

Dear Student:

Many of you have already started the loan process, and some of you will not be interested in taking out loans, but I wanted to be sure that everyone who needs this information has it.

First, and most important, I am not a loan counselor, and loans are not determined by the Admissions Office, by the Dean of Students Office, or by your academic department. I am happy to answer general questions, but you should be directing specific inquiries to the Student Loan Administration: <https://sla.uchicago.edu/>.

If you have not already done so, please carefully read the Guide to Student Loans at: <https://sla.uchicago.edu/finaid/0910/guide0910.html>. I will not try to explain everything that is in that document.

I do want to draw your attention to two things you should do *immediately* if you are interested in student loans:

1. Complete the 2009-2010 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>. The University of Chicago FAFSA code is E00377.
2. Complete the SLA Graduate Loan and Work-Study Application at: <https://sla.uchicago.edu/finaid/0910/appinfo0910.pdf>.

Please note that the *priority* deadline for these applications is **MAY 15**. They will accept applications after that date as well, but it may take longer for them to send you information about your loan package.

When Student Loan Administration has received both the *Student Aid Report* from the federal processing agency (SLA will receive a copy electronically) and your completed *University of Chicago Application for Loans & Federal Work-Study* form and *Stafford MPN* (if you are applying for a Stafford loan), it will join them together and proceed with the review. On the basis of the review, the Student Loan Administration staff will determine whether you are eligible to borrow and, if so, how much you may borrow.

When Student Loan Administration has completed its review, an award letter will be mailed to you. If Student Loan Administration is unable to complete its review because of missing documents or information, it will notify you of that also. If you complete your applications by May 15, you should receive an award letter in mid-June.

A note about work-study: Work-study funding may be a part of your loan package. If you receive work-study funding, you will be eligible to apply for work-study jobs (<https://studentemployment.uchicago.edu/>), and the money you earn in that program will not need to be repaid. It is your responsibility to find a work-study job, if work-study is part of your program. In addition to the student employment website, your academic department may have suggestions about jobs that are available to students.

Please let me know if anything is unclear or if you have questions.

Best,
Kelly