

2007 Spring Orientation



School of International and Public Affairs



Financial Aid Presentation

Completed Prior to Orientation:

- Submitted FAFSA (6)
 - Received and Reviewed Student Aid Report (SAR) from DOE
 - E-sign SAR if incomplete or in error
- Received Award Letter (3)
 - Emailed
 - Hard Copy
 - Online at SSOL (UNI)
- Cost of Attendance (3)
 - Maximum amount of aid a student a can receive
 - All costs related to educational attendance (Tuition, Room, Board, etc.)
- Applied for Award (3)
 - Federal Stafford Loans
 - Submitted Master Promissory Note on-line to Lender
 - Submitted Request Form to SIPA
 - Submitted the Entrance Interview
 - Perkins (if eligible – based on need and fund availability) (4)
 - Submitted Paper Master Promissory Note to Columbia University
 - Graduate PLUS Loan or Private Loan (4)
 - Submitted Master Promissory Note on-line to Lender

Completed during Orientation and going forward:

- Aid Confirmation (6)
 - Complete registration (at least 12 credits)
 - Check Student Services Online approximately 4 business days after registration is complete to confirm aid
 - Private loans are confirmed by an email from CU Cashiering Division
 - Visit cashier's office to endorse check (Kent 210)
- Apply for a Refund (Student Services Online-SSOL at (<https://ssol.columbia.edu/>) (6)
 - Set-Up Direct Deposit at Student Services Online
 - Direct deposit will occur 5 business days after request
 - Apply for a Refund at Student Services Online
 - Funds will be available for refunds request by the end of the 1st week of classes around 01/19/2007 (if you completed all previous steps around 6 to 8 weeks prior to the first day of classes).
 - Checks mailed 10 business days after request
- Look for Work Study Position (if eligible for WS) – (4)
 - On-line
 - Or with employer of your interest
- Attend to & Apply for the SIPA Continuing Students Fellowship Session (4)
 - End of January 2007- Info-Session
 - Beginning of March 2007 – Deadline
- Continue Research for External Fellowships (5)
- Submit FAFSA for Next Academic year (2007-2008) (6)
 - Available Early January – based on 2006 taxes

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
 IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
 OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS AND FINANCIAL AID

* Congratulations and Welcome to SIPA!

* The Cost of Attendance is an estimate reached by adding SIPA tuition and fees to an estimate of the cost of books, room and board, and personal expenses.

----- COST OF ATTENDANCE (Full Time MIA / MPA Academic Year 2006-2007)-----

	Fall 2006	Spring 2007	Total
Tuition & Fees	18,186	18,481	36,667
Other Fees			
International Student Fee	50	50	100
Transcript Fee	75	0	75
Total Other Fees	125	50	175
Room/Board	8,510	10,450	18,960
COST OF ATTENDANCE	26,821	28,981	55,802

*The Student Contribution is based on the FAFSA data.

*Your Awards are the maximum Federal aid amounts you are eligible for. You may accept or decline as much of each award as you feel necessary to complete your educational financing plan, or, in some cases, change the mix of the award. It is important to realize that this award is subject to revision in the event that new information, such as enrollment, 6 credits or more to be eligible, scholarship awards or Federal Verification corrections, is received.

----- TYPICAL AWARDS -----		2006-2007
Federal Stafford Loans	Up to	18,500
Fed. Work Study Program	Up to	4,000
Fed. Subsidized Perkins Loan	Up to	6,000
Graduate PLUS Loan	Up to	See Below (4)

FEDERAL STAFFORD LOANS - Students offered Federal Stafford Loans may borrow up to the amount indicated on this award letter for the academic year. Unlike the subsidized loan, the U.S. Department of Education does not subsidize interest charges on the unsubsidized loan during periods of enrollment or deferment. If awarded both types of loans, both may be requested on the same form. To receive Stafford Loan funds, students must submit the Federal Stafford Loan Request form, e-sign the Master Promissory Note at the lender's web site and complete the Stafford Loan Entrance Interview online. These steps must be completed six weeks in advance before any federal loans can be disbursed. Students who have previously borrowed from the Stafford Loan program may use the same lender.

Federal Stafford Request Form

http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/financial_aid/forms/Federal_Stafford_Request_Form.pdf

Federal Stafford Master Promissory Note

http://www.salliemae.com/get_student_loan/find_student_loan/grad/business/mba_stafford/

Stafford Loan Entrance Interview

http://www.columbia.edu/cu/sfs/docs/Financial_Aid/Entrance_and_Exit_Interviews.html#N1001F

FEDERAL PERKINS LOAN - Federal Perkins Loans are low interest subsidized loans sponsored by the Federal government and administered by the university. If you are eligible, this fund will be included on your award letter. Qualified students must complete and sign a Master Promissory Note. Notes for continuing students are available from Student Financial Services, 210 Kent Hall. New students will be able to sign their promissory notes during orientation, by visiting Student Financial Services, or downloading the form and mailing it to the address provided on the form:

http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/financial_aid/forms/Federal_Perkins_Loan_Master_Promissory_Note.pdf

Any difference between the amount of the estimated cost of attending Columbia for a year and the federal financial aid and/or scholarship you have been awarded, can be met with a variety of funding sources. See below for information regarding federal or private loans and payment plans:

FEDERAL GRADUATE PLUS LOAN - Graduate PLUS loans are federally sponsored loans for students attending graduate school. With a Graduate PLUS loan, you may borrow up to the full cost of your education, less other financial aid received including Federal Stafford loans. To receive Federal Graduate PLUS Loan funds, students must submit and e-sign a Master Promissory Note at the lender's web site. You may access the PLUS Promissory note here:

http://www.salliemae.com/get_student_loan/find_student_loan/grad/grad_student_loans/grad_plus/

PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL FUNDING - SIPA has negotiated some private loans that are available to our students through Sallie Mae. This is a credit-based loan program. Credit worthiness is assessed by the lender. Sallie Mae allows 10 to 15 years for repayment of loans. You can also provide a credit-worthy U.S. citizen or resident as cosigner. However, we urge students to explore the many lenders available as interest rates and origination fees are often determined by the individual lenders and their review process. The credit worthiness of the borrower and/or cosigner is an integral part of this process. Columbia University-SIPA Sallie Mae Private Loan:

http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/financial_aid/forms/MBALOANS_Domestic_Application.pdf

NOTE: All loans must be certified online by the school, and loans are disbursed to the school in the form of Paper checks that will need to be endorsed.

PAYMENT PLAN - TuitionPay plan is the interest-free, debt-free way to spread tuition payments over a number of months. The TuitionPay Plan is not a loan, so there are no interest payments, only a low annual enrollment fee. The Plan allows you to break down your education expenses into easy-to-manage installments, rather than one lump-sum payment. It's simple and convenient. To get started, just visit <https://secure.tuitionpayenroll.com/enroll/index.jsp>, click "Enroll Now" and in a few easy steps your enrollment will be complete.

FEDERAL WORK-STUDY Program is a federally funded program for students who qualify for the program through their financial aid package. Students who have been awarded Federal Work-Study as part of the Financial Aid package can find positions in most administrative and academic departments on the ColumbiaTrak work-study listings:

http://www.cce.columbia.edu/students/find_a_job/

SIPA CONTINUING STUDENT FELLOWSHIPS - All continuing students, regardless of citizenship, are eligible for SIPA fellowships. More than half of second year students receive fellowship funding. Applications are due by Friday, March 2. The average award is \$18,000. An application for MIA/MPA fellowships can be obtained from Student Affairs Office, sixth floor, IAB or online at:

http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/student_affairs/fellowship_application.html

OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDING - Although SIPA does offer fellowships, the cost of attendance is significant so students should plan carefully. Very few SIPA awards cover full tuition so students are encouraged to seek other sources of funding. Many SIPA students are successful at securing external fellowship support. Many of these scholarships are described in the SIPA Directory of Fellowship Opportunities. If you are awarded an external fellowship it is your responsibility to notify the SIPA financial aid office in writing. The Director is accessible via this link:

http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/financial_aid/external_grants.pdf

Other avenues of financial assistance for both domestic and international students can be found by doing some financial aid "homework." Admitted students may want to research scholarship and fellowship opportunities distributed by former schools attended or former employers. Networking is also a good way conduct research for funding.

It is advisable not to limit your search to the school or type of program that you are pursuing. You should conduct a broad search related to factors such as your background, interest, gender, hobbies, etc. In addition, organizations to which you belong sometimes give partial funds to members seeking educational funding assistance. Persistence pays so be consistent in your search. It is advisable that you set aside a specific time either weekly or biweekly to search for funding opportunities.

BILLING - In order to view your tuition bill online, please go to <https://ssol.columbia.edu/> and sign in using your UNI. Once you have signed in, you will have access to a menu of options that includes a link to your bill.

If you are unsuccessful in viewing your tuition bill online, or if you have any questions, please call the Registrar's office at (212) 854-4206 or email billing issues to sfs@columbia.edu.

Remember that all students are initially billed as though they are enrolled full time, but should make payment according to their actual term status. This initial bill is based on anticipated full time enrollment per semester but will later be changed to reflect your actual registration. Therefore, you only need to make payments based on your registration.

THIRD PARTY BILLING

Sponsored students are those whose educations at Columbia University are funded directly by a third party, called a sponsor. Examples of sponsors are an employer, educational institution, government agency, foundation, grant, or other institutional source.

For sponsors that require Columbia to send an invoice for educational costs directly to them, the process is handled by the Third Party Billing staff in Student Financial Services.

<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/sfs/pdfs/Third-Party-Billing-Agreement.pdf>

Financial Aid Checklist

To see your account, schedules, records, financial aid, received documents and more go to Student Services Online (<https://ssol.columbia.edu/>)

Have you

1) Completed the FAFSA and received your SAR?

You may complete your FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Please use the SIPA school code, E00128, to ensure that SIPA receives your data. Once your FAFSA is completed, it will take approximately 6-8 weeks until the school receives the results. Then within two weeks, you will then receive a Financial Aid Award Letter Packet.

2) Applied for the Federal Stafford Loan Loans?

You must submit the Federal Stafford Loan Request form, e-sign the Master Promissory Note at the lender's web site and complete the Stafford Loan Entrance Interview online. These steps must be completed six weeks in advance before any federal loans can be disbursed.

2.1) Federal Stafford Request Form (Fill-able pdf which could be faxed or emailed)

http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/financial_aid/forms/Federal_Stafford_Request_Form.pdf

2.2) Federal Stafford Master Promissory Note (School Code: 002707-07)

http://www.salliemae.com/get_student_loan/find_student_loan/grad/business/mba_stafford/

2.3) Stafford Loan Entrance Interview

http://www.columbia.edu/cu/sfs/docs/Financial_Aid/Entrance_and_Exit_Interviews.html#N1001F

3) Applied for a Federal Perkins loan?

If you are eligible, this fund will be included on your award letter. Qualified students must complete and sign a Master Promissory Note. This note could be completed by downloading the form and mailing it to the address provided on the form: sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/financial_aid/forms/Federal_Perkins_Loan_Master_Promissory_Note.pdf

4) Applied for an alternative loan to cover the difference?

If you are planning on covering the difference in awarded federal aid and the cost of attendance with a PLUS loan or a private loan, please visit: http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/financial_aid.html

For a Graduate PLUS Loan:

http://www.salliemae.com/get_student_loan/find_student_loan/grad/grad_student_loans/grad_plus

5) Applied for your refund?

If all of your charges have been paid, and your student account has a credit balance, you may be entitled to a refund. Refunds are not issued on any anticipated credits for financial aid, scholarships, or the payment plan, only on actual credits. If you incur any charges after receiving a refund, you are responsible for paying those charges. Refunds are issued by direct deposit into your U.S. checking or savings account within 5 business days or by mailing a check within 10 business days. The check will be mailed to your local address listed in SSOL.

Please note: The option to request a refund will NOT appear if there is not an actual credit on the account. You will only be able to request a refund online if there is an actual credit (not an anticipated one) on your student account.

5.1) Set-up direct deposit https://ssol.columbia.edu/?tran%5b1%5d_tran_name=sadd

5.2) Endorse your private loan check: Once your private loan has been received by the cashiers department, the cashiering office will notify you that a private loan check needs to be endorsed. The Cashiering Office is located at 210 Kent Hall.

5.3) Apply for a refund on Student Services Online (SSOL) <http://ssol.columbia.edu/>

For an electronic version of this document go to: http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/financial_aid/forms_online.html