



# Understanding Financial Aid & Billing

*A Guide for Pacer Parents and Supporters*

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# Welcome!

## *What we'll cover:*

- ★ Understand types of financial aid and how aid is processed
- ★ Learn how billing and payments work
- ★ Important deadlines and dates
- ★ Parent/supporter resources to best guide your Pacer!
  - <https://www.marywood.edu/parents/current/>



# Filing the Free Application for Student Financial Aid (FAFSA)

- ★ Filing the FAFSA is the 1st step in the financial aid process!
  - Both your student and at least one (1) parent need to have their own accounts on [studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov).
  - The FAFSA needs to be filed every year!
- ★ You do not typically need to have your taxes on hand when you file, and the FAFSA will always use prior prior year tax information.
  - Ex. The 2025-26 FAFSA uses your 2023 tax information on file with the IRS
- ★ Your student's FAFSA (both the student and parent sections) should be filed before May 1st annually, especially if you are a PA State resident!
  - Your student could miss out on up to \$5,750 in state grants!



# Understanding a Financial Aid Offer

- ★ Institutional Scholarships and Grants
  - For undergraduate studies only, rollover year to year
  - Need-based grants are awarded based on FAFSA data each year and student's chosen housing status
- ★ Federal and State Grants
  - Federal Pell Grant, Federal SEOG, PA State Grant
  - Each program has established maximums based on FAFSA data
  - Must have FAFSA submitted before May 1 for PA State Grant!
- ★ Federal Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans
  - Annual limit for first-time freshman = \$5,500 total
  - Increases annually by \$1,000/yr
  - Subsidized (no interest), Unsubsidized (interest accrues from disbursement)
- ★ Federal Work Study
  - Based on FAFSA data, student must apply for an open position
  - Earnings are paid to student directly, NOT to tuition bill




# Loan Borrowing and Processing


- ★ **Parent PLUS Loans or Private Loans**
  - PLUS Loan: Parent(s) may borrow these loans to assist students with paying their bill \*typically\* AFTER their subsidized/unsubsidized loans are already applied. Parent must re-apply on FAFSA website each school year.
  - Private Loan: The parent or the student (with parent as cosigner) may borrow instead of PLUS loan.
  - With either option, it is highly recommended that you request enough funds to cover your student's entire year of tuition (August 2025 to May 2026) to avoid additional credit checks when re-applying.
  - All funding comes directly to school from the lender.
  - If denied Parent PLUS, you have to option to get an endorser OR allow student to borrow additional \$4,000/yr in an unsubsidized loan.
  - May borrow extra for educational expenses such as books/supplies/gas/etc.
  
- ★ **Master Promissory Note (MPN)**
  - REQUIRED for your Parent PLUS Loan to process, one-time only.



# To-Do's in Marywood Portal

***\*Student should review financial aid checklist in the portal for any outstanding items or requests, as well as accept or decline their federal loans (student or parent loans).\****

 Your Financial Aid Package is now ready!  
Your financial aid award package is now ready for your review and acceptance.  
[Review and accept your Financial Aid Award Package](#)

 Student Finance Account Summary

Amount Due	\$6,651.00
Amount Overdue	\$0.00
<b>Total Amount Due</b>	<b>\$6,651.00</b>

[Go to Account Summary](#)

Checklist		Resources
✓ Completed	Submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)	Form Links
✓ Completed	Complete required documents	<a href="#">Marywood Forms Page</a>
✓ Completed	Your application is being reviewed by the Financial Aid Office	Helpful Links
⚠ Action Needed	<a href="#">Review and accept your Financial Aid Award Package</a>	<a href="#">Electronic FAFSA</a>
⚠ Action Needed	<a href="#">Complete Direct Loan Entrance Counseling</a>	<a href="#">Private Education Loans</a>
⚠ Action Needed	<a href="#">Sign a Direct Loan Master Promissory Note</a>	<a href="#">Master Promissory Note</a>
Pell Lifetime Eligibility Used		<a href="#">PLUS Loan Application</a>
Pell Lifetime Eligibility Used	0.0000%	<a href="#">Entrance Counseling</a>
Financial Aid Counselor		<a href="#">PA State Grant Information</a>
Office of Financial Aid	<a href="tel:570-348-6225">570-348-6225</a>	<a href="#">PA State Grant Login</a>
	<a href="#">Contact Financial Aid Office</a>	<a href="#">GI Bill</a>
		<a href="#">Act 69 Information</a>



# Bridging the Gap - Alternative Payments

## ★ Parent PLUS Loans

- Apply on [studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov), logged in with your FSA account.
- Request for full academic year, “maximum” or a specific \$ amount
- Options if denied

## ★ Private Loans

- Look for lenders on [elmselect.com](https://elmselect.com)
- If student is borrowing, they will likely need you as a cosigner
- Request for full academic year

## ★ Outside Scholarships

- Checks should be made payable to “Marywood University” and mailed to the attention of Student Accounts



# FERPA, GLBA and Record Release

- ★ FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)
  - The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) is a federal law which requires that an educational institution maintain a policy of confidentiality in regard to students' educational records.
  - FERPA Release in MarywoodYou portal - Student must complete.
  
- ★ GLBA (Gramm Leach-Bliley Act) of 1999 is a federal law which requires compliance with protection of student financial information such as banking information, credit card numbers, names, addresses, balances, etc.
  
- ★ Student Records Release and FERPA - Student must complete this to authorize the release of student account financial information.



# MarywoodYou Portal - Student Finance

Marywood UNIVERSITY

dsedlak

**Don't forget to sign your Student Financial Responsibility Agreement!**

Hello, Welcome to Colleague Self-Service!  
Choose a category to get started.

- Student Finance**  
Here you can view your latest statement and make a payment online.
- Tax Information  
Here you can change your consent for e-delivery of tax information.
- Student Planning  
Here you can search for courses, plan your terms, and schedule & register your course sections.
- Grades  
Here you can view your grades by term.
- Financial Management

- Financial Aid  
Here you can access
- Employee  
Here you can view your... and leave balances.
- Course Catalog  
Here you can view all
- Graduation Overview  
Here you can view all
- Student Finance Admin

User Profile

Emergency Information

View/Add Proxy Access

Change Proxy User

Student Records Release

Account Preferences

Student Financial Responsibility Agreement

FERPA Release

Add Pacer Points

Faculty Book Ordering

How to register for classes

ACT 69 Information

Middle States Evidence Inventory



# What's on your bill?

## Marywood Charges:

- ★ Tuition
- ★ General Fee
- ★ Housing (if applicable)
- ★ Meal Plan (if applicable)
- ★ Course Fees
- ★ Health Insurance\*

## \*Health Insurance

- ★ Mandatory charge for students without pre-existing coverage
- ★ Provides 12 months of coverage
- ★ Waiver if student provides proof of existing coverage due by Sept. 15th accessible via Student Health Services webpage
- ★ Webpage to waive:  
<https://studentcenter.uhcsr.com/school-page>



# Student Finance - Account Activity & Make a Payment

## Marywood Portal

UNIVERSITY

[Financial Information](#) · [Student Finance](#) · Account Summary

### Account Summary

View a summary of your account

### Account Overview

Amount Due 8/25/2025	\$9,298.00	
<hr/>		
<span>Daily Work</span> Overdue	\$529.00	
= Total Amount Due	\$9,827.00	<a href="#">Make a Payment</a>
<hr/>		
Total Account Balance	\$9,827.00	<a href="#">Account Activity</a>
<a href="#">Fall 2025</a>	\$9,298.00	
<a href="#">Summer I 2025</a>	\$85.00	
<a href="#">Spring 2025</a>	\$444.00	
<a href="#">Fall 2024</a>	\$0.00	



# Payment Center - Authorized Users

A screenshot of the Student Account Center website interface. The top navigation bar is green with white text for "My Account", "My Profile", "Make Payment", "Payment Plans", "Deposits", "Refunds", and "Help". The main content area is divided into several sections. On the left is an "Announcement" box with a welcome message and a list of links. In the center is a "Student Account" summary box showing a balance of \$9,827.00 and buttons for "View Activity", "Enroll in Payment Plan", and "Make Payment". On the right is a "Tuition Protection Purchase" section with a call to action button. Below that is a "My Profile Setup" section with a red circle around the "Authorized Users" option.

My Account ▾ My Profile ▾ Make Payment Payment Plans Deposits Refunds Help ▾

### Announcement

**Welcome to your Student Account Center!**  
Here you can view your College bills and recent account activity as well as make payments and store payment profiles. In addition, you can set up your parents or guardians to access your bills and make payments on your account. Please note: When making a payment or setting up a payment plan, you cannot use a TAP, 529, or line of credit account. These payment attempts will be returned and you will be assessed a \$25 service charge.

Visit the **Student Accounts** website for information regarding:

- College costs
- Fee descriptions
- Refund policies
- Payment and Collection policies

[International Students - Important Message:](#)  
Now you can make your International

To sign up for direct deposit of your refunds, complete your setup in the [Refund Account Setup](#) page.

### Student Account

ID: 0207055

**Balance** **\$9,827.00**

[View Activity](#) [Enroll in Payment Plan](#) [Make Payment](#)

### Tuition Protection Purchase

**You still have time to add tuition protection!**  
Get reimbursed for non-refundable tuition and on/off-campus housing expenses, receive protection for other school expenses and more.

Tuition Protection is available to purchase for **Fall 2025 Semester.**

[Add Tuition Protection Now](#)

Contact GradGuard at **877-794-6603.**

### My Profile Setup

- [Authorized Users](#)
- [Personal Profile](#)
- [Payment Profile](#)



# Payments and Payment Plan

- ★ Payments can be made via Marywood Portal (Student Finance) or by check
  - 2.95% service fee for each credit card payment (this fee is NOT associated with Marywood University)
  
- ★ Payment plans are 4 months long each semester
  - Fall Semester (August - November)
  - Spring Semester (January - April)
  - There is a \$40 setup fee each semester

***Fall payments or payment plan setup due by August 12th!***

***Reference the “7 Things You Need to Know” document in the digital shared resources folder for setup instructions!***



# Refunds

- ★ Occurs when payments/financial aid creates a negative (-) balance on account
- ★ Can be used for a laptop, books, supplies, gas, some personal expenses
- ★ Available refunds may be requested via [Refund Request Form](#), or kept on the account to pay for future charges. The Refund Request Form is under the Forms page on [marywood.edu](http://marywood.edu), under Student Accounts.
- ★ eRefund
  - Direct deposit to student's bank account
  - Parent PLUS Loan funds can go to either to student or parent's account
- ★ Request loan adjustments sooner rather than later!

# Tips for Parents and Supporters

## ★ Help student keep track of deadlines

- Knowing the financial aid and billing deadlines is crucial to avoiding expensive mistakes with bill due dates, adding/dropping classes, doing the FAFSA on time, etc.

## ★ Review renewal criteria with your student

- Each type of financial aid has its own criteria for renewal each year. Knowing ahead of time helps your student plan for the following school year. Information can be found on our webpage:  
<https://www.marywood.edu/affordability/types-of-aid/>

## ★ Communicate with Financial Aid/Student Accounts Offices early and often

- The earlier you come to us with questions or concerns, the more time we have to review and get your student's account squared away!



# Contact Information



Schedule an  
appointment  
to chat!



Office of Financial Aid  
[finaid@marywood.edu](mailto:finaid@marywood.edu)

570-348-6225

Liberal Arts Center, Room 85

Monday - Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm

Office of Student Accounts  
[studentaccounts@marywood.edu](mailto:studentaccounts@marywood.edu)

570-348-6212

Liberal Arts Center, Room 87

Monday - Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm