term financial obligation can be made easier by using sound debt-management practices—both while you are in school and after you graduate.

Before Receiving Your Funds

- You must be registered to receive financial assistance.
- You must maintain **Satisfactory Academic Progress**, on a semester basis, to continue receiving assistance. Please refer to the satisfactory academic progress policy listed in the IWP Student Catalog.
- You may be required to complete **Federal Verification**. As a result of applying for Federal loans, the U.S. Department of Education may randomly select your application for the verification process. If you are selected, we will send you the verification worksheet. Please carefully read and follow the instructions. You must complete the front and back of the verification worksheet, attach a copy of your (and your spouse's, if applicable) signed Federal tax return, and return both to the Director of Financial Aid. We will not disburse your federal loans until you complete this process.
- Students who are first-time borrowers at IWP under the Federal Loan Program are required to complete **Loan Entrance Counseling** before receiving Federal Direct Stafford and Direct Grad PLUS loan funds. You must complete separate loan entrance counseling for each type of Federal loan you will receive. Entrance counseling can be completed online or in person.

Receiving Your Funds

You must be registered to receive a student loan. Please be aware that your student loan funds should be available during the first week of the semester, but not before. **Until then you must be prepared to support yourself by covering, for example, your first month's rent and the security deposit as well as your books and other educational costs that you may incur before your student loan funds are available.**

Loan funds are disbursed at the beginning of each semester for which you enroll. The funds are sent to IWP and applied to your tuition account. The Bursar will generate a refund check when loan funds that are applied to your tuition account exceed your costs. These funds are generally available for pick-up from the Bursar by the end of the first week of classes. Funds received after the semester begins will be applied to your tuition account as they arrive.

IWP must return any loan funds that cannot be disbursed within ten days of their receipt. Therefore, if you are not registered within the first ten days of the semester or if you have not completed the loan entrance counseling requirement (if you are borrowing a Federal loan for the first time at IWP) and you have not completed all required forms, your funds will be returned to your lender and you will have to reapply for them.

Return of Funds When a Student Withdraws

The Financial Aid Office is required by federal regulations to recalculate federal financial aid eligibility for students who withdraw, drop out, are dismissed, or take a leave of absence prior to completing 60 percent of a semester. Recalculation is based on the percentage of earned aid using the following Federal Return of Title IV funds formula:

Percentage of aid earned

equals

Percentage of semester completed

equals

The number of days completed up to the withdrawal date divided by the total days in the semester. (Any break of five days or more is not counted as part of the days in the term.)

Unearned aid funds are returned to the appropriate federal program. The institution must return the amount of Title IV funds for which it is responsible no later than 45 days after the date of the determination of the date of the student's withdrawal.

Aid to be returned *equals* (100% minus percentage of aid earned) multiplied by the total amount of aid that could have been disbursed during the semester.

If a student earned less aid than was disbursed, the institution would be required to return a portion of the funds and the student would be required to return a portion of the funds. This may result in the student owing a debit balance to the institution.

If a student earned more aid than was disbursed, then the student may be eligible for a post-withdrawal disbursement. The institution must pay a post-withdrawal disbursement within 120 days of the student's withdrawal.

Unearned aid funds are returned in the following order:

1. Unsubsidized Federal Direct Stafford Loans
2. Subsidized Federal Direct Stafford Loans
3. Federal Direct GradPLUS Loans

Contact Information

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