

Loan Disclosures

Important Federal Direct Loan Borrowing Information

Qualified students who are enrolled at least half-time in the MSTCM program are eligible to borrow graduate-level Direct Unsubsidized Loans. The annual loan limit is \$20,500 per academic year. The maximum graduate aggregate limit for federal loan is \$138,500 (this may include the total amount that students may have borrowed from any previous institutions.)

For academic purposes, the University's academic year consists of three, 15-week terms, beginning each year in September with the fall term. For purpose of Federal Student Aid Direct Unsubsidized Loan annual loan limit determination, the University uses Borrower-Based Academic Year (BBAY), which makes an academic year consists of two, 15-week terms. Unlike a Scheduled Academic Year, a BBAY is not a fixed period that begins and ends at about the same time each year. Instead, a BBAY's beginning and ending dates depend on the individual student's enrollment.

MSTCM program students must maintain a 2.3 cumulative GPA, a cumulative pace evaluation rate of 67%, and must be enrolled no less than 6 units to continue to receive Federal Student Aid.

Students are recommended to create a personal budget and complete a <u>Financial Awareness</u> <u>Counseling</u>. Students should borrow their federal loans wisely, as accruing excessive debt will not only have a significant effect on the students' finance, but can have an adverse effect on the students' credit, if they default on their loans.

The interest rate for Direct Unsubsidized Loans first disbursed on or after July 1, 2021, and before July 1, 2022, is 5.28%. There is a loan fee of 1.057% for a Direct Unsubsidized Loan first disbursed on or after Oct. 1, 2019. The loan fee is a percentage of the loan amount and is proportionately deducted for each loan disbursement. The interest rate and loan fee vary depending on when the loan is first disbursed. (See link for details.)

https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types/loans/interest-rates#fees

It is important that students read, review and understand the <u>Master Promissory Note (MPN)</u> before they sign it, as borrowing is a binding legal obligation. All amounts borrowed must be repaid regardless of whether you complete school, are satisfied with the education, or find employment.

Prior to receiving Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan funds, students are required to complete an Entrance Counseling.

Federal Direct Loan information will be submitted to the <u>National Student Loan Data System</u> (<u>NSLDS</u>), Information in NSLDS is accessible to schools, lenders, and guarantors for specific purposes as authorized by the U.S. Department of Education.

When a student leaves school or drops below half-time enrollment, the student is required to complete an Exit Counseling, which will give the student detailed loan repayment information.

If the student has a dispute or problem with his/her student loan and has made a reasonable effort to resolve the problem or issue through a normal process and it is not resolved, contact the Federal

Student Aid Ombudsman Group of the U.S. Department of Education.