GUIDE TO GRADUATE FINANCIAL AID

**As a reminder, you can submit your 2018-2019 FAFSA starting October 1, 2017. Log into fafsa.ed.gov and begin filing your FAFSA using information from your 2016 tax return.**

**How much loan money am I eligible for?**

As a graduate student you are eligible for $20,500 in Federal Direct Unsubsidized loan funds per academic year.

**What types of loans can I apply for as a graduate student?**

As a graduate student you may be eligible to apply for three types of loans: the Direct Unsubsidized Loan, a Graduate PLUS Loan, or a private loan from an alternative lender.

**How many credits do I have to enroll in to receive federal aid?**

As a graduate student you must be enrolled at least half-time (5 credit hours) to receive federal aid. If you are enrolled for less than half-time you may still apply for a private loan.

**What items do I have to complete every year to receive aid?**

In order to receive aid, you have to complete the following items:

1. File your FAFSA [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)
2. Report your Enrollment Plan (anticipated enrolled hours per semester) via the student hub
3. New borrowers only: Fill out the Loan Entrance Counseling and Master Promissory Note for the Direct Unsubsidized Loan at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov)
4. If you wish to decline all or a portion of your federal loan, submit an email declaring the loan amount to [xufinaid@xavier.edu](mailto:xufinaid@xavier.edu)
5. If you need additional aid you may fill out a Graduate PLUS loan application at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov) or apply for a private loan through an alternative lender
6. If you file the Graduate PLUS loan application and are approved you will need to sign a Master Promissory Note for the Graduate PLUS loan and complete the Loan Entrance Counseling for a Graduate PLUS loan at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov)

**Are there any scholarships available as a graduate student?**

All scholarships for graduate students are awarded through the department for the degree program you are enrolled; talk to a staff member in your department to see if they are any scholarships available.

**If you have any questions visit our website** [**www.xavier.edu/financial-aid**](http://www.xavier.edu/financial-aid) **or give us a call at (513)745-3142**