Introduction to the Student Services Center and Financial Aid
Student Service Center

Contact

• Located at 205 Kent Hall

• Assist students with inquiries concerning the Student Account, Tuition & Fees, Refunds, Academic Certifications, and Transcripts.

• Questions?
  • FAQ & Email: askus.columbia.edu
  • Call (212) 854-4400
  • Visit in person: Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
E-Billing

• E-billing notification sent to your Columbia email address
• If someone else will be assisting with your account, be sure to authorize him/her as a payer
• Easy access to online payment history and previous statements
• E-Bill is a snapshot of the charges, credits and anticipated credits on your student account as of a specific date, and is not updated between billing cycles
• View current information through the Student Account Details on Student Services Online (SSOL): ssol.columbia.edu
Payment Methods

• E-check (preferred)
• Wire transfer
• In-person, 210 Kent Hall via secure drop box
• Check or money order
• Mail
• Tuition Payment Plan
• Additional information: sfs.columbia.edu
• Pay attention to the payment due date on your e-bill; payments must be received (not postmarked if sent by mail) by that date

• Payment Due Date: Friday, January 31, 2020

• Late Fees:
  • $150 (First e-bill of semester was sent on December 16th)
  • 1.5% (every subsequent e-bill for semester)
  • Students will not be de-registered if the bill is not paid on time
  • Registration holds will be placed for balances of $1,000 or greater
Costs

Tuition

• **Cost per credit**: $1,896 per point (credit)
• **Examples**: 6 points = $11,376 / 12 points = $22,752

Fees

• **Student Life Fee**: $707 per semester
• **Health Services Fee**: $584 per semester
• **CU Medical Insurance**:
  • **Spring**: $2,129
• **Orientation Fee**: $290 (one-time)
• **Document Fee**: $105 (one-time)

Important Links

• Health Services: [health.columbia.edu](http://health.columbia.edu)
• GS Costs: [gs.columbia.edu/content/cost-attendance](http://gs.columbia.edu/content/cost-attendance)
• Student Services Center: [ssc.columbia.edu](http://ssc.columbia.edu)

1. Charged to all full-time students (12 or more points), as well as all students who enroll in the Columbia Insurance Plan
2. May be waived; conditions apply
Tuition Payment Plan

• Administered by Nelnet
• If you cannot pay in full by the due date, enroll in the Tuition Payment Plan (monthly) at the start of each term
  • Five monthly payments per semester (a total of 10 monthly payments if attending both fall and spring semesters)
  • Application fee: $25 for one semester or $45 for both
  • Spring 2020 Deadline: April 24th (Fee + 4 payments)
  • Additional Information: sfs.columbia.edu
Student Services Online (SSOL)

ssol.columbia.edu

- Register for direct deposit
- View academic records
- Update your permanent address
- View your e-bill and make e-check payment
- View your financial aid information by directing you to our Online Financial Aid System
Student Services Online (SSOL)
Requesting a Refund

GS Refund Request:
gs.columbia.edu/content/student-account-refunds
Questions?
Office of Educational Financing

- Award ("package") federal & GS institutional financial aid
- Process federal/private student loans
- Counsel students on all student financing and federal processing issues
- Administer New York State Aid for Part–Time Study (APTS)
Online Appointment System:
gs.columbia.edu/content/educational-financing-advising
Same Day Appointments:

• Available each weekday for same-day advising appointments, which are limited to 20 minutes in length. Students may sign up for same-day advising online. Appointments cannot be booked in advance; students may sign up for a slot beginning at 9 a.m. each weekday.

• Same-day appointments are usually not suitable for addressing complicated financial aid issues, which require scheduling a counseling appointment. Concerns that may be addressed in a same-day appointment include the following:
  
  • Quick financial aid questions (e.g., has my private loan check arrived?)
  • Clarification of a specific financial aid issue
  • Follow-up on a request or communication sent to you by the Office of Educational Financing
Counseling Appointments

• Typically a half-hour and meant for more in-depth educational counseling issues and long-term planning.
• Best way for a student to start the planning process for managing Columbia educational costs.
• GS financial aid counselors will be available for appointments at various times each week.
• Please plan ahead as schedules can fill up.
The School of General Studies of Columbia University is the finest liberal arts college in the United States created specifically for returning and nontraditional students seeking a rigorous, traditional, Ivy League undergraduate degree full or part time.
Federal Financial Aid

• Two forms necessary to apply:
  • FAFSA – fafsa.ed.gov
    • National form sent to a Central Processor
    • School Code: 002707
  • Planned Enrollment Form
    • Completed online via the Online Financial Aid System
New York State Financial Aid

• New York State TAP Award – hesc.org
  • School Code: 0171
  • Option 1: After FAFSA-on-the-web, access TAP-on-the-Web application at the confirmation page
  • Option 2: After FAFSA, HESC mails an Express Tap Application (Paper Process)
  • Option 3: New York DREAM Act
Available Aid | Federal and State Grants

Federal Grants (2019-2020 academic year)
- Pell
  Max award: $3,097 per semester
  Based on full-time enrollment; amount is lower for reduced enrollment
- SEOG
  Max award: $700 per semester
  Based on full-time enrollment; amount is lower for reduced enrollment

State Grants (2019-2020 academic year)
- TAP (12 points or more)
  Can range from $250 to $2,582 per semester
- APTS (3 to 11.5 points)
  Can range from $200 to $1,000 per semester
  Based on state allocation to School and students’ enrollment
Available Aid | Work Study

• Provides part-time employment and allows students to earn money for their educational costs.
• Awarded based on financial need.
• Job listings available online: fws.columbia.edu
• Employment papers can be picked up at the Federal Work-Study Payroll Office in 205 Kent Hall.
Federal Direct Subsidized Loan:

• Interest-free loan while enrolled at least half-time (6 points)
• Fixed interest rate of 4.529% for loans disbursed 7/1/2019 – 6/30/2020
• Grace Period: Payments begin six months after graduation or when students cease to be enrolled at least half-time (6 points)
• Origination Fee: 1.059%
• Academic Year Limits:
  - $3,500 (0 to 23 total points) / ~$3,463 after the fee
  - $4,500 (24 to 55 total points) / ~$4,452 after the fee
  - $5,500 (56+ total points) / ~$5,442 after the fee
Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan:

• Fixed interest rate of 4.529% for loans disbursed 7/1/2019 – 6/30/2020

• Interest begins accruing upon disbursement
  • Option to defer interest payments while in school

• Grace Period: Payments begin six months after graduation or when students cease to be enrolled at least half-time (6 points)

• Origination Fee: 1.059%

• Academic Year Limits:
  - $6,000 (0 to 55 total points) / ~$5,936 after the fee
  - $7,000 (56+ total points) / ~$6,926 after the fee
Federal Loans | Dependent Students

Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan
- Academic Year Limit: $2,000 / $1,980 after the fee

Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan
- Amount based on cost of attendance minus financial aid
- Fixed interest rate of 7.08%
- Origination Fee: 4.236%
- Interest begins accruing upon disbursement, but can be deferred
- Optional Grace Period: Payments can also be deferred if the student is enrolled at least half-time. Can be deferred for an additional 6 months after graduating or dropping below half-time.
Available Aid | Private Loans

- Suggested Lender Chart: sfs.columbia.edu
- Apply online with the lender
- Students are not limited to these lenders – not an exhaustive list
Online Financial Aid System

studentviewer.finaid.columbia.edu

• Review missing financial aid documents
• Review and accept/decline financial aid
  • Log in using your:
    • Student ID: Columbia University ID# (CUID, C00__________)
    • Password: Initially your date of birth (MMDDYYYY)
Online Financial Aid System

Columbia University's educational financing options consist of federal, state, institutional and private sources of funds that will help meet the diverse needs of the student population. Columbia recognizes the importance of choices in educational financing and hopes that the options provided will be useful in planning and managing educational expenses.

Before you explore these options, we ask that you read the disclosure below regarding the suggested lenders featured on this website.

Please note: If you receive financial aid, you are required to notify your school's Financial Aid Office upon receiving any funds that you did not report on the original financial aid application, such as University tuition exemption, scholarships, tuition reimbursement from your employer, or sponsorship.

**Are you new to this site?:** To sign in please enter your Student ID (starts with the letter C followed by 9 numbers) and your PIN is your date of birth (MMDDCCYY). If you haven't been assigned a Student ID yet, please contact your admissions office. After logging in, you will be asked to create a new PIN and create security questions.

**Are you returning to this site?:** Welcome back! To log in, simply put in your Student ID and the PIN you created for this site.

**Did you forget your PIN?:** If you are returning to the site but have forgotten the PIN you created when activating your account, please click on the Forgot your PIN? link in the login box.
Federal Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans

• Entrance Counseling
  • Reviews borrower’s responsibilities

• Master Promissory Note (MPN)
  • Contract between the borrower and lender promising repayment

• Completed online: studentloans.gov
Complete the Financial Aid Process

You've accomplished the most important task—submitting the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form. Find out what you need to do next.

Next Steps

There are a few more steps in the financial aid process.

01 Get Informed
Find out how aid is calculated

02 Compare Aid Offers
Review schools' financial aid packages

03 Reply to Aid Offer
Accept aid from your chosen school

04 Sign Loan Agreement
Complete a Master Promissory Note (MPN)

05 Complete Entrance Counseling
Before your first loan or TEACH Grant, complete counseling
Financial Aid Strategies 101

Learn more about basic financial aid strategies and help make the financial aid process more understandable and manageable.

• Budgeting
• Understanding your bill
• How enrolling in summer impacts your aid
• Plus, more important financial aid information and strategies:

  Wednesday, January 15, 2020, 5:20 - 6:30 p.m.
  207 Mathematics Building

  or

  Friday, January 17, 2020, 10:20 - 11:30 a.m.
  408 Lewisohn Hall, Baer Room
Office of Educational Financing

**Contact**

- 408 Lewisohn Hall
- Telephone: (212) 854-5410
- Email: gs_financial_aid@columbia.edu
- Website: gs.columbia.edu
- Schedule appointments online: gs.columbia.edu/content/educational-financing-advising
Questions?