

FINANCIAL AID CHECKLIST

- 1. Create a Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID username and password** at either <https://studentaid.gov> OR <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>.
 - **Dependent Student:** A student under the age of 24.
 - A parent must also create a Federal Student Aid (FSA) username and password.
 - **Independent Student:** A student aged 24 or older, and/or has a child, and/or is married, and/or is a ward of the court, and/or is serving active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, and/or if both parents are deceased.
- 2. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** at <https://studentaid.gov>. Tax year is always prior-prior year as per Dept. of Education requirements.
 - Use M State school code **005541** (Fergus Falls, MN).
 - **Dependent Student:** Parent information is required.
 - Fall 2025 through Summer 2026 term-complete 2025-2026 FAFSA and use 2023 tax information.
 - If you need assistance completing the FAFSA, attend a Virtual Student Support session at MState.
 - Log into SpartanNet> Under Virtual Student Support
- 3. Respond to all requests for information from the college.**
 - **All correspondence regarding financial aid is sent electronically (by email).**
 - Check E-Services for your financial aid status (e.g. status letter):
Log into SpartanNet > E-Services > Financial Aid > Aid Application Status.
 - Requests will be sent to your M State student e-mail account:
Log into SpartanNet > Email & Office 365
- 4. Review and Respond to the Award Notification.**
 - Grant funding will automatically apply as payment to your student account.
 - Apply for the Federal Direct Student Loans (if planning to use loans).
COMPLETE STEPS 1-3 to apply loan funds as a payment to student accounts:
 1. Submit Loan Request: Log into SpartanNet > E-Services > Financial Aid > Review & Respond to Award Notifications > Loans > Follow steps to accept and submit.
 2. Complete mandatory Loan Counseling (Entrance) at www.studentaid.gov.
 3. Complete mandatory Master Promissory Note (Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans) at www.studentaid.gov.

Find more information and options for paying for college at www.minnesota.edu/paying.

Ask your questions by visiting Student Services on campus or contacting us by email.

Send your full student name and your M State Student ID number to financialaid@minnesota.edu

PAYING FOR COLLEGE

My financial plan for how to pay my student bill includes (check all that apply):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cash/Check/Credit Card | <input type="checkbox"/> Payment plan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grants (FAFSA/financial aid) | <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Loans (FAFSA/financial aid) | <input type="checkbox"/> Work-study (financial aid) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Military benefits | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outside agency funding | |

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I find my student bill?

1. Go to www.minnesota.edu.
2. Click on SpartanNet (top-right on page).
3. Log in using your Star ID and Star ID password.
4. Click on E-Services (top-left on page).
5. Click on Bills & Payment (menu on left).
6. Select Account Detail (menu on left).

How do I find my financial aid award letter?

1. Go to www.minnesota.edu.
2. Click on **SpartanNet** (top-right on page).
3. Log in using your Star ID and Star ID password.
4. Click on **E-Services** (left on page).
5. Click on **Financial Aid** (menu on left).
6. Select **Awards** (menu on left).
7. Click on **Awards by Credit Level** as an alternative way to review by enrolled active credits.

How do I apply for campus work-study positions?

1. Apply for financial aid by submitting the FAFSA.
2. Check your financial aid status and award letter through your SpartanNet account.
3. Review work-study positions and complete application at www.minnesota.edu/work-study/.
4. Meet with the Financial Aid Office to determine your eligibility.
5. If eligible, continue with the next steps of the [Work Study Checklist](#).

How do apply for MState scholarships?

1. Once admitted to M State, go to www.minnesota.edu/scholarships.
2. Click on the scholarship link for the MState college you are attending.
3. Click on **Apply Here**.

(Note: applications are open December 15, 2023 – July 14, 2024 for Academic Year 2024 scholarships)

How do I access my student email?

1. Go to www.minnesota.edu.
2. Click on **Email & Office 365** (menu on left).
3. Log in using your StarID@go.minnstate.edu
4. Enter your StarID password.