A GUIDE TO YOUR FINANCIAL AID AWARD LETTER

The guide below will walk you through our financial aid process. We are here to help, so if you have additional questions, please contact us. Welcome to Montserrat College of Art!

Your financial aid award may include the following:
• Federal or state grants
• Scholarships and need-based grants
• Low-cost federal student loans (Stafford)

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS
Scholarships and institutional grants are our way of helping make Montserrat College of Art affordable to you. Federal or state grants can also help defray costs. Scholarships and grants do not require repayment. Montserrat welcomes any additional outside financial assistance you’ve received, including private scholarships and grants. Typically, outside assistance does not affect your award. In some cases, however, private scholarships and grants may adjust (and sometimes reduce) your award because of federal regulations. Please contact the Student Financial Services Office to find out if this applies to you.

FEDERAL LOAN PROGRAMS
Federal regulations require new Stafford Loan borrowers to complete a master promissory note and entrance loan-counseling interview to secure their loans before the funds can be disbursed and applied to your bill. These can both be done on-line by visiting www.studentloans.gov. You will need to sign in using the STUDENT SSN, and FSA ID number. To start, go to http://www.studentloans.gov. Click on the green “Sign In” button on the top left and log in. From here, click on “Complete Entrance Counseling” and follow the directions to complete your Entrance Counseling. Also on this screen, click on “Complete Master Promissory Note” then “Subsidized/Unsubsidized” and follow the directions to complete your Master Promissory Note.

FEDERAL STAFFORD STUDENT LOANS (SUBSIDIZED AND UNSUBSIDIZED)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEPENDENT STUDENTS</th>
<th>INTEREST RATE</th>
<th>REPAYMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Year: $5,500</td>
<td>The interest rate is fixed at 4.66% for subsidized and unsubsidized Stafford loans disbursed after July 1, 2014, and before July 1, 2015. This may be adjusted for loans disbursed after July 1, 2015.</td>
<td>• Repayment is deferred while a student is in school.</td>
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<td>2nd Year: $6,500</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Standard repayment term of 10 years.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd, 4th and 5th Years: $7,500</td>
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<td>• Deferment and forbearance options may be available.</td>
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<tr>
<th>INDEPENDENT STUDENTS</th>
<th>INTEREST RATE</th>
<th>REPAYMENT</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Year: $9,500</td>
<td></td>
<td>•</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Year: $10,500</td>
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<td>•</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd, 4th and 5th Years: $12,500</td>
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* Subsidized = The loan doesn’t accrue interest until you enter your grace period.
* Unsubsidized = Interest accrues once the loan is disbursed.
* Information about how to apply for the Stafford Loan will be sent to accepted students in June.
* Students who want to reduce or decline their awarded federal Stafford Loan must notify the Student Financial Services Office in writing each year.
DETERMINING YOUR AWARD

Financial aid awards are determined using the information reported on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and supporting documents. Completing the FAFSA generates your family’s Expected Family Contribution (EFC). This is determined through the government’s guidelines about what families can reasonably be expected to contribute toward students’ educational expenses. By estimating expected educational expenses (such as tuition, fees, supplies, and housing) your Cost of Attendance is determined. The difference between the Cost of Attendance and the EFC is a family’s demonstrated financial need. Many parents use a combination of current income, payment plans, or parent and alternative loans, to cover the EFC and any unmet need.

COST OF ATTENDANCE - EFC = FINANCIAL NEED 2015–2016

Educational expenses are based on the following:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>2015-2016</th>
<th>Per Semester</th>
<th>Per Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition (full time enrollment)</td>
<td>$14,125</td>
<td>$28,250</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Fee</td>
<td>$650</td>
<td>$1,300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Housing (based on double occupancy)</td>
<td>$4,100</td>
<td>$8,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books and Supplies (estimated)</td>
<td>$800</td>
<td>$1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation (estimated)</td>
<td>$750</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous (estimated)</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please be aware that there are indirect costs that students should be prepared for. These costs could include orientation fee for new students ($150), an art kit ($850), health insurance, meal, etc. Health insurance will be automatically billed and you will need to complete the health insurance waiver online to waive the charge.

FUNDING THE GAP

TUITION PAYMENT PLAN OPTIONS

Montserrat College of Art offers a Tuition Payment Plan. This allows you and your family to spread tuition over several monthly payments during an academic year. The Student Financial Services Office has provided an estimated tuition bill in your award package for the upcoming fall and the spring semesters. Information on payment plans can be found by visiting tuitionpay.higherone.com. Please be aware that to qualify for the 10 month payment plan, the plan must be in place by July 1.

PARENT LOANS

Montserrat College of Art also provides options for parents wishing to share borrowing responsibility for their child’s education. This is loan made available by the Federal government to a parent of a full-time student. The interest rate on the Plus Loan is 7.9%. A parent can apply for a PLUS loan on-line by visiting www.studentloans.gov. If a parent is denied the Plus loan, the student is eligible for an increase of $4,000 (freshman and sophomores) or $5,000 (juniors and seniors) in federal unsubsidized Stafford loan.
ALTERNATIVE LOANS
A wide range of lenders offer alternative student loans. It is important to compare a number of lenders, their interest rates and repayment terms to find the loan that works best for the student and/or co-signer. Students applying for an alternative loan will typically need a credit worthy co-signer in order to qualify for the loan. Montserrat College of Art suggests students and parents review all terms and conditions of any private loan before borrowing. Key items to be aware of include interest rates and how they are calculated; repayment terms; potential for deferral for graduate school; and the possibility of repayment beginning during a delay in enrollment.

FINANCIAL AID RECIPIENTS SHOULD BE AWARE OF THE FOLLOWING RESPONSIBILITIES

Eligibility for Financial Aid
To be considered for financial aid, students must be making satisfactory academic progress. Incompletes and withdrawals are not considered earned semester hours. Students must maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0, and must also complete 67% of their cumulative credits attempted. Awards are prorated by term over the academic year. Financial aid recipients must be enrolled as full-time degree candidates (at least 12 semester hours per term).

Awards are reduced if a student enrolls part-time (6–11 semester hours). Students enrolled in fewer than 6 credit hours do not qualify for institutional money, and only certain types of federal aid are available.

VERIFICATION
The federal government selects 20 to 30 percent of all applicants for verification each year. If your FAFSA is selected for verification, a list of documents needed by the Financial Aid Office has been included with your award. It is extremely important to act quickly on all of these items as to ensure accurate and timely processing of your financial aid. Please submit all required documentation to the Student Financial Services office no later than July 1st. If you have been selected for verification, you will be notified via mail, as an amendment to your estimated financial aid award letter. Once the verification process is complete a revised award letter will be sent to your address of record to notify you of any resulting changes.

Please note, if you are selected for verification, financial aid funds cannot be disbursed until the government verification process is completed. Failure to complete the verification process will result in the student becoming ineligible for federal aid.
ACCEPTING AND/OR SECURING YOUR AWARD PACKAGE
If you wish to decline any of the awards indicated in your financial aid award package, please notify
Student Financial Services in writing at sfs@montserrat.edu.

NOTIFICATION OF CHANGES
Your financial aid award is based on the information you submit to Montserrat College of Art. If there is
a change in your enrollment status or family/financial situation that may influence your financial aid
award, it is your responsibility to notify the Student Financial Services Office. Please note that if you plan
to accept any scholarships or grants from resources not listed above, you are also required to report
each source and the amount to the Student Financial Services Office. Your award is subject to
adjustments if your eligibility changes. Examples include but are not limited to:
• Enrolling for fewer than 12 credits
• Submitting inaccurate or incomplete information on your aid application
• Defaulting on an educational loan
• Receiving private scholarships or grants

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES
At Montserrat College of Art we realize special circumstances arise. In an extreme change, such as a
parent job loss, disability or excessive medical expenses, we want to hear from you and show you what
options are available. To be considered for special circumstances at any time during your educational
journey at Montserrat, please submit a signed letter with any necessary supporting documentation to
the Student Financial Services Office.

Reapplying For/ Renewability of Your Aid
Students must reapply for financial aid every year by completing their FAFSA. Eligible students may
receive financial aid for a maximum of eight semesters while pursuing an initial undergraduate degree at
Montserrat College of Art. Please contact the Student Financial Services Office if you have questions on
renewability.
Financial aid is renewed at approximately the same dollar amount provided that:
• You meet our priority filing date of March 1st (If you file after the priority deadline, you will still be
considered for institutional aid based on availability).
• There are no significant factor(s) that change your eligibility (such as an increase in income, changes in
the number of siblings in college).

Your ability to borrow through the Federal Stafford Student Loan program increases as you progress
through your four years at Montserrat College of Art.

INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE
Additional information concerning financial aid can be found at the Federal Student Aid website,
studentaid.ed.gov, or by contacting the Student Financial Services office. The Student Financial Services
office is available to assist with your questions about financial aid and the financial aid process. Our
office is open Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Appointments are recommended but not required.
The SFS office can be reached at (978)-921-4242 x1174.

Montserrat College of Art is in compliance with both the spirit and the letter of Title IX of the Education
Amendments of 1972 and with Internal Revenue Service Procedure 75-50. This means the College does
not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, or national or ethnic origin in administration of its
employment policies, admissions policies, recruitment programs for students and employees,
scholarship and loan programs, athletics and other College-administered activities.