



Student Financial Services
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Policies and Conditions

The Policies and Conditions are published to help Oakland University students understand the policies related to financial assistance and to communicate the operational regulations to which Oakland University Financial Services must adhere. Students are responsible for the information contained in the Policies and Conditions for Financial Services and are therefore expected to read this information in its entirety. Students are required to access their Oakland University email and eBill through [MySAIL](#) regularly for important financial information and messages. Students are able to [assign Proxy access](#) on MySAIL and [Authorized User access](#) on eBill by logging in to their respective accounts so parents and others can access to select information.

1. Applying for Financial Assistance

Financial aid awards may be based on admission to Oakland University, annual completion of the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#), and the discretion of academic and/or student service departments providing a departmental award. Students are encouraged to complete a FAFSA as soon after January 1 as possible for the next academic year. Applying early and accurately ensures fullest consideration for financial aid, some of which is awarded on a first come, first served basis. Learn more about financial aid available to [undergraduate](#), [graduate](#), [continuing education](#), [veteran](#), [community college partnership](#), [study abroad](#), and [summer](#) students. Guest, professional development, and non-matriculating students are eligible to apply for [private education loans](#).

2. Estimating Educational Expenses

Students incur both direct charges and indirect expenses related to educational costs. Direct charges include tuition and on-campus housing charges. Indirect expenses include books and supplies, off campus housing, transportation, and personal expenses. OU provides the [Cost Estimator](#) to help students and families estimate the direct charges made by Oakland University. View the [Cost of Attendance](#) chart to estimate the indirect expenses associated with investing in a post-secondary education.

3. Awarding and Revising Financial Assistance

Students must be admitted and enrolled at OU in an eligible degree, certificate, or preparatory coursework program to receive financial aid. Endorsements, second majors, professional development, non-degree, and continuing education programs do not qualify for federal aid, but may qualify for some [private educational loans](#). View a list of [graduate certificate and post-master's graduate certificate](#) programs eligible for financial aid. Financial aid awards are contingent upon federal, state, institutional, and other appropriations and/or funding. Most financial aid awards are for the fall and winter semesters. Financial aid for the summer is limited; in some cases, Pell Grants, loans, and OU scholarships are available in the summer. View the Financial Aid Payments and Refunds section for information regarding aid eligibility for repeated classes.

3.1 Awarding OU Scholarships and Grants

OU scholarships and grants are awarded to incoming freshmen and new transfer students. Undergraduate students who are ineligible for scholarships and grants during their first year at OU will be considered for the First Year Focus Award.

3.1.1 Merit Scholarships

OU merit scholarships awarded by Undergraduate Admissions do not require an additional scholarship application. Through the application for admission to Oakland University, OU merit scholarships are awarded automatically to students who are eligible.

3.1.2 Departmental Scholarships

Some academic and student service departments at Oakland University choose to offer scholarships to students. Information about these scholarships, including eligibility criteria, application details, and deadlines, are published in the [OU Scholarships & Grants](#) search tool.

3.1.3 OU Grants

Grants are automatically awarded by Financial Services for eligible students who complete the FAFSA.

3.1.4 Awards Based on Housing Plan

Financial aid awards are based on the housing plan indicated on the FAFSA. If the housing plan is left blank, it is assumed the student is living with a parent. To update the housing plans before the beginning of the semester, complete a [Revision Form](#). Financial Aid awards may be cancelled or revised due to a change in housing plans.

3.2 Awarding Federal and State of Michigan Financial Assistance

Financial Services uses the FAFSA to award Federal Financial Assistance, including Federal grants, Federal student loans, Federal Work-Study, and optional Parent PLUS loan offers. Most awards are offered based on financial need established by completion of the FAFSA, the availability of funds, and Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP).

Federal Direct Loan programs offer lower interest rates and more flexible repayment plans than private education loans. The student's eligibility for Federal Direct Loans is included in the financial aid award notification. To receive a Federal Direct subsidized and/or unsubsidized loan, if not already completed, students must complete [Direct Loan Entrance Counseling and a Direct Loan Master Promissory Note \(MPN\)](#).

In some cases a Federal Direct PLUS Loan will be offered to the parent of a dependent undergraduate student or to a graduate student, as an additional, optional loan. To apply for the PLUS loan, the parent or graduate student needs to complete a [Request for a PLUS Loan](#) and a [Master Promissory Note](#), if not already completed. The deadline to initiate a PLUS Loan is December 1 for a Fall only loan; April 1 for a winter only loan; April 1 for a combination fall/winter loan; and two weeks before the last day of the summer session for which the loan is intended for a summer loan.

View details of the Federal aid offered to [undergraduate](#) and [graduate](#) students. The FAFSA is used to award some [State of Michigan](#) aid.

3.3 Awarding Private Scholarships and Loans

If the student receives a scholarship or award from a business, agency or other organization and it is not listed on the award notification, the student should notify Financial Services by completing Part 4 of a [Revision Form](#). If the business, agency or organization provides the student with the check, it needs to be sent to Financial Services. The student should include identifying information with the check. If the check is co-payable to the student and OU, the student should first endorse the check by writing on the back, "Payable to Oakland University" and then provide the student signature. Federal regulations and University policies consider private scholarships, grants, loans, and additional resources as forms of financial assistance. They count as financial aid resources when determining eligibility for need-based financial aid and generally improving the overall quality of the financial aid package. Review the Policies and Conditions section, Revising Financial Assistance, for more information.

Private education loans may be of interest to students who have remaining educational costs after financial aid eligibility has been exhausted. The maximum on a private loan is the student's cost of attendance (listed on the financial aid award notification) minus available aid. Learn more about private education loans available to [undergraduate](#) and [graduate](#) students.

3.4 Awarding Summer Financial Assistance

Financial aid for the summer is limited; in some cases, Pell Grants, TEACH grants, loans, and OU scholarships are available in the summer. Learn more about eligibility for [summer financial assistance](#).

3.5 Revising Financial Assistance

3.5.1 Revisions made by Financial Services

Federal regulations and Oakland University consider private scholarships, awards, grants, loans, and additional resources, such as payment received from a corporate credit card, a business or corporation, even if owned by the parent of a student, to be financial assistance. Every effort is made to maintain accuracy, however, in the event an error is made, the error will be corrected and the student will be billed for the excess amount received. Students are responsible for all amounts due to the University as a result of financial aid adjustments. Repayment of the billed amount can be made through standard repayment methods. Although these resources might affect other awards in the financial aid package, they usually improve the overall quality of the financial aid package. Aid could be reduced, cancelled, or prorated for a variety of reasons, including, but not limited to:

- Payments made with corporate, executive, business, or other similarly labeled credit cards
- Other awards or resources identified by Financial Services received before or after a financial aid award package has been completed.
- Awards made directly to the student
- Total financial aid awards exceed the [cost of attendance](#) or financial need as established by FAFSA.
- Financial aid Satisfactory Academic Progress standards are not met.
- [Unsatisfied financial aid requirements](#).
- Student is not enrolled on the last day for [100% tuition refund](#) for full semester courses, when Financial Aid Credit Lock occurs.
- Student is not enrolled for all semesters for which they are awarded.
- If the remaining period of study is shorter than a full academic year, for example, in the case of mid-year graduation.
- Funding for the award is reduced.
- Student eligibility for financial aid changes.
- Course enrollment or housing status changes.
- Student drops or withdraws from all courses for which they are enrolled. See Return of Federal Title IV Financial Aid section for additional information.
- Incorrect or fraudulent information is provided.

- Financial aid is received at another institution during the same enrollment period.
- Student is in default on a Federal loan or owes a refund of Federal funds received at a post-secondary institution.

3.5.2 Revisions Initiated by Students

3.5.2.1. Students are able to make changes to their financial aid awards by completing a [Revision Form](#). Students wishing to make changes to their current financial aid package, their intended enrollment, housing plans, or notify Financial Services of an additional scholarship or resource the student plans to receive, a Revision Form should be completed as soon as possible, preferably before the start of the semester for which the change will take effect. Undergraduate students are automatically awarded assuming full time (12 or more credits) enrollment.

3.5.2.2. Revisions indicating enrollment for less than full time credits are due before the first day of classes of the semester for which the change in enrollment will take effect. Students who fail to notify Financial Services of the change in enrollment by the first day of classes will experience a delay in the disbursement of their financial aid awards. Financial Services will automatically review and make adjustments for changes in enrollment affecting aid during Financial Aid Course Credit Lock. See the Financial Aid Payment and Refunds section of the Policies, Terms, and Conditions for more details.

3.6 Return of Federal Title IV Financial Aid

When a student eligible for Federal Title IV financial aid withdraws (officially or unofficially) from all classes before 60% of the semester is complete during an enrollment period in which attendance has begun, federal regulations require Oakland University to determine the amount of financial aid earned. A student is only eligible to retain the percent of Title IV aid earned that is equal to the percentage of the enrollment period that was completed by the student. For students enrolled solely in courses that are less than the 15 week full semester, the enrollment period is adjusted to reflect the length of the courses. The unearned Title IV aid must then be returned to the appropriate federal aid program(s) which may result in the student owing financial aid funds to the University, the federal government, or both. If more than 60% of the enrollment period has been completed by the student, none of the Title IV aid needs to be returned.

Federal Title IV financial aid funds include: TEACH, Federal SEOG, Federal Pell Grant, Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG), National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent (SMART) Grant, Federal Perkins Loan, and Federal Direct Subsidized, Direct Unsubsidized and Direct PLUS (Parent or Graduate) Loans.

The following steps determine the amount of federal Title IV financial aid a student has earned up to the time of withdrawal and the amount that is unearned and needs to be returned:

1. Calculate the percent of the enrollment period completed by the student. Divide the number of calendar days the student attended* by the number of calendar days in the enrollment period (less any scheduled breaks of 5 days or more). If the calculated percent exceeds 60%, the student has earned all Title IV aid for the enrollment period.
2. Calculate the amount of earned Title IV aid. Multiply the percent of the enrollment period completed by the total Title IV aid disbursed or could have disbursed according to late disbursement rules.
3. Calculate the amount of unearned Title IV aid. Subtract the amount of earned Title IV aid from the total amount of federal aid disbursed. The difference must be returned to the appropriate Title IV program by the University or by the student.

* If a student who began attendance and has not officially withdrawn fails to earn a passing grade in at least one course during the enrollment period, grade reports from the class professor will verify the last date of attendance. If a professor does not have a record of class attendance, the midpoint of the semester will be used to calculate the percent of the enrollment period.

Oakland University notifies students with details of their earned and unearned federal Title IV financial aid. Students are provided with instructions related to repaying the funds to the University or to the federal government. In some instances a late disbursement of earned Title IV aid can be made to the student. When a student has withdrawn and a credit balance is created, a Return of Title IV calculation must be performed before any credit balance may be refunded. Any Title IV credit balance must be allocated first to repay any grant overpayment owed by the student as a result of the current withdrawal.

Funds returned (by the University and/or the student or parent) must be allocated in the following order:

1. Federal Unsubsidized Direct Loan
2. Federal Subsidized Direct Loan
3. Federal Perkins Loan
4. Federal Direct PLUS Graduate Loan
5. Federal Direct PLUS (Parent) Loan
6. Federal Pell Grant
7. Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG)
8. National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent Grant (SMART)
9. Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG)
10. Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education Grant (TEACH)

Unearned loan funds owed to the federal government are repaid according to the terms of the loan promissory note. Grant funds are owed directly to the federal government. The student is required to repay only 50% of the grant overpayment. If the student does not repay a federal grant, the student is not eligible for federal Title IV funds at any school until the overpayment is paid. The student may also owe funds to Oakland University.

Official withdrawal procedures are available on the Office of the Registrar website at oakland.edu/registrar.

Withdrawing from classes may impact the receipt of future financial aid. Students should familiarize themselves with the Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy section of the Policies, Terms, and Conditions.

Students are strongly encouraged to contact the OU Financial Aid Office prior to withdrawing from classes to obtain information on the effects of withdrawing. Many times a withdrawal requires a student to refund Oakland University and/or the federal government a large portion of the financial aid that had been disbursed. Examples of the federal financial aid refund policy are available in the Financial Aid Office.

Example of a return of federal Title IV financial aid funds calculation:

\$2,026 Institutional charges

\$1,000 Federal Subsidized Direct Loan

\$800 Federal Pell Grant

\$1,800 Total Federal Title IV aid disbursed

-\$2,026 Institutional charges

\$226 Institutional charges owed and paid by the student

Student withdrew on 38th day of 107 day enrollment period

$38/107 = 35.5\%$ Percent earned

$100\% - 35.5\% = 64.5\%$ Percent unearned

Amount of Title IV aid unearned = $\$1,800 \times 64.5\% = \$1,161.00$. This aid must be taken away from the student's account.

Adjustment to financial aid on the student account

\$1,000 returned to the Federal Subsidized Direct Loan program by OU

\$ 161 returned to the Federal Pell Grant program by OU

End result of withdrawing

\$1,161 unearned aid that was reversed off of the student account; student owes this amount to OU and will be billed; a hold will be placed on the student record preventing future registration, graduation and transcripts.

3.7 Unusual Circumstances, Budget Adjustments, and Dependency Status Appeals

Extenuating family circumstances, such as long term loss of employment or income, death, separation or divorce, medical and dental expenses not covered by insurance, dependent student relationship with parent(s), and dependent care or disability expenses related to the student's education, can affect a student's financial aid package. If a student would like a review of their financial aid because of extenuating circumstances, the student should contact Financial Services. Changes in the income of a dependent student are not considered for exception.

4. Financial Aid Requirements

4.1 Unsatisfied Requirements

Financial Services may request additional documentation before financial aid can be processed. Common requirement categories include Verification, Diploma, and resolving conflicting information such as Social Security, Selective Service, and Citizenship information. View [instructions for checking requirements status](#) on MySAIL.

4.2 Verification

Some students may be selected for Verification, a process through which the Federal Department of Education requires Oakland University to verify the information on the FAFSA is accurate. This process requires worksheets and tax information be submitted to Financial Services for processing within 21 days of notification. Financial Services recommends students, parents, and spouses use the Data Retrieval Tool on the FAFSA to upload the Federal 1040, 1040A, or 1040EZ Tax Return information from the IRS.

4.3 High School Graduation

A copy of a high school diploma, final academic transcripts, or GED is required to receive financial aid. Most often, this documentation is provided automatically by the student's high school, however, a requirement may be placed on the student's account if Oakland University is

not in receipt of the appropriate documentation. A copy of the student's high school diploma, final academic transcript including graduation date, or GED is due to Financial Services no later than 30 days prior to the start of the first semester the student will attend.

4.4 Conflicting information

Documents necessary to resolve conflicting information is due to Financial Services within 14 days of notification.

5. Enrollment Status

Undergraduate students are encouraged to enroll in sufficient credits to complete degree requirements within four years. The following minimum enrollment requirements determine eligibility for financial aid each semester. A passed course repeated more than once cannot be included in enrollment status and financial aid cannot be received for the course, unless the course is a repeatable course. Audit courses, credit by examination (competency credit), continuing education courses, professional development, and courses not required for the current degree program do not count in enrollment status and do not qualify for financial aid.

Graduate courses taken by Undergraduate students will not be counted in the total enrollment and will not be eligible for financial aid. Undergraduate courses taken by Graduate students will not be counted in the total enrollment and will not be eligible for financial aid.

The enrollment chart is effective for Fall, Winter, and Summer semesters.

Enrollment Status	Undergraduate*	Graduate
Full time	12 or more credits	8 or more credits
Three-quarter time	9 – 11 credits	6-7 credits
Half-time	6 – 8 credits	4-5 credits
Less than half-time**	1 – 5 credits	1-3 credits

*Includes first and second undergraduate degrees, teacher certification, undergraduate and graduate non-degree preparatory course work

** Financial aid is limited or not available to students enrolled less than half-time as most financial aid requires full time or half-time enrollment

6. Financial Aid Payment and Refunds

6.1 Financial Aid Disbursement Policy

Financial aid awards are paid each semester by crediting the student account (excluding non-disbursable financial aid such as work study) up to 10 days before the first date of the semester, provided all financial aid requirements are met, the student is attending all classes for which he or she is registered, and the enrolled number of credits is the same number of credits for which the student is awarded. If financial aid requirements are met after the date financial aid is scheduled to pay, financial aid will disburse within 24-72 hours after the [requirement status](#) reflects as satisfied on MySAIL.

For students enrolled in a combination of part-of-term sessions (i.e. 2 week, 4 week, 7 week, etc.), financial aid awards will not pay until the student is attending all courses for which he or she is enrolled and the [requirement status](#) reflects as satisfied on MySAIL.

Financial aid may be based on the number of registered credits and/or on-campus housing status at the time of disbursement.

Disbursement criteria includes, but may not be limited to:

- Requirement status reflects satisfied on MySAIL
- Student is attending the appropriate number of credits to receive awards on the disbursement date (usually full-time)
- Satisfy financial aid requirements and fulfill on campus housing status requirements (if applicable)
- Complete/sign all applicable entrance counseling and promissory notes (if applicable)
- Enrollment in a qualifying degree program

If the student receives a disbursement from a Federal Direct Loan or Federal PLUS Loan the student may cancel or reduce their loan(s) by submitting a [Revision Form](#) to Financial Services within 30 days of receiving an email notification of disbursement. Loans will be canceled or reduced and the student will be billed for the amount owed to OU. Notifications received after 30 days will not be processed.

6.1.1 Repeated Coursework

A student can receive financial aid for repeating a previously passed course only once, unless it is a repeatable class. Some financial aid applies only to tuition. Repeating a course does not affect aid from the State of Michigan, private educational loans, or other private resources. This is only applicable to undergraduate students and courses required for their degree program.

6.2 Financial Aid Refunds

If financial aid exceeds allowable charges (i.e., tuition, on-campus housing), the student (or parent, if the parent received a PLUS loan) will receive a refund to pay other education related expenses. Refunds are direct deposited or mailed to the student (and/or parent) within 14 days after the date financial aid was disbursed to the student account. If a refund is issued while there are unpaid charges on the account, a hold will be placed on the account to prevent registration, transcripts, diplomas, or other statements of record. If any charges are incurred on the account after financial aid has been refunded, it is the student's responsibility to pay the additional charges.

If financial aid is disbursed and the student receives a refund, then drops a class, withdraws from the university, or drops below eligibility for financial aid before the first date of the semester, financial aid may be canceled or adjusted and the student will be required to return any refunds refunded to the student, as well as balance due to the University. If financial aid is disbursed and the student receives a refund of excess aid beyond the balance due, then registers for additional credits, is billed for new housing and/or meal plan charges, the student must use the refund to pay the additional billed amount by the due date.

6.2.1 Direct Deposit for Financial Aid Refunds

Students are encouraged to enroll in direct deposit for the fastest, most secure way to receive a refund. View instructions to enroll in [direct deposit](#) through MySAIL. Direct deposit is not available for a parent receiving a refund from a parent PLUS loan.

6.2.2 Purchasing Books with a Refund

If the student is planning to purchase books with a financial aid refund, it is important for the student, or parent if the parent received a PLUS loan, to expect the refund only after all financial aid requirements have been met and institutional tuition and on-campus housing charges have been paid. Student submitting documents late need to anticipate adequate time for processing. Oakland University does not use vouchers for purchasing books. Students who do not receive a financial aid refund must be prepared to pay for books out of pocket.

6.3 Financial Aid Course Credit Lock

Financial aid is finalized based on the registered course credits on the last day to drop and/or withdraw from a class with a 100% tuition refund for the full semester for fall and winter semesters, and each session during the summer semester. Course credits added after the course credit lock date for the full semester, are considered for student loans only. If a financial aid disbursement occurred and a class is dropped between the disbursement date and the last date to drop a class with a 100% refund, the financial aid might be reduced. Loans disburse based on the number of registered course credits at the time of disbursement. Students who are considering dropping a class or withdrawing are encouraged to discuss their circumstances with the Financial Services.

6.4 Non-Attendance

Non-attendance does not relieve students of financial responsibility for the courses in which they have enrolled or their housing contract.

7. Billing and Payments

7.1 eBill

Oakland University utilizes eBill, an online billing system which offers students the ability to:

- View current and historical billing statements
- Save most common payment methods
- Sign up parents, spouses, and others as authorized users
- Schedule payment for a date in the future
- Make payments from a checking or savings account, debit card or credit card
- Enroll in a payment plan

7.2 Billing Notifications

Bills for the fall semester are sent in August and due in September. Bills for the winter semester are sent in December and due in January. Bills for the summer semester are sent in April and due in May. View upcoming [due dates](#).

Grants, scholarships and loans are reflected on the electronic bill (eBill) and deducted from any university allowable charges, provided all financial aid requirements are met. Billing notifications are e-mailed to students using their Oakland University e-mail account. Students are responsible for checking their e-mail account for billing notifications. Students must log in to eBill to view their billing statements or pay their bills online. If an eBill is received with an amount due, it is important to pay the bill by the due date. If there is an amount due and financial aid is expected to pay the bill and financial aid is not reflected on the bill, the bill must be paid by the due date. Common reasons why financial aid is not on the bill notification are: did not yet apply for financial aid, recently applied for financial aid, did not complete financial aid requirements, recently submitted financial aid documents. It is important to provide the Financial Aid Office with adequate processing time. A 1 ½% monthly late payment penalty is assessed on any unpaid student account balance.

Students are responsible for charges not paid by their corporate sponsors, employers, or other third parties who may have agreed to pay their tuition and/or other charges. Students are responsible for payment of all tuition and other charges billed to their student account, as published in the [Billing Cycle & Due Date Calendar](#). The University will first apply all payments received to the oldest outstanding balances, if applicable, then to the current semester charges. If a student account balance becomes past due, the University may:

- Assess a 1.5% late payment payment as established by the University in its sole and exclusive discretion;
- Refuse to allow students to register for any future courses, receive other University services and/or receive a degree;
- Refuse to release official transcripts of grades to the student and/or any other person or entity;

- Refer the unpaid student account balance to an outside collection agency and/or charge the student for the actual costs and attorneys' fees incurred by the University in collecting the account balance, report the account to a credit bureau, and/or offset the amount due against any future state tax refunds due the student.

7.3 Payments

Payments can be made electronically through [eBill](#) by students or Authorized Users. Payments can also be made in person at the Cashier's Office located in North Foundation Hall, or by mail to:

Cashier's Office
Oakland University
120 North Foundation Hall
2200 N. Squirrel Rd.
Rochester, MI 48309-4401

If paying by mail, allow 5-6 days for mail delivery. All payments should include the last four digits of the Grizzly ID to insure correct and timely processing. Photo identification will be required if paying in person. Payments made from a business or corporate account will be reflected as an outside resource and counted as a financial aid resource when determining eligibility. Outside resources will be included in the federal 1098T issued at the end of the calendar year.

Students who do not drop or withdraw from their courses by the deadlines, as published in the [Important Dates Calendar](#), are responsible for payment of all tuition and other charges, along with any installment plan charges, late payment penalties, and all costs and attorney's fees incurred by the University to collect or attempt to collect unpaid tuition and/or other charges.

7.4 Third Party Payers

Oakland University accepts vouchers from most employers and other sponsors. Mail or hand-deliver any vouchers by the semester due date. Credit for the voucher will be applied to the student's account before the next bill due date. Vouchers can be sent to:

Cashier's Office
Oakland University
120 North Foundation Hall
2200 North Squirrel Road
Rochester, MI 48309-4401

7.5 Payment Plans

Sign up for the OU Payment Plan each semester and spread tuition, on-campus housing and other charges into smaller payments. Enroll or learn more about [OU Payment Plans](#).

7.6 Late Payment Penalties

Balances left unpaid by the due date will result in a 1.5% monthly late payment penalty charge. Financial aid is unable to pay for a late payment penalty. Any late payment penalties assessed are the responsibility of the student and will not be paid by financial aid.

8. Loans and Educational Benefits

The University may provide, extend, or advance funds, credits, and/or other financial accommodations to students, to be applied towards their tuition and/or charges, with the understanding that students will re-pay those amounts. All such amounts, other than scholarships, fellowships, stipends, and/or tuition waivers, are loans and/or educational benefits which students must repay to the University together with late payment charges as established by the University. In consideration for allowing students to attend classes, students agree to repay the University for those loans and/or educational benefits.

9. Holds and De-registration

In the event of a past due balance, missing address, missing social security number, or other instance, a hold may be placed on a student's account. View a [list of holds](#) and contact information for each type.

Students who are not in good financial standing as determined by the University will be de-registered from future courses. Students will be required to re-enroll for classes based on class availability, if they correct their financial standing by paying the past due balance from the prior semester(s) in full. View [de-registration calendars](#).

10. Satisfactory Academic Progress

Oakland University is committed to providing fair and equal access to resources to meet educational costs for students. To receive federal, state and institutional financial aid at Oakland University, students must meet the financial aid standards of satisfactory academic progress (SAP). To receive federal, state, and institutional financial aid at OU, students must meet the financial aid standards of the Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress policy.

Federal regulations require Financial Services to monitor the academic progress of students at end of each semester. The complete Oakland

University academic record including transfer credits is considered regardless of whether or not financial aid was received each semester. Students who fail to achieve the minimum standards may lose financial aid eligibility.

The SAP standards for financial aid are applicable to but not limited to the following programs: Federal College Work Study, Federal Direct Loans, Federal Pell Grants, Federal Perkins Loans, Federal PLUS Loans, Federal Teach Grant, Michigan Competitive Scholarships, all Oakland University awards. Some scholarships have standards stricter than the financial aid satisfactory academic progress standards. The standards vary for each scholarship and are provided in the scholarship descriptions.

Withdrawn credits count toward credit hours attempted. All repeated credits count in the number of attempted credits. A passed course may be repeated once. A passed course repeated more than once will not be included in enrollment status. A failed course may be repeated until it is passed. Repeated credits are only counted once in the cumulative completed credits.

Ungraded credits, including incompletes and in progress grades, count in the number of attempted credits, but they are not included in the credits completed or in the GPA calculation. Students with ungraded credits will be placed on a financial aid warning status for the following semester, upon evaluation at the end of the current semester. Students can receive financial aid while on a warning status. Students will no longer be eligible to receive financial aid beyond the warning semester if credits remain ungraded upon evaluation at the end of the warning status semester. If a student is already on a financial aid warning status during the semester when ungraded credits occur, the student will be placed on a financial aid ineligible status until the credits are graded and eligibility for financial aid is evaluated.

Students in the Community College Partnership program cannot receive a subsequent financial aid disbursement until any ungraded credits from the partner school are received by OU and evaluated for credit completion.

Eligibility for financial aid will be reviewed but cannot be received retroactively for a prior semester due to completion of ungraded credits.

10.1 Satisfactory Academic Progress Standards

Three criteria must be met to satisfy the standards of satisfactory academic progress:

10.1.1. Students must maintain a cumulative Oakland University grade point average (GPA) of 2.00 at the end of each semester. Students who fail to meet this requirement are placed on warning status and must meet the GPA requirement by the end of the next enrolled semester at OU. Students can receive financial aid while on a warning status. However, students who fail to achieve a 2.00 GPA while on a warning status become ineligible for financial aid the following semester of attendance at OU.

10.1.2. Students must complete a minimum of 67% of cumulative credit hours attempted including transfer credits by the end of each semester. (Second Undergraduate and Teacher Certification students are considered to have attempted 92. Students who fail to meet the credit hour requirement are placed on a financial aid warning status and must meet the credit hour requirement by the end of the next enrolled semester at OU. Students can receive financial aid while on warning status. However, students who fail to complete at least 67% of attempted credit hours while on a warning status become ineligible for financial aid beginning with the next semester of attendance at OU.

10.1.3. Students must complete their academic program by the end of the semester in which 150% of attempted credits including transfer credits is reached.

10.2 Additional Circumstances

10.2.1. Withdrawn credits count toward credit hours attempted.

10.2.2. All repeated credits count in the number of attempted credits. A passed course may be repeated once. A passed course repeated more than once will not be included in enrollment status. A failed course may be repeated until it is passed. Repeated credits are only counted once in the cumulative completed credits..

10.2.3. Ungraded credits including incompletes and in progress grades count in the number of attempted credits, but they are not included in the credits completed or the GPA. When the class is completed, the credits and GPA are considered. Students with ungraded credits cannot receive a subsequent financial aid disbursement until the ungraded credits are completed and the financial aid satisfactory academic progress is evaluated. Financial aid cannot be received retroactively due to completion of ungraded credits.

10.2.4. Audit credits do not influence grade point average. They do not receive credit and are not counted in credits attempted or completed. Audit credits are not eligible for financial aid.

10.2.5 Credits by examination (competency credits) are counted in credits attempted and completed. They do not influence the GPA. Credits by examination do not qualify for financial aid.

10.3 Regaining Eligibility

Students may automatically regain financial aid eligibility by achieving a 2.00 minimum Oakland University GPA and/or successfully completing a minimum of 67% of attempted credit hours including transfer credits at their own expense. Financial aid may be received in the next semester of enrollment when the standards are satisfied. Financial aid cannot be received retroactively for any semester in which

satisfactory academic progress was reestablished.

10.4 Appeal Process

Students may appeal the loss of financial aid eligibility due to a deficient GPA or credit hours if extenuating circumstances exist such as the death of a close relative of the student or an injury or illness of the student. Students must complete a [SAP appeal form](#) and must explain why they failed to meet the Financial Aid SAP standards and what has changed that will allow the student to meet the SAP standards at the next evaluation. Documentation must be included with the appeal to support the circumstances. Appeals must be received by Financial Services before the last day to drop a class with a 100% refund for the semester in which it applies. Appeals received after the deadline date will be processed for the next semester. An email notification of the decision of the appeal will be sent within 7 days of receipt of the appeal or by the deadline date whichever is earlier. Approved appeals are not retroactive to prior semesters. Appeals can be sent to:

Financial Services
120 North Foundation Hall
2200 N. Squirrel Road
Rochester, MI 48309

A Financial Aid Appeals Committee reviews satisfactory academic progress appeals. Students are responsible for providing adequate information and documentation for the committee to consider. Decisions will be made based on the information provided without any subsequent meeting on the part of the committee. Decisions of the committee are final.

11. Scholarship and Grant Renewal

Renewal awards are finalized after grades have been posted for the winter semester. View the [OU Grant and Scholarship Renewal Criteria](#). Students who do not meet scholarship and/or grant renewal criteria and have extenuating circumstances, such as the death of an immediate family member or a serious illness or injury of the student, can request consideration for scholarship and/or grant reinstatement. Students who feel they have extenuating circumstances need to discuss their circumstances with a Financial Services Advisor in person or over the phone.

12. Student Employment

Student employment permits on-campus jobs for undergraduate and graduate degree-seeking students enrolled at OU at least half-time; a few off-campus jobs are also available. Federal Work Study awards are listed on the student's award notifications, if eligible. Additional student employment opportunities are available for students who did not receive a Federal Work Study Award. [Direct deposit](#) is recommended as the fastest, safest method to receive student paychecks. Student employment jobs are posted on [OUCareerLink](#) on MySAIL. Learn more about [student employment and forms](#) required to work at OU.

12.1 Direct Deposit for Payroll

Students employed in on-campus jobs can enroll in direct deposit for their paychecks. Payroll direct deposit is recommended as the fastest, most secure way to receive a paycheck. Enroll and learn more about [Payroll Direct Deposit](#).