Financial Aid for the Physician Assistant Program
Overview

• Cost of Attendance (aka: the student budget)
• Duke’s Financial Aid Package
• Types of Financial Aid
• How to apply for Financial Aid
Cost of Attendance for 2020-2021

- Tuition & Required Fees: $53,499
- Living Expenses: $23,210
  - $2,110 / monthly
    - $1,156 – housing (includes utilities)
    - $370 – board
    - $400 – miscellaneous
    - $184 - transportation
- Books: $1,997
- Loan fees: $2,772

1st year total COA: $81,478
Duke Financial Aid Package

- Federal Education Student Loans
  - (via Direct Lending)

Unsubsidized Stafford Loan
Grad PLUS Loan

Aggregate loan limit of Subsidized/Unsubsidized Stafford Loans for Graduate & Professional students: $138,500.00. Of this aggregate limit, $65,500.00 may be in Subsidized Stafford Loan. GradPlus loans are not applicable to the noted aggregate limit.
Federal Direct Student Loans cont’d

- **Unsubsidized Stafford Loan**
  - 4.30% fixed interest rate for loans disbursed July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021. Interest accrues while in school. Interest rates for loans to be disbursed after July 1, 2021 not yet available as tied to 10 year Treasury Note.
  - interest rate cannot exceed 9.50%
  - 1.057% loan origination fee (after 10/01/20)

Maximum award per academic year - $20,500.00
Federal Direct Student Loans cont’d

• Grad PLUS Loan
  – **5.30%** fixed interest rate for loans disbursed July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021. Interest accrues while in school. Interest rates for loans to be disbursed after July 1, 2021 not yet available as tied to 10 year Treasury Note.
  – interest rate cannot exceed **10.50%**
  – **4.229%** loan origination fee (after 10/01/20)

Maximum award per academic year – **up to total cost of attendance (remainder of student budget) less any other resources**
Scholarships

- National Health Service Corps
  - Pays tuition and required fees directly to school
  - Pays monthly living stipend directly to student (stipend is taxable)
  - Service commitment is required
    - minimum of 2 years / full-time
Scholarships

• Duke PA Program Hamilton-Carter Scholarship

This tuition scholarship award honors two former PA program directors who helped steer the mission, direction, and growth of the program. The PA program will award $10,000 tuition scholarships to 15 incoming students who demonstrate the potential to fulfill the mission of the program.

- To apply, applicants will submit a 1,000 word essay which highlights how their background and aspirations directly relate to the mission of the Duke PA Program
- Application Deadline: April 1, 2021
- Award Decisions: June 1, 2021
- Additional information regarding the scholarship will be provided to those applicants who are offered admission into the class of 2023
- Award notification directly to student and Office of Financial Aid by program
- Scholarship funding replaces loan funding in financial aid package
State Loan Program

- Forgivable Education Loan for Service (available to NC residents only)
  - Administered through College Foundation of North Carolina, separate application by student at https://www.cfnc.org/fels
  - Maximum award of $10,000.00 per academic year (applied to fall/spring terms only)
  - Funding dependent on appropriation from NC Legislature
  - Service commitment in NC is required – 1 year of service for each year of loan
Other loans

- **Alternative Loans (private loans)**
  - most require school certification
  - variable and fixed interest rates
  - stringent credit check
  - typically not available for federal loan consolidation or federal loan forgiveness programs
Other funding sources

- Veterans Benefits – Yellow Ribbon Program
- Armed Forces Scholarship
- Civic Organizations
- Health Care Organizations
- School affiliations
- Professional Organizations
- Home state affiliations
Applying for Financial Aid

- Complete the 2021-2022 FAFSA using 2019 federal tax information
  Free Application for Federal Student Aid, https://studentaid.gov/
- IRS data retrieval tool recommended
- Parent information not required
- Duke University / School of Medicine Code 002920

Upon receipt of your SAR (Student Aid Report) review for any messages that may require further action on your part.
To – Do List

• Send in your documentation no later than April 15, 2021

• Check your credit report!
  – Students who borrow Grad PLUS loan will undergo a credit check by Direct Lending – check is valid for 180 days
  – Must not have adverse credit history or a co-endorser may be required
  – Source for free credit reports https://www.annualcreditreport.com/index.action
Adverse Credit per the Department of Education

- Bankruptcy (Chapters 7, 11 or 12 within past 5 years)
- Voluntary surrender within past 5 years
- Repossession within past 5 years
- Foreclosure proceedings started
- Foreclosure within past 5 years
- Deed in lieu of foreclosure
- Accounts totaling $2085.00 and currently 90 day or more delinquent at time of credit check
  - Unpaid collection accounts
  - Charge offs / write offs
- Wage garnishment within past 5 years
- Defaulted loan that has been claim paid
- Lease or contract terminated by default
- County/State/Federal tax lien within past 5 years
Financial Aid Timeline

- **April 15** – Due Date for Financial Aid Application
- **May 30** – Financial aid awards should be available
- **June** - access to on-line acceptance of aid open to matriculated students *(early June)*
- **July** - loan entrance counseling and Master Promissory Note completion deadline *(early July)*
  
  Sign up for direct deposit with the Office of the Bursar via link on DukeHub
- **August** - financial aid disburses to student account 10 days prior to classes beginning
- **August** - refunds issued to students for living expenses *(first week of classes)*
Applying for loans

- All federal educations loans offered through Direct Lending
  - https://studentaid.gov/
  - Apply for loans
  - E-sign Master Promissory Notes
  - Complete Mandatory Entrance Counseling
    - Stafford/Grad Plus
Federal Loan Facts Review

- **Stafford Unsubsidized Loan**
  - 4.30% fixed interest rate (for 2020-2021)

- **GradPLUS Loan**
  - 5.30% fixed interest rate (for 2020-2021)
  - 6 month grace period on both loans
  - Repayment lengths based on payment plan selected
Loan facts cont’d

• Fulfill service commitment for any loan and/or scholarship provided

• Select repayment plan suitable for you
  - https://studentaid.gov/

Keep track of your federal education loan debt
  - https://studentaid.gov/

• Keep loan servicer informed of any changes to your name, address, telephone numbers or Social Security number
Details to consider

• Arrive with at least 1 month of living expense on hand. 2 months is even better.

• Cost of Attendance **may not be increased** to cover expenses for spouse and/or dependents.

• Disbursement of loan refunds will not take place until 1st day of classes.

• Arrive with reliable transportation. **Loans may not be used to purchase a vehicle.**

• Pay down consumer / credit card debt. High debt may impact ability to obtain GradPLUS loan funding. **Consumer debt is not considered part of the cost of attendance.**
Office of Financial Aid staff

Lori Crooks – Assistant Dean Financial Aid & Registrar

Lisa Wioskowski–Associate Director of Financial Aid

Mitsi Norton – Financial Aid Counselor

Natalie Pitts – Staff Specialist FA and Registrar
Contact Information

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