

Financial Aid Process

1. Complete a FAFSA (<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>). There is no additional application to complete for financial aid.
 - a. **SIU's** school code is **001758**.
 - b. Deadlines for submitting FAFSA only pertain to undergraduates. Law students are encouraged to submit their FAFSA **after** having filed their income tax.
 - c. No parental income is required on the FAFSA for this level of school (law/professional); **skip Section 3**.
 - d. Most students are eligible to receive financial aid.
 - e. Only loan money is available; no grant money at this level of school (law/professional).
 - f. Amount eligible in Federal Direct Loans is **\$20,500** regardless of EFC (expected family contribution).
 - g. Remaining eligible loan amount will be available in a Federal Graduate PLUS loan.
2. Once FAFSA has been filed successfully, Federal Student Aid will process your application and send you a Student Aid Report (SAR) to review your information. Your information will be electronically sent to the schools listed on your FAFSA (using school codes). It takes approximately 10-12 business days for the SIU Financial Aid Office to receive this information.
3. Once SIU Financial Aid Office has received FAFSA information, it takes approximately 7-10 business days to process your award letter.
4. The SIU Financial Aid Office will send an email notifying you that your loan information and Award Letter are available via SIU's Salukinet. *Scholarship(s) you were offered at time of admission will not be posted until this summer.*
5. Access Salukinet at <https://salukinet.siu.edu/>
6. To view your Financial Aid Award Letter please follow these steps:
 - Logon using your Network ID and Password under the Students, Faculty and Staff box;
 - Click **"My Records"** then click on **"View My SIUC Student Records"**
 - Click **"Financial Aid"** and then click on **"Award"**
 - Click **"Award for Aid Year"** and select the appropriate aid year from the drop-down menu and click **"Submit"**
 - Click on **"Terms and Conditions"** tab, read the terms and conditions and click **"Accept"** (if you have already read and accepted the terms and conditions for the award year you can skip this step)
 - Click on the **"Accept Award Offer"** tab and **Accept** or **Decline** any offered awards then click **"Submit Decision"**
 - If you are accepting a Federal Unsubsidized Loan and are a first time borrower, you must have a Direct Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN) on file and complete the Entrance Loan Counseling. The Direct Loan website and the Entrance Loan Counseling website is www.studentloans.gov. You will need to use your Department of Education PIN for both the MPN and Entrance Loan Counseling.

NOTE: Federal Subsidized Loans are no longer available; that loan amount has been incorporated into the Federal Unsubsidized Loans.

7. **Federal Direct Loans and/or scholarships** are automatically credited to the student's bursar account and where tuition and fees are charged on a semester basis. If loans and/or scholarship money total more than the tuition and fees charged, the remainder will be issued to the student in the form of a **refund**.
8. **Refunds** must be set up for **Direct Deposit**. Here is the form to complete and return to the Bursar's Office: <http://bursar.siuc.edu/directDeposit.html>. You may also complete the form on Salukinet. **This is a requirement.**
9. If you have **not applied for financial aid** and/or your scholarship does not cover the semester's tuition and fees, you will owe the University. Bills are mailed by the Bursar's Office every month. Payment can be made directly to the Bursar's Office. Available payment options may be found online at <http://bursar.siuc.edu/payment.html>.
10. If a student **withdraws** from the University, a refund of institutional charges paid and a return of funds to financial aid programs and/or scholarships is required. Refunds are processed by crediting the student's University account for the amount of refunded University charges. The University's Refund Policies apply to all students regardless of financial aid status. University Housing charges and refunds are determined based on contract provisions. The University Refund Policy for tuition and fees involves either:
 - a refund check of 100% of tuition and fee charges for the semester for students withdrawing during the full refund period (first two weeks of the semester);
 - a pro-rata refund for students withdrawing week three (50% tuition & 100% fees);
 - a pro-rata refund for students withdrawing week four (50% tuition and 0% fees);
 - a 0% refund for students withdrawing week five.
11. When a student receives a **100% refund** of tuition and fees, all financial aid credited directly to the student's University account for the semester are removed in total and returned to the applicable financial aid programs. If the removal of financial aid results in a balance due, the student owes the University, not the financial aid program.
12. When a student receives a **pro-rata refund** of tuition and fees, their financial aid is pro-rated based on the last day of attendance.