

Award Year 2018-2019 Updated November 13, 2018

### **Contact Us**

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You can also stop by the office, which is located on the first floor of Seay Building on the Hackettstown campus. Our office hours are 88:30-6:00 PM Monday through Thursday and 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM on Friday. Our office closes Friday from 10-11:30 each week for a staff meeting.

Counselors are available for in-person or phone inquiries during regular business hours.

### **Financial Aid Staff**

Evelynne Blatt, Director of Financial Aid Melanye Nunez, Financial Aid Counselor Anisha Saini, Financial Aid Counselor

At Centenary University, we believe diversity contributes to open discussion and engagement with ideas and issues. We encourage all students, regardless of their histories, identities or viewpoints, to apply for admission.

The University does not discriminate on the basis of citizenship status, race, creed, color, religion, handicap/disability, veteran status, gender, age, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, genetic information, ethnic or national origin in the recruitment and admission of students.

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### Letter from the Director

Dear Students and Families,

Welcome to the Centenary University Office of Financial Aid!

This guide has been prepared to give you detailed information about the University's financial aid policies and procedures for the 2018-2019 academic year. Our team is available to support you throughout the financial aid process and serve as a resource.

At Centenary, we view the financing of higher education as a partnership between the family, the state and federal governments, and the institution. The primary goal of the Financial Aid Office is to help students access the financial aid opportunities available to them.

Recognizing that each family brings a unique set of circumstances, our dedicated staff strive to provide individualized service to help navigate the financial aid process with confidence. While we try to meet as much financial need as possible, funding is limited. In order to take full advantage of the aid programs available and to receive maximum consideration of your funding needs, important timelines and procedures should be followed.

In addition to our office, the University offers discounts and several payment options for families. These options are coordinated by Centenary's Student Accounts Office. Their staff is available to provide guidance in navigating student account information regarding tuition and fees, payment due dates, accessing your e-statement, and other frequently asked questions.

We hope that the pages to follow will help explain the process for you. Please note that Centenary's policies, procedures and terminology are subject to change at any time. More information can be found on the financial aid website (listed below) or by contacting the Financial Aid Office directly.

We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Evelynne Blatt Director of Financial Aid

### **Getting Started**

Sometimes it's hard to know where to begin. We can help with that. There are a lot of things to learn about the financial aid process, but you don't have to do it all at once. Start and the beginning and you will be fine!

Our Guide is divided into the following sections to help break down all of the financial aid information for you. Use this guide as a reference as you continue through your educational career at Centenary.

#### **Net Price Calculator**

If you are an incoming freshman or transfer student, our Net Price Calculator can help you understand what types of financial aid you may be eligible for. The usual caveats of "this is only an estimate" and "the information is only as good as the data that you put into it" apply. Questions at the end? Email us and we can help.

#### **Applying for Aid**

Applying for aid is as easy as 1... 2...

- 1) Apply for admission
- 2) Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Learn more about the application process, verification, eligibility, and other items that you will need to do to ensure that you have access to the maximum amount of financial aid that you can receive.

#### **Types of Aid**

Learn about the different types of financial aid that are available. There are different types of aid for different types of students and there is more available than you think. Learn about grants, scholarships, student employment, student loans, and parent loans in this section

#### Using Your Financial Aid - Paying for College

Your financial aid is available to help you pay your charges at Centenary. Learn more about how this process works and what you can expect.

#### **Important Dates and Deadlines**

Learn about important dates and deadlines related to financial aid.

#### **Policies and FAQs**

Need more specifics? Check out our policies as well as FAQs.

### Applying for Financial Aid

#### **Prospective Students**

New students to Centenary should apply for aid at the same time as they apply for admission. Your financial aid application will in no way jeopardize your chances of admission. Complete your <u>FAFSA</u> while you are applying for admission to make the financial aid process quicker. Also, be sure to put your social security number on your admission application so that we can match it to your <u>FAFSA</u>.

#### **Current Students**

Current students should complete their <u>FAFSA</u> and submit any additional information each year no later than April 1<sup>st</sup>. If you complete your financial aid after April 1<sup>st</sup>, we will award you on a funds available basis.

#### **Complete the FAFSA**

The FAFSA is the application for all federal, state, and Centenary grants and should be completed as soon as possible after October 1<sup>st</sup>. Visit <a href="www.fafsa.gov">www.fafsa.gov</a> to complete the FAFSA online. Be sure to include Centenary's Federal School Code: 002599.

If you don't want to complete the FAFSA, please let our office know so that we can continue to process other types of aid that you may have applied for.

Once you have submitted the FASFA, a Student Aid Report (SAR) will be sent to you electronically. The SAR includes all of the information that you provided on the FAFSA. Once you receive the SAR, please review it carefully to ensure that all of the information on the report is accurate. If corrections or updates need to be made, please login the FAFSA website and make those corrections

It takes approximately one week for Centenary's Financial Aid Office to receive your FAFSA. We will then determine your awards and you will get an email to Centenary email account as well as a paper award notice that explains what your financial aid awards are. You can also view your financial aid awards and any requested documents through my.Centenary, or you can visit the Financial Aid Office.

#### **Outside Scholarships**

Outside scholarships, those that are not offered through Centenary, are a great way to pay for school without increasing debt. These databases can help you find scholarships based on your ethnicity, academic profile, interests, and other qualities. Scholarship amounts will vary from a few hundred dollars to several thousand dollars. Even the smallest scholarship can help you to borrow less, and ease the burden of monthly loan payments when you graduate.

Before you begin your search, we recommend that you review information from the <u>U.S. Dept. of</u> Education and the Federal Trade Commission on avoiding financial aid scams.

- Career One Stop
- College Board Scholarship Search

- Fastweb
- Sallie Mae Scholarship Search
- Sallie Mae Graduate Scholarship Search

#### **New Jersey Residents**

New Jersey residents may be eligible for grants and scholarships from the New Jersey Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA). Your FAFSA will automatically be submitted to HESAA, but HESAA may require additional information to determine if you are eligible. Log on to <a href="https://njfams.hesaa.org">https://njfams.hesaa.org</a> to check your eligibility.

#### Loans

You will automatically be awarded any <u>Federal Subsidized or Unsubsidized</u> loan that you are eligible for once we receive your FAFSA. Check your financial aid in <u>my.Centenary</u> to see your federal student loans.

Parents can apply for a Parent PLUS loan online at <u>www.studentloans.gov</u>. Parents should log in with their FSA ID, not the student's FSA ID.

Students can apply for alternative/private loans. Most students will need a co-signer for these credit based loans. Apply for alternative loans online with the lender of your choice. We also have more information about <u>alternative loans</u> in a later section of this guide.

For more next steps, visit the <u>Calendar and Timeline</u> section of this guide.

#### **Processing Time**

It may take up to four weeks to process your financial aid information. The timeline for processing can be faster or slower depending on the time of year. Spring is peak processing time for awarding and summer is peak processing time for loan applications.

The Financial Aid Office will attempt to process as many applications as possible to assist students in receiving their financial aid prior to the beginning of any academic semester, but cannot guarantee when funds will be received. If financial aid funds of any kind have not been received and credited to a student's account for any reason, resulting in a student's account not being paid in full, the student must work with the Student Accounts Office to determine available options to avoid being assessed a late fee or being dropped from classes for non-payment.

Information received by the New Jersey Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA) may take 1-2 weeks to be marked as received and up to 6-8 weeks to be processed. Please check the status of your documents submitted to HESAA on their website at <a href="https://www.njfams.hesaa.org">www.njfams.hesaa.org</a>.

### Financial Aid Eligibility

Any student applying to or currently enrolled at Centenary University is encouraged to apply for financial aid by completing a FAFSA online at <a href="https://www.fafsa.gov">www.fafsa.gov</a>. The FAFSA is required for many forms of financial aid, including some institutional grants as well as federal and most state funds. You should file a FAFSA every year to be considered for all available financial aid.

General eligibility requirements for financial aid are listed below. Not all of these requirements apply to all forms of financial aid. See the Types of Aid section for specific eligibility requirements.

Below are the general eligibility requirements for financial aid. A student must:

- be admitted to an approved certificate, associate, bachelor, or graduate (including doctoral) degree program at Centenary
- be making satisfactory academic progress toward a degree
- have a high school diploma or GED certificate
- be in attendance for the minimum number of credits required for the award (ex. most undergraduate scholarships requires full-time enrollment while loans usually only required 6 credits)

In addition, to be eligible for federal or state financial aid, a student must:

- have a valid social security number
- be a U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen (includes green card holders)
- not owe a refund on or be in default on any Title IV or HEA grant or loan received for prior attendance at any institution
- be registered with the <u>Selective Service</u>, if required to do so by law

Eligibility differs by award and is based on the type of aid and criteria set up by the source of the funds. Some funds are based on financial need as defined by the Federal government. Some funds are based on merit, such as GPA, extracurricular activities, and/or test scores while other are based on a combination of both merit and financial need. Some may be solely based on general criteria such as year in college or major.

Many forms of financial aid are available for students in study abroad programs as well. Learn more about how your financial aid can be applied to your <u>study abroad (or away) program</u>.

See the <u>Types of Aid</u> section for specific eligibility criteria.

#### Additional Financial Aid

Financial aid from sources not listed on your award notice must be reported in writing to the Financial Aid Office. Awards from other sources may cause adjustments to a student's financial aid. According to federal regulations, total financial aid including federal, state, university and other sources of assistance may not exceed the estimated Cost of Attendance.

### Citizenship

You must be a citizen, a permanent resident or eligible non-citizen to be considered for federal aid. However, citizenship status is not required for Centenary funds. Undocumented who have attended a New Jersey high school for at least three (3) years may also be eligible for state aid. Visit the www.njfams.hesaa.org for more information.

If you are a citizen, permanent resident, or eligible non-citizen, but your parent is not, you should still complete the FAFSA. Simply use 000-00-0000 for your parent's social security numbers to indicate that he/she does not have a social security number. When completing the FAFSA, the form may ask you to double check if this information is correct – simply click yes if you are asked.

Eligible non-citizens must have an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) showing one of the following designations:

- "Refugee"
- "Asylum Granted"
- "Cuban-Haitian Entrant, Status Pending"
- "Conditional Entrant" (valid only if issued before April 1, 1980)
- Victims of human trafficking, T-visa (T-2, T-3, or T-4, etc.) holder
- "Parolee" (You must be paroled into the United States for at least one year and you must be able to provide evidence from the USCIS that you are in the United States for other than a temporary purpose and that you intend to become a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.)

#### Cost of Attendance

Each year, our office will determine the estimated COA for a typical student attending Centenary University. The COA for attending Centenary will include direct costs that you will be billed for such as tuition, fees, and room and board if the student is living on campus. The COA also includes "out-of-pocket" expenses including books, supplies, travel, off-campus living expenses, and miscellaneous.

The total amount of aid you receive cannot exceed this Cost of Attendance.

Some students will spend more, while others may spend less than the estimates – a lot of it depends on your tastes and circumstances. But these are the estimates we use when we determine eligibility for need-based financial aid.

#### Helpful Definitions for Understanding COA

**Tuition and Fees:** The average cost of tuition and fees for a typical student based on enrolling for a certain number of hours per year. The actual costs that a student incurs will vary depending on the student's degree and residency.

**Living Expenses:** A reasonable estimate of what it would cost to live while attending school. Actual costs may vary by individual choices related to location and circumstances. Typically includes rent, food, snacks, household supplies and utilities.

**Books and Supplies:** The average cost of books and supplies for a typical student for an entire academic year. Typically includes books, educational supplies, course materials, and computer-related expenses excluding the purchase of a personal computer.

**Transportation:** Represents travel to and from your residence and transportation costs to and from class and work (e.g., bus fare, gasoline, tolls, parking)

**Miscellaneous:** Estimate of costs for clothing, haircuts, entertainment and other miscellaneous expenses. What you actually spend on these types of items may be higher or lower depending on your own lifestyle. The figures also allow for a personal spending allowance to cover things such as toiletries and those late-night runs for pizza and froyo.

	Full-Time Traditional Undergraduate Student			
	Living on Campus	Living with Parent	Living Off Campus	
Tuition and Fees	33,558	33,588	33,558	
Living Expenses	11,444	1,800	10,750	
<b>Books and Supplies</b>	1,200	1,200	1,200	
Transportation	648	1,296	1,296	
Miscellaneous	2,942	2,942	2,942	
Totals COA	49,792	40,796	49,746	

	Part-Time Traditional Undergraduate Students		
			4 credits per
	8 credits pe	er semester	sem.
	Living with Parent	Any	
Tuition and Fees	10,140	10,140	5,108
Living Expenses	1,800	10,750	0
Books and Supplies	800	800	400
Transportation	1,296	1,296	0
Miscellaneous	2,942	2,942	0
Totals COA	16,978	25,925	5,508

	Traditional Graduate Students				
					3 credits
	9 credits/	semester	6 credits,	/semester Living Off	per sem.
	Living with Parent	Living Off Campus	Parent	Campus	Any
Tuition and Fees	16,614	16,614	11,076	11,076	5,538
Living Expenses	10,750	1,800	1,800	10,750	0
<b>Books and Supplies</b>	1,200	1,200	800	800	400
Transportation	648	1,296	648	1,296	0
Miscellaneous	2,942	2,942	2,942	2,942	0
Totals COA	32,154	23,852	17,266	26,864	5,938

	Accelerated Undergraduate Student	Accelerated Undergraduate Student	Accelerated Graduate Student	Accelerated Graduate Student
	Living with Parent	Living Off Campus	Living with Parent	Living Off Campus
Tuition and Fees	15,096	15,096	16,110	16,110
Living Expenses	2,400	14,332	2,400	14,434

Books and Supplies	1,200	1,200	1,800	1,800
Transportation	1,728	1,728	1,728	1,728
Miscellaneous	3,924	3,924	3,924	3,924
Totals COA	24,348	36,280	25,962	37,996

#### Please Note:

- Tuition is subject to change at any time. This is an estimate based on averages.
- Some courses may have additional course fees or course related expenses. Refer to the Schedule of Classes for details.
- Centenary University reserves the right to change the fees, policies, procedures, rules, regulations, requirements for graduation, course offerings and any other contents of this web site at any time.

Additional tuition and fee information is available at the Student Accounts Office website.

### **Drug Convictions**

According to federal regulations, students convicted for a drug offense that occurred during a period of enrollment while they were receiving Title IV Federal Financial Aid, may lose eligibility for federal aid.

If you answered 'Yes' to question 31 on the FAFSA, you will be sent a worksheet by the federal processing center in order to determine if the conviction affects eligibility for aid. If the financial aid office is notified that a student has been convicted of sale or possession of illegal drugs, financial assistance may be suspended immediately.

If a conviction was reversed, set aside, or removed from the student's record it does not count. Convictions occurring during periods of non-enrollment do not count. In addition, any conviction received as a juvenile does not count, unless they were tried as an adult.

The period of ineligibility is dependent upon the type of conviction (sale or possession) and if there were previous offenses. The chart below demonstrates the periods of ineligibility:

Possession of Illegal Drugs		Sale of Illegal Drugs
1st Offense	1 year from date of conviction	2 years from date of conviction
2nd Offense	2 years from date of conviction	Indefinite period
3+ Offenses	Indefinite period	

If you were convicted of both selling and possessing illegal drugs, you will be ineligible for the longer period.

#### **Regaining Eligibility**

You may regain eligibility:

- the day after the period of ineligibility ends,
- when you successfully complete a qualified drug rehabilitation program, or
- if you pass two unannounced drug tests given by a qualified rehabilitation.

If you are denied eligibility for an indefinite period, you can regain it after:

successfully completing a rehabilitation program as described below,

- passing two unannounced drug tests from such a program, or
- if a conviction is reversed, set aside, or removed from you record so that fewer than two convictions for sale or three convictions for possession remain on the record. In such cases, the nature and dates of the remaining convictions will determine when you regain eligibility.

#### **Qualified Drug Rehabilitation Program**

A qualified drug rehabilitation program must include at least two unannounced drug tests and must satisfy at least one of the following requirements:

- Be qualified to receive funds directly or indirectly from a federal, state, or local government
- Be qualified to receive payment directly or indirectly from a federally or state-licensed insurance company
- Be administered or recognized by a federal, state, or local government agency or court
- Be administered or recognized by a federal or state-licensed hospital, health clinic, or medical doctor.

Additional drug convictions will make you ineligible for federal aid again.

It is your responsibility to certify to Centenary that you have successfully completed the rehabilitation program.

#### **Enrollment Status**

In general, financial aid is intended to pay for courses that are required to complete your degree program. If you are planning to take courses that do not directly fulfill a requirement for a declared degree, major or minor, contact the Financial Aid Office to determine how taking non-required coursework may affect your aid eligibility.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you are taking the number of credits required for your award.

### **Expected Family Contribution**

The Expected Family Contribution (EFC) is the number used to determine your eligibility for need-based student financial aid. This is determined from the information you provide on the FAFSA. The EFC is calculated using the federal methodology formula, which is approved by Congress. The formula takes several factors into consideration including:

- dependency status
- family size
- number of family members in university
- student and parent/spouse income
- student and parent/spouse assets

The EFC is not the amount of money that you or your family must provide. Rather, you can think of the EFC as an index schools use to determine individual eligibility for federal, state, and Centenary assistance.

#### **Financial Need**

Financial need is determined by the following formula:

Cost of Attendance – Expected Family Contribution = Financial Need (COA) (EFC) (Need)

Once your financial need is determined, the Financial Aid Office will create an individualized financial aid award package for you with different types of awards which may include grants, scholarships, federal work study and student loans. Because funding is limited, your entire financial need may not be met.

#### Grade Level

Grade level changes (e.g. sophomore to junior) may require an adjustment to your financial aid, such as increased loan eligibility. This may happen when transfer credits are evaluated after the initial financial aid package has been processed.

### **Housing Status**

Initial financial aid awards are based on the housing status entered on the FAFSA. Housing is confirmed once the semester begins. If the housing status on your award letter is incorrect, please notify our office immediately. Housing status changes may require an adjustment to your financial aid (e.g. on campus resident to commuter).

#### Selective Service

In order to be eligible for federal student aid you must register with the Selective Service if:

- you are a male born on or after Jan. 1, 1960, and
- you are at least 18 years old, and
- you are not currently on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands or the Republic of Palau are exempt from registering.

If you have not already registered for selective service and are required to do so, you can register when completing your FAFSA online or on the Selective Service website at www.sss.gov.

### Residency

Residency changes during the academic year (e.g. out of state to in-state) may require an adjustment to your financial aid.

#### Verification

Verification is a review process in which the Financial Aid Office ensures the accuracy of the information on your FAFSA. During the verification process the student and family/spouse will be required to submit documentation for the amounts listed (or not listed) on the FAFSA. The following documentation may be required as part of verification:

- Verification Worksheet
- Student income and tax-related documentation
- Parent income and tax-related documentation

Additional documentation may be required. You will be notified, in writing (mail or e-mail), of the documentation required. Please only submit what is requested of you.

If any discrepancies are uncovered during verification, the Financial Aid Office may require additional information for clarification. Such discrepancies may cause your final financial aid package to be different from the initial package described on the award letter. If you are selected for verification, your award is considered an estimate until verification is complete.

If you choose not to submit the required documentation, you will no longer be eligible for federal, state, and most Centenary aid.

Verification concerns applicants for most Federal Student Aid programs but is not required if the student will only receive a Parent or Graduate PLUS loan or Direct Unsubsidized loan because these loans are not based on need. However, a student cannot avoid verification by choosing to borrow an unsubsidized Direct Loan if he or she is eligible for a Subsidized Direct Loan.

Verification deadlines vary depending on when a student will cease enrollment for the academic year. Students must submit complete verification documents before their last date of enrollment for their academic year in order to receive aid for the year. Documents received after these deadlines may not be processed.

### Types of Aid

Centenary University offers students as much financial assistance as possible. Financial Aid can come in many forms, including **scholarships** & **grants**, **work study**, and **student loans**. Financial Aid award packages offered by Centenary University may consist of a combination of awards from these types of aid programs.

#### **General Rules Covering All Financial Aid**

- All financial aid combined may not exceed your Cost of Attendance.
- You must be matriculated in a degree program at Centenary University in order to receive any
  financial aid other than Alternative Loans. (Note that some certificate program students also
  qualify). Matriculated means that you are admitted to and enrolled in a degree or applicable
  certificate program.
- Generally, students must be enrolled at least half-time (6 credits per semester) to qualify for aid.
   Exceptions include the Federal Pell Grant and Alternative Loans.

#### **Scholarships & Grants**

Scholarships and grants are considered gift aid. These types of aid are the best kinds because they do not need to be paid back. Scholarships and grants are offered by Centenary University, the federal government, New Jersey and private organizations. University-sponsored scholarships and grants are awarded to students on the basis of academic merit, service to the community, talent, special activities, and financial need. The <a href="Scholarships and Grants">Scholarships and Grants</a> section will go into more detail about each type of award.

#### **Federal Work Study**

Work study is a federally subsidized work program for students who meet the general eligibility criteria and exhibit financial need on their FAFSA. This type of financial aid is a work program where funds can be earned if a student obtains an authorized job either on or off-campus. The <a href="Student Employment">Student Employment</a> section will go into more detail about working on campus.

#### **Federal Student Loans**

Student loans offered by the federal government allow students to borrow additional funds to finance their education. These are some of the best loans available to help students pay for school because of their lower interest rates and flexible repayment terms. The <u>Loans</u> section will go into more detail about each type of federal loan.

#### **Alternative Financing**

If you still need additional funding to help pay for your education, there are additional options you can take advantage of such as Centenary University's tuition payment plans or a private student loan. Keep in mind that private loans should be a last resort once you have exhausted your federal, institutional or state aid resources. The <a href="State">State</a>, <a href="Private or Alternative Loans">Private or Alternative Loans</a> section will go into more detail about each type of loan.

To review basic eligibility criteria for Centenary University, Federal and New Jersey aid programs please visit the <u>General Eligibility</u> section.

### **Grants and Scholarships**

#### Centenary Financial Aid

Centenary is proud to recognize academically talented and exceptionally skilled students with a variety of scholarships and awards during the admission process. Students must be admitted to, and remain enrolled in, a degree-seeking program in order to be considered for an admissions award. Students enrolling in an eligible post-baccalaureate program are also considered for an admissions award.

#### **Award Adjustment**

Admissions awards are calculated at the time of admission but may be reconsidered. Awards for graduate students will not be reconsidered after admission.

- Freshman applicants may request that their admissions award be reconsidered based on their cumulative GPA. Requests and official high school transcripts must be received by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions no later than the last day of the add/drop period of the admitted semester.
- Transfer applicants may request that their admissions award be reconsidered based on their cumulative GPA. Requests and all official college transcripts must be received by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions no later than the last day of the add/drop period of the admitted semester.

#### **Part-Time to Full-Time Enrollment**

Students who are admitted as full time and change to part time will retain their most recent admissions award eligibility upon return to full-time enrollment.

Students who are admitted as part time but change to full time may, upon request, be evaluated for an admissions award based on the eligibility at the time that they were most recently admitted.

#### **Discounts**

Students are not eligible for both discounts and scholarships/awards concurrently. Students will retain either the discount or the total scholarships/awards combination that has the higher value.

#### **Enrollment Status**

Full–time attendance (12 semester credits or more) is required to maintain eligibility for a traditional full-time undergraduate scholarship. Students awarded a traditional full-time undergraduate scholarship may take up to one (1) semester at a part-time status.

Graduate scholarships are awarded based on the number of graduate credits for which the student is enrolled.

Students on an approved leave of absence (LOA) will retain eligibility for their scholarship when they return as long as they maintain SAP. Students who withdraw from the University or do not return for a subsequent semester, and are not on an LOA, will lose eligibility for their scholarship.

#### Admission Scholarships and Awards for Traditional Full-Time Undergraduate Students

#### Freshman Admission Scholarships and Awards

Students who have not completed any college level courses beyond high school will be considered for a freshman admission award. Admission scholarships are determined by the Admissions Office. Admission scholarships and awards include the Founders Scholarship, Faculty Scholarship, George Whitney Scholarship, Achievement Award and Recognition Award, and range from \$11,500 to \$25,000 per year. These scholarships and awards are renewable each year as long as the student maintains full time enrollment and meet the minimum standards for Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP).

#### **Transfer Admission Scholarships and Awards**

Students who have completed any college level courses beyond high school will be considered for a transfer admission award. Admission scholarships are determined by the Admissions Office. Admission scholarships and awards include the Faculty Scholarship, George Whitney Scholarship, Trustee Scholarship, Achievement Award and Merit Award and range from \$7,000 to \$14,000 per year. These scholarships and awards are renewable each year as long as students maintain full time enrollment and meet the minimum standards for Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP).

High school GPA or SAT/ACT scores may be required (to weight the university GPA) for review of scholarships for students with less than 24 credits earned prior to transfer.

#### **Renewal Admissions Scholarships and Awards for Returning Students**

Students may retain the award that they were admitted with as long as they maintain continuous full-time enrollment and meet the minimum standards for satisfactory academic progress. Additional criteria are listed above.

- Academic Merit Award or Scholarship
- Achievement Award or Scholarship
- Centenary Educational Opportunity Program
- Cyclone Award or Scholarship
- Faculty Scholarship
- George Whitney Scholarship
- Grace Harris Scholarship
- Hackettstown Partnership Scholarship
- Phi Theta Kappa Scholarship
- Presidential Scholars Program Presidential Scholars must also maintain a 3.5 cumulative GPA
- Transfer Award or Scholarship
- Trustee Scholarship
- Recognition Award
- United Methodist Program

#### **Specialty Admission Awards**

Centenary Educational Opportunity Program – Students must meet EOP criteria and the award may cover up to all remaining charges after other grants and scholarships have been applied.

Hackettstown Partnership Scholarship – One student is selected each year for the scholarship which covers up to full tuition (less any federal or state grants). Students will apply through Hackettstown High

School. The Scholarship recipient will be selected in March and this scholarship may replace other Centenary funds.

*Presidential Scholars Program* – 75% of tuition is awarded to students who are selected for the Presidential Scholars Program. Presidential Scholars must maintain a 3.5 cumulative GPA. This scholarship replaces the student's original admission award.

*United Methodist Program* – Up to \$12,500 is awarded to students who are selected for the United Methodist Program. Students must be an active member of the United Methodist Church. This scholarship replaces the student's original admission award.

*Phi Theta Kappa Scholarships* – may be awarded to traditional full-time undergraduate transfer students who are members of PTK. Awarded during the admissions process, students must meet the same renewal criteria as admissions awards.

Recognition Award – may be awarded to traditional full-time undergraduate transfer students who have earned an associate's degree. Awarded during the admissions process, students must meet the same renewal criteria as admissions awards.

#### Admission Scholarships and Awards for Graduate Students

Students remain eligible for their Graduate Scholarships and Awards for a specified number of semesters as long as they maintain continuous full-time enrollment and meet the minimum standards for satisfactory academic progress.

- MBA Scholarship
- MHA Scholarship
- MLPA Scholarship

#### Centenary Grants and Awards

Centenary Grants are need-based aid and determined by the information on the FAFSA. No other forms are required.

Grants are reviewed annually based on the FAFSA which should be completed, and additional information submitted (if requested), prior to priority deadline for returning students. Award amounts are listed for the academic year. Traditional full-time undergraduate students are considered for these awards.

Housing-related awards, such as the Community Citizenship Grant, may be adjusted if the student moves out of housing.

- **Centenary University Grant** may be awarded to traditional full-time undergraduate students have need.
- **Community Citizenship Grant** may be awarded to traditional full-time undergraduate students live on campus and have need.
- **Garden State Grant** may be awarded to traditional full-time undergraduate students who are New Jersey residents and have need.

- **Jefferson Award/Grant** based on need and may be awarded to traditional full-time undergraduate students.
- **Out of State Grant** based on need and may be awarded to traditional full-time undergraduate students who are not New Jersey residents.
- **Skylands Grant** based on need and may be awarded to traditional full-time undergraduate students who live in the Skylands region.

Centenary Awards are not be based on need. Students may receive these awards in addition to the awards listed above. Awards are renewable as long as the eligibility criteria are met. A FAFSA may not be required.

- **Alumni Award** may be awarded to traditional full-time undergraduate students who are a child or grand-child of a Centenary alum.
- **Centenary Award** may be awarded to traditional full-time undergraduate students who demonstrate academic promise and commitment to Centenary University. Awarded during the admissions process, students must meet the same renewal criteria as admissions awards.
- **Departmental Award** may be awarded to traditional full-time undergraduate students who demonstrate potential in their major. Awarded during the admissions process, students must meet the same renewal criteria as admissions awards.
- **Family Plan** may be awarded to traditional full-time undergraduate students who have a family member enrolled in any of Centenary's graduate or undergraduate programs.
- Centenary NJ STARS II Scholarship matched to the NJ STARS II scholarship for eligible NJ STARS II students.

### Centenary Discounts and Benefits

#### **Veteran's Benefits or Discounts**

To be considered for veteran's benefits or discounts, view our Veteran's Services page at <a href="https://www.centenaryuniversity.edu/veterans">www.centenaryuniversity.edu/veterans</a>.

#### **Centenary Employee Tuition Benefits**

Employee Tuition Benefits are a benefit for employees of Centenary University and their dependents. Students receiving Employee Tuition Benefits are not eligible for most other forms of Centenary grants or scholarships. Applications for Employee Tuition Benefits are handled by Human Resources. The Office of Financial Aid is notified when an application is approved.

Employee Tuition Benefits may be used for Centenary Institutional study abroad programs in the Fall and Spring semesters. Summer studies abroad may not be eligible for Employee Tuition Benefits. Program guidelines are detailed in the Tuition Assistance Policy.

For more information on Centenary Employee Tuition Benefits, please visit the <u>Human Resources</u> <u>website</u>.

#### **Centenary Discounts**

- Law Enforcement
- Education Professional Development Program
- Corporate Discounts

#### Federal and State Grants and Scholarships

#### **Federal Pell Grant**

This need-based grant pays up to \$6,095 annually for a maximum of 6 years based on full-time enrollment. Part-time students may be eligible to receive Pell Grant until they have reached the equivalent of 6 full-time years. Award amounts are based on the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) from the FAFSA as well as enrollment status.

#### Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)

Students who show exceptional need may receive this award ranging from \$100 to \$2,500 annually. Federal Pell Grant recipients with the lowest expected family contribution are among the first to receive FSEOG. This award is available in limited amounts and is awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis to the students who exhibit the most need.

#### **New Jersey Tuition Aid Grant (TAG)**

The Tuition Aid Grant is an undergraduate grant program for New Jersey residents attending certain New Jersey institutions of higher education. TAG is administered by the New Jersey Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA). The amount of TAG a student is eligible for varies and is based on the student's financial need, cost of attendance and available funding

For more information on the New Jersey TAG Grant, please visit HESAA's website at www.hesaa.org.

#### **New Jersey Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF)**

The New Jersey Educational Opportunity Fund provides financial assistance and support services (e.g. counseling, tutoring, and developmental course work) to students from educationally and economically challenged. Eligible students may receive a grant of up to \$2,500 annually. These grants are renewable based upon continued eligibility.

Students must meet the state grant eligibility requirements. Students receiving EOF may also receive additional grants from Centenary University.

For more information on this program, please see our **EOP** website.

#### New Jersey Governor's Urban Scholars (GUS) Program

The Governor's Urban Scholarship is a merit award available to students who rank in the top 5% of their high school graduating class and attain a grade point average of at least 3.0 at the end of the senior year in high school, file a FAFSA within established deadlines and have a New Jersey Eligibility Index below 10500. To qualify, applicants also must graduate from a traditional public, public charter, county vo-tech or nonpublic school and reside in Asbury Park, City of Camden, East Orange, Irvington Township, Jersey City, Lakewood, Millville, Newark, New Brunswick, City of Trenton, Paterson, Plainfield, Roselle Borough or Vineland.

#### New Jersey State Tuition Assistance Reward Scholarship (NJ STARS) II

The NJ STARS II Program is administered by the New Jersey Higher Education Assistance Authority and is a continuation of the NJ STARS Program that provides successful NJ STARS students at New Jersey county colleges with funding to transfer to a New Jersey four-year university/ university to earn a bachelor's degree. For more information on this program, please see HESAA's website at www.hesaa.org.

#### **State Grant Programs for Non-New Jersey Students**

You can review the website of your home state to determine if you may be eligible for grants from your home state.

#### Loans

Loans are sources of financial assistance that allow you to spread the cost of education over time. Loans are serious legal obligations and must be repaid. We urge all first-time borrowers to spend some extra time learning about the loan process so that they can make informed choices throughout their education.

Loans are available from federal, state, and private lenders. We always encourage students to borrow their full federal loans before borrowing from state or private lenders. Federal loans are not credit based and do not require a co-signer. Federal loans also have significantly more borrower benefits than state or private lenders.

When you borrow money for your education, you sign a promissory note legally obligating you to repay the loan according to the stated terms and conditions. When the time comes for repayment, usually after your education is complete, meeting your student loan obligation helps you earn a good credit rating, which follows you throughout your life.

Not repaying your loans may result in the following:

- You may not be able to obtain more credit, i.e., to buy a car or house.
- You may be turned down for a credit card.
- You will forfeit your tax refunds.
- Your employer can be ordered to garnish your pay, i.e., withhold what you owe from your paycheck.
- You will be sued and will owe collection fees and attorney fees, in addition to repaying your loan.

Remember, you must repay your student loans even if you do not graduate or otherwise complete your education. Failure to find a job after graduation will not relieve you of this responsibility.

The following chart provides an overview of the various federal loan opportunities.

Si	Ibsidized Unsu	ral Direct bsidized aduate Loan Federal Direct PLUS	Private Student Loans
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Borrower	Student	Student	Parent	Student and co- signer
Credit Check	None	None	Parent	Student and co- signer
Interest Rate	<b>4.45%</b> - loan first disbursed 7/1/17 – 6/30/18 <b>5.045%</b> - loans first disbursed 7/1/18 - 6/30/19	<b>4.45%</b> - loan first disbursed 7/1/17 – 6/30/18 <b>5.045%</b> - loans first disbursed 7/1/18 - 6/30/19	7.00% - loan first disbursed 7/1/17 - 6/30/18  7.595% - loans first disbursed 7/1/18 - 6/30/19	Varies based on lender and student and co-signer credit
	Interest begins at repayment	Interest begins at repayment	Interest begins at repayment	Interest begins immediately
Loan Fees	1.066% - loans first disbursed 10/1/17 - 9/30/18  1.062% - loans first disbursed 10/1/18 - 9/30/19	1.066% - loans first disbursed 10/1/17 - 9/30/18  1.062% - loans first disbursed 10/1/18 - 9/30/19	4.264% - loans first disbursed 10/1/17- 9/30/18  4.248% - loans first disbursed 10/1/18 - 9/30/19	Varies from lender to lender and program choice
Application Process	FAFSA, MPN, Entrance Counseling	FAFSA, MPN, Entrance Counseling	FAFSA, PLUS Loan App, PLUS Loan MPN	Varies from lender to lender and program choice
Annual Maximums	Up to \$3,500/freshmen  Up to \$4,500/ sophomores Up to \$5,500/ juniors & seniors	Dependent Students Up to \$5,500/ freshman less subsidized loan	Cost of Attendance less other financial aid	Cost of Attendance less other financial aid
Cumulative (Aggregate) Maximums	\$23,000 undergrad	\$31,000/dependent undergrad \$57,500/independent/Denied PLUS undergrad	NA	NA
Repayment	Begins 6 months after the student ceases to be half-time.	Begins 6 months after the student ceases to be half-time.	Begins 60 days after loan is fully disbursed unless deferment option is chosen	Typically after a student ceases to be half-time but may vary with each lender.
	Various repayment options from 10-30 years	Various repayment options from 10-30 years	Various repayment options from 10- 30 years	Repayment options vary by lender.

No early payment penalty	No early payment penalty	No early payment penalty
Minimum \$0/month	Minimum \$0/month	Minimum \$0/month

#### **Important Information on Educational Loans**

- In order to keep borrowing to a minimum, it is important to create a budget each year to determine the amount you need to borrow. You can adjust or decline unwanted aid in writing.
- First Time Direct Subsidized or Unsubsidized Loan borrowers will be required to complete their Master Promissory Note (MPN) and Entrance Counseling online at <a href="https://www.studentloans.gov">www.studentloans.gov</a>.
- Terms on private loans can vary between lenders so it is important to check with your lender on the interest rate, origination fee, and repayment plans before borrowing.
- Private Loans can take two to six weeks to complete processing. Please plan accordingly when starting an application to ensure that funds are available by the payment due date. Students who wish to borrow a private loan each year must complete a new application each year.

#### **Important Loan Terms**

- Deferment Postponing repayment of a loan. Subsidized, Unsubsidized, and Perkins loans are deferred while a student is enrolled at least half-time.
- Federal Loan Servicer The agency responsible for assisting borrowers in repayment of their loans. All federal loan borrowers will be notified of their assigned loan servicer once their loan is disbursed.
- Grace Period Time period after graduation or withdrawal during which the borrower is not required to begin repaying his or her loans. The grace period may also begin if the student drops below half-time enrollment.
- Interest Rate the amount charged to the borrower for the privilege of using the lender's
  money. Interest is usually calculated as a percentage of the principal balance of the loan. The
  interest rate cap for undergraduate Direct Loans is 8.25%. The interest rate cap for PLUS loans is
  10.50%.

#### **Federal Loan Servicer**

Loan Servicers. A loan servicer is a company that handles the billing and other services on your federal student loan. The loan servicer will work with you on repayment plans and loan consolidation and will assist you with other tasks related to your federal student loan.

Your loan is assigned to a loan servicer by the U.S. Department of Education (ED) after your loan amount is first disbursed (paid out). Your loan is usually disbursed in at least two payments, and your loan servicer will contact you after the first payment is made to you.

Loan Servicer	Website	Phone Number
Nelnet	www.nelnet.com	1-888-486-4722
Great Lakes Educational Loan Services, Inc.	www.mygreatlakes.org	1-800-236-4300
Navient	www.navient.com	1-800-722-1300
FedLoan Servicing (PHEAA)	myfedloan.org	1-800-699-2908
MOHELA	www.mohela.com	1-888-866-4352
HESC/EdFinancial	edfinancial.com/home	1-855-337-6884

CornerStone	www.MyCornerStoneLoan.org	1-800-663-1662
Granite State - GSMR	www.gsmr.org	1-888-556-0022
OSLA Servicing	www.osla.org	1-866-264-9762
Debt Management and Collections System	myeddebt.ed.gov	1-800-621-3115

By completing the FAFSA, you will be considered for the Federal Direct Loans. There are two types of Federal Direct Loans: the Federal Direct Subsidized Loan (available to undergraduates only), and the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan (available to both undergraduates and graduates). Students must meet all federal eligibility requirements and be enrolled at least half time to qualify for consideration.

#### Federal Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans

Your eligibility for the Direct Subsidized Loan is based on your financial need and your academic level. The Direct Subsidized Loan is available to undergraduate students only.

Your eligibility for the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan is not based on financial need, however, the FAFSA must be completed to determine eligibility and both graduate and undergraduate students are eligible for the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans. You may borrow the cost of education minus all other financial aid you receive, up to the Direct Loan maximum for your academic level. The interest on the Direct Unsubsidized Loan accrues from the date of disbursement. You have two choices for paying interest: you may pay it while you are enrolled full-time, or it can accrue and become part of the principal that you will owe.

Repayment is deferred until six months after you graduate or cease to be enrolled at least half-time, and the government pays the interest on your Subsidized loan while you are enrolled in school while the interest will accrue on your Unsubsidized loan while you are enrolled in school. Repayment plans usually range from 10 to 25 years, depending on the repayment. The monthly payment is based on the total amount borrowed and length of the repayment plan. The Department of Education provides information on Repayment Plans and Calculators on their website. There are several plans to choose for repayment, which can be changed at any time.

Federal Direct Student Loan interest rates are determined each spring for new loans being made for the upcoming award year (defined as July 1 through June 30). Each loan will have a fixed interest rate for the life of the loan. The interest rate for Federal Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans for undergraduates disbursed on or after July 1, 2018 is 5.045%. For more information on interest rates, please visit www.studentloans.gov.

There is an origination fee deducted from your loan before you receive the funds. The origination fee for loans disbursed between October 1, 2018 and September 30, 2019 is 1.062%. For information about current origination fees, please visit www.studentloans.gov.

If you are a first-time Federal Direct Loan borrower, you must complete an electronic Master Promissory Note (MPN) and complete electronic Entrance Counseling before you can receive funds. You Entrance Counseling and MPN can be completed on line at <a href="https://www.studentloans.gov">www.studentloans.gov</a>.

The maximum Federal Direct Loan amounts available vary according to academic level and dependency status. Please see the tables below for more information.

#### **Dependent Students**

Academic Level	Maximum Federal Maximum Direct Loan Amount	Additional Unsubsidized Amount	Annual maximum amounts a dependent undergraduate may borrow in combined Subsidized and Unsubsidized Direct Loan
Freshman	\$3,500	3,500 \$2,000 \$5,500	
Sophomore	\$4,500	\$2,000	\$6,500
Junior/Senior	\$5,500	\$2,000	\$7,500

#### Independent Students

Academic Level	Maximum Federal Direct Subsidized Amount	Unsubsidized Amount	Annual maximum amounts an independent undergraduate may borrow in combined Subsidized and Unsubsidized Direct Loan	
Freshman	\$3,500	\$6,000	\$9,500	
Sophomore	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$10,500	
Junior/Senior	\$5,500	\$7,000	\$12,500	
Graduate	Not Eligible	\$20,500	\$20,500	

There is a maximum lifetime limit that a student can borrow in Federal Direct student loans. This is called the Aggregate Loan Limit. Once a student reaches these loan limits, he/she cannot borrow Federal Direct student loans. See chart below for the undergraduate lifetime limits.

Academic Level	Dependent Undergraduate Students (except students whose parents cannot borrow PLUS)	Independent Undergraduate Students and Dependent Students whose parents cannot borrow PLUS	Graduate Students
Aggregate Amount	\$31,000 Subsidized & Unsubsidized (maximum of \$23,000 Subsidized)	\$57, 500 Subsidized & Unsubsidized (maximum of \$23,000 Subsidized)	\$138,500 Subsidized and Unsubsidized (maximum of \$65,500 Subsidized)

#### **Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loans**

The Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan program is a federal loan program for parents of dependent undergraduate students. Generally, parents are eligible if they do not have an adverse credit history, are not in default on a federal student loan, and meet the other eligibility requirements outlined in the loan application. The student must complete a FAFSA in order to be considered for a Parent PLUS Loan.

The Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan program is a federal loan program for graduate students. Generally, graduate students are eligible if they do not have an adverse credit history, are not in default on a federal student loan, and meet the other eligibility requirements outlined in the loan application. You must complete a FAFSA to be considered for the Graduate PLUS Loan.

The Graduate and Parent PLUS Loans may be borrowed up to the amount of the cost of attendance minus other financial aid received, including any other educational loans. The interest rate is determined each June for new loans being made for the upcoming award year (defined as July 1 through June 30). Each loan will have a fixed interest rate for the life of the loan. The interest rate on Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loans disbursed on or after July 1, 2018 is 7.595%. For more information on interest rates, please visit www.studentloans.gov.

There is an origination fee deducted from your loan before you receive the funds. The origination fee for loans disbursed on or after October 1, 2018 and prior to September 30, 2019 is 4.248%. For information about current origination fees, please visit <a href="https://www.studentloans.gov">www.studentloans.gov</a>.

Repayment of the Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan begins 60 days after the final loan disbursement is made; however, a parent borrower can choose to defer payments on the interest and principal until six months after the date the student ceases to be enrolled at least half time. If a parent borrower chooses to defer payments, the accruing interest could either be paid by the parent borrower monthly or quarterly, or be capitalized quarterly.

Repayment of the Graduate PLUS loan is deferred until six months after you graduate or cease to be enrolled at least half-time, and the government does not pay the interest while you are enrolled in school.

#### State, Private, or Alternate Loans

Private loans are non-federal educational loans. These loans are typically offered by private lenders (educational financing institutions, guarantee agencies, banks) to assist with educational and living expenses not covered by other financial aid. In general, you may borrow up to the cost of education minus all other financial aid you receive.

For many students and parents, private loans represent an important resource to help finance educational expenses. Private loans can help fill the gap between need-based financial aid and your total educational costs. Private loans also can help with "one-time" educational expenses, such as foreign study.

Selection of a private lender is an important decision, and we encourage you to carefully research your lender, and read all the information below to assist you in evaluating and selecting a lender. Centenary does not enter into student loan lending agreements or arrangements with external agencies, nor does it enter into any agreements with agencies outside the United States. This is important to know if you are an international student, or a student considering international study.

**Important Reminder:** Before considering a private loan, make sure that you have taken advantage of all your federal student loan opportunities. If you are unsure about your federal loan options, please contact our office.

You should carefully review your expenses before deciding if you need a private loan. If you decide to borrow, you will need to choose a lender and complete the application process. Most lenders offer online and/or phone applications. In general, the lender will run a credit check before it agrees to offer you a loan. Many student borrowers are required to have a credit-worthy co-signer. Most lenders distribute private loan funds electronically. In some instances, however, a lender may provide you with a paper check that you must endorse at the Student Accounts Office.

Things to Know Before You Apply for a Private Loan

Your eligibility for a private loan is determined by the difference between your total Cost of Attendance (COA) and any other financial aid. Please contact our office for your individual cost of attendance. To calculate your maximum eligibility, subtract your total aid awarded from your total COA. For example, if

your total COA is \$30,000 and you are already receiving \$10,000 in other forms of aid, you can request up to \$20,000 in a private loan.

Not all lenders will lend you money for a past-due balance. Before you begin the lender process, contact the lender to make sure that the lender you have selected will review your request.

When you apply for a private loan, you will be required to enter a loan period, with start and end dates. Your loan period start and end dates are the months associated with academic term(s) for which you are borrowing. Usually you will request a loan for the entire academic year, or for a specific term within the academic year. Make sure you are specific about the loan period when you complete the lender application. If you are requesting a loan for the entire academic year, use September through May. Similarly, if you wish to obtain a loan for a single term, for example, the summer session, your loan period should be for the summer term of May through August.

Most lenders require that you are enrolled at least half time in a degree-seeking program in order to obtain a loan. There are some lenders who will provide loans for less than half time.

Various interest rates and fees are available from lending institutions. You also should consider what income you can realistically expect in your proposed career. Instead of a flat interest rate that is easy to compare, such as 8 or 10 percent, private loan programs generally have interest rates that are variable. Usually, they are based on either the prime rate or a Treasury bill rate, such as the 91-day T-Bill or 13-week T-Bill rate. Interest rates on private loans are usually based on one of these variable rates plus a set percentage, such as the 91-day T-Bill plus 3.75 percent. As these rates fluctuate with the market, the interest rates on the loans go up or down. Usually lenders adjust interest rates on a quarterly basis, but may adjust them as often as monthly. There also may be different interest rates used when you are in school versus when you are in repayment.

There are different kinds of fees that a private loan company may charge. Origination fees may be charged for the creation of the loan. Lenders also may add an additional fee when you enter into repayment. This fee may be assessed on the original principal alone or on the original principal plus the accrued interest. So, when looking at how much a loan program charges in fees, make sure that you add up both the fees charged initially at disbursement and any fees charged at the time you go into repayment. Always be sure to ask your chosen lender about such fees.

Choosing a private loan program is a personal decision: one which should be based on your needs. In the section below, we have provided a list of questions that you should consider when choosing a lender. Based on recent federal guidance, Centenary does not recommend any particular private lender. We suggest you search for a lender that meets your needs.

Questions to ask potential lenders when deciding if their loan is right for me:

- Who do I contact when I have a question or a problem about my loan?
- What are the current interest rates?
- How often do these rates fluctuate?
- Is there an interest rate cap?
- Are there any fee reductions, interest reductions, or other incentives offered during the life of the loan?

- Do the loan interest rates (or other incentives) change based on my credit, academic level, or whether I have a co-signer?
- When are late charges assessed and how much are these charges?
- How is the interest on my loan capitalized quarterly, annually, or only at repayment?
- What are the repayment terms?
- Are there any penalties for pre-payments, late payments or any other reason?

#### Disbursement

In general, the total annual loan amount that you request will be evenly split over the terms of the current academic year. However, if you are applying for a private loan to assist with a one-time educational expense, or a single term, you must indicate to the lender the correct academic terms for which you are applying for the loan. You will need to set the loan period in the loan application to match the academic period for which you want the loan. Again, contact the Financial Aid Office for assistance in setting up your custom loan situation.

#### Credit Check

When you submit an application for a private loan, the lender will generate a credit report to determine your creditworthiness. If you fail to pass the credit check, the lender may give you the option to reapply with a creditworthy co-signer. Most lenders also will offer counseling to determine why you failed and provide guidance for correcting your credit. Applying for a loan with a creditworthy co-signer is always a good idea, as lenders may offer incentives such as a lower interest rate or reduced fees. Be sure to inquire about this possibility with your lender.

Because credit is the main component in a private loan approval, you may want to obtain a copy of your credit report for yourself. You can contact any of the credit bureaus listed below in order to obtain that information:

Bureau	Telephone	Web
Equifax	(800) 685-1111	www.equifax.com
Experian	(888) 397-3742	www.experian.com
<b>Trans Union</b>	800-888-4213	www.transunion.com

#### Final Steps

- 1. Fill out the lender's application. Your lender will review your application and will do a credit check.
- 2. Complete the promissory note process required by your lender.
- 3. Provide any additional documentation your lender may require from you and/or your co-signer.
- 4. You are required to complete and submit a Private Education Loan Application Self-Certification Form to your lender. You can obtain this form from your lender. If you are unable to obtain one from your lender, please notify our office.
- 5. Follow-up with your lender to make sure you (and your co-signer) have submitted all required documentation.

Your lender will electronically transmit (or fax) a request for school certification to Centenary once your private loan is approved and all steps have been completed. Our office will verify enrollment, along with the loan period start and end dates, to ensure your requested loan amount is within your financial aid

budget. We may be required to adjust accordingly. Centenary will not be able to certify your loan until all the required documentation has been submitted to the lender.

### Student Employment/Federal Work Study

The Student Employment program is designed to give Centenary students the opportunity to earn money and get on-the-job training while pursuing a degree. It provides on-campus part-time employment that is funded through Financial Aid and Centenary University. There are a limited number of off-campus positions that fulfill Centenary's commitment to partnering with the community.

Student employment comes from two sources- Federal Work Study and Institutional Work Study. To be considered for Federal Work Study funding all students are encouraged to complete a FAFSA. When a student files the Free Application for Financial Aid (FAFSA), it acts as an application for federal, state, and university financial aid, including campus employment.

You should choose positions in your field of major interest in order to gain the long-term benefit of working in an area that serves your goals and plans.

Any student who wants to work, and has the proper identification, is eligible for a job. Proper identification is a photo ID and an original Social Security card or a passport.

Work study allows you the opportunity to work in a student employment position. The award is NOT a guarantee of employment. You will need to obtain a student employment position through College Central Network at <a href="https://www.ccn.centenaryuniversity.edu">www.ccn.centenaryuniversity.edu</a> and the money you earn from that position will be paid to you directly through payroll.

For more information about Student Employment visit our <u>Career Development website</u>.

### Paying Your Bill

If you are a traditional full-time undergraduate student, you will be billed each semester that you are registered for courses at Centenary. Bill due dates are posted by the Student Accounts Office each year. The payment due date for the Fall 2018 term is August 10<sup>th</sup> and January 3rd, 2019 for the Spring 2019 term.

If you are taking traditional graduate or part-time coursework, you should view your bill online upon registration to ensure that you make payment arrangements within 72 hours.

If you are taking accelerated graduate or undergraduate courses, you should view your bill online upon registration to ensure that you make payment arrangements within 72 hours.

You can view your bill at any time once you have registered through <u>my.Centenary</u>. Please view the Tuition and Fees page at <u>www.centenaryuniversity.edu</u> for information on payment.

### Financial Aid on Billing Statements

Your financial aid awards will show as Pending on your student account until disbursement begins. Pending aid will be considered an on-time payment. Your disbursement may be delayed if you have not begun attendance in all of your courses or you have missing information.

#### Financial Aid Disbursements

Disbursement may not occur until your financial aid awards are finalized and all missing information has been received. Additionally, any financial aid that has a credit requirement may not be disbursed until attendance has been confirmed. For example, scholarships that require full-time status may not be disbursed until attendance is confirmed in at least 12 credits.

Some financial aid awards are determined by an office outside of Centenary, for example the Tuition Aid Grant (TAG) which is determined by HESAA. HESAA can cancel a financial aid award after disbursement has occurred. This can occur if you fail to respond or submit to requests for additional information. You will be notified by the source agency (for example: HESAA) when this occurs.

You will be responsible for any balance due to an adjustment for your financial aid from an outside agency or entity.

#### Disbursements for Students in Traditional Undergraduate and Graduate Programs

Your financial aid is designed to cover your entire academic year which spans from August 27, 2018 through August 15, 2019. This academic year comprises the fall, spring, and summer classes. All summer sessions (Summer I, Summer Online and Summer II) are combined into a summer semester for financial aid.

Your financial aid awards will show as *Anticipated* on your student account until disbursement begins. Pending financial aid will be considered an on-time payment. If you have not begun attendance in all of your courses or you have missing information, your disbursement may be delayed.

Semester Name	Classes Begin the week of:	Classes End the week of:	Aid will begin to disburse the week of:
Fall 2018	August 27, 2018	December 14, 2018	September 12, 2018
Spring 2019	January 14, 2019	May 3, 2019	January 30, 2019
Summer 2019	May 13, 2019	August 15, 2019	May 29, 2019

#### Disbursements for Students in the School of Professional Studies

Your financial aid is designed to cover your entire academic year. Centenary's School of Professional Studies offers courses in 8-week modules through the year. The Financial Aid Office will group to consecutive 8-week registration terms together to create an award period. Your financial aid will be disbursed on an award-period basis. Your award periods may not overlap.

You will receive two disbursements of your federal funds each award period: once for each registration term.

Centenary scholarship awards, state funds, and other funds may disburse only once per award period.

Your financial aid awards will show as *Anticipated* on your billing ledger until disbursement begins. Pending financial aid will be considered an on-time payment. If you have not begun attendance in all of your courses or you have missing information, your disbursement may be delayed.

You can view your assigned award periods on your financial aid via self service. If you believe that your financial aid is awarded on an incorrect award period, please reach out to our office immediately.

Award Period	Registration Term	Registration Term Begins	Registration Term Ends	Disbursement Begin
	FA18A	8/26/18	10/20/18	9/14/18
FA18AB	FA18B	10/21/18	12/15/18	11/7/18
	SP19A	1/13/19	3/9/19	1/30/19
SP19AB	SP19B	3/10/19	5/4/19	3/27/19
	SU19A	5/5/19	6/29/19	5/22/19
SU19AB	SU19B	6/30/19	8/24/19	7/17/19

Award Period	Registration Term	Registration Term Begins	Registration Term Ends	Disbursement Begin
	SU18B	6/24/18	8/25/18	7/20/18
SU18BA	FA18A	8/26/18	10/20/18	9/14/18
FA18BA	FA18B	10/21/18	12/15/18	11/7/18

	SP18A	1/13/19	3/9/19	1/30/19
	SP18B	3/10/19	5/4/19	3/27/19
SP18BA	SU18A	5/5/19	6/29/19	5/22/19

#### Credit Balance Refunds

If your financial aid exceeds the charges on your student billing ledger, you may receive a refund. Refunds should be available within two (2) weeks of the disbursement that created the refund. If your refund consists of loan funds, it is important to remember that your loans must be repaid and may be accruing interest while you are in school. If you would like to reduce your loan debt by returning some or all of your refund check to your lender, please stop by the Student Accounts Office for assistance.

#### **Book Vouchers**

Centenary offers all students the option to request book advancements. Bookstore advances are based on the amount of excess financial aid pending on your student account. This means that once your tuition, room/board, and fees have been paid, the excess can be used to buy books from Centenary's bookstore. Once the refund process has begun, the student can no longer request a Bookstore advance.

The following policies apply:

- You must be matriculated and registered for classes
- All requested documents must have been submitted to the Financial Aid Office before requesting the voucher
- Vouchers will be available for use no earlier than the first day of the semester or trimester

To request a book advance, you must complete a Bookstore Voucher form. Bookstore Voucher forms are available in the Student Accounts Office. If you cannot pick up the voucher, please email a request for a voucher to <a href="mailto:studentaccounts@centenaryuniversity.edu">studentaccounts@centenaryuniversity.edu</a> and one will be emailed to you. Once you receive the form, please follow the instructions on the form and return the original signed formed to the Student Accounts Office.

### Financial Aid Calendar and Timeline

Not sure where you are in the financial aid process. Below, we talk about the general process for financial aid. In addition, we have a full financial aid calendar for the 2018-2019 academic year.

After you have been admitted to Centenary and completed your FAFSA, the next steps will help you.

- 1. Log in to and use your Centenary email account. Almost all of our correspondence to you will go to your Centenary email account.
- Check your financial aid online through the My Financial Aid link in my.Centenary.
  - o Check for any missing items from the **Required Documents** link
  - Check your financial aid awards from the My Awards link
- 3. Provide any requested information ASAP
- 4. Once you have registered and your financial aid has been awarded, check your bill in the **My Billing Ledger** section of <u>my.Centenary</u>.

5. Make payment arrangements, such as parent or student loans, payment plan, etc., for any remaining balance. Check our <a href="Paying Your Bill">Paying Your Bill</a> section for more information. Check the calendar below for payment deadline dates.

If you haven't borrowed a Federal Direct Subsidized or Unsubsidized loan at Centenary before, you will need to complete Entrance Counseling and Master Promissory Note (MPN) online at <a href="https://www.studentloans.gov">www.studentloans.gov</a>.

Any NJ Tuition Aid Grant (TAG) shown is *estimated* and may differ from the official award value. You can determine the correct award amount by visiting the New Jersey Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA) website at <u>njfams.hesaa.org</u>.

Date	Deadline
	2018-2019 FAFSA is available
	The 2018-2019 FAFSA can be submitting starting today. You can complete your
October 1, 2018	FAFSA online at <u>www.fafsa.gov</u>
	Priority FAFSA deadline for returning students
	Submit your FAFSA before April 1 each year to maximize the amount of aid you
	receive. Eligible students who apply by this date have a greater chance of
	receiving need-based aid. The priority filing date is not a deadline, so still submit
April 1, 2018	your FAFSA even if the priority filing date has passed.
	FAFSA deadline for returning TAG students
	Students who received TAG in 2017-2018 must complete their FAFSA no later than
April 15, 2018	June 1 <sup>st</sup> to be considered for TAG in 2018-2019.
	Fall bills due (traditional students)
	Fall 2018 bills are due for all registered students. Financial aid may not cover the
August 15, 2018	full charges, payments for that balance is due but August 15.
	Book vouchers can be used
	Contact the Student Accounts Office to determine if you are eligible to use your
August 24, 2018	excess financial aid to purchase books in the bookstore.
	FA18A term disbursements begin
September 12, 2018	Disbursements will begin for students enrolled in FA18A courses.
	Fall 2018 Semester disbursements begin
	Disbursements will begin for students enrolled in August 2018 and October 2018
September 12, 2018	courses.
	FAFSA deadline for new TAG students
	Students who did not received TAG in 2018-2019 must complete their FAFSA no
September 15, 2018	later than September 15 <sup>th</sup> to be considered for TAG in 2018-2019.
	Submission of missing information for Fall 2018 financial aid
	Financial aid awards will begin to be cancelled for students with missing
	information. Missing information submitted after this deadline will be accepted
September 15, 2018	and reviewed. Aid may be reinstated if the student is eligible and funds remain.
	2019-2019 FAFSA is available
October 1, 2018	You heard that right. You can now begin to complete your 2019-2019 FAFSA.
	Submission of missing information to HESAA for Fall 2018 state aid
	All requested information must be submitted to HESAA prior to this deadline to be
November 1, 2018	considered for state funds for the Fall 2016 semester.
	FA18B term disbursements begin
November 7, 2018	Disbursements will begin for students enrolled in FA18B courses.
January 5, 2019	Spring bills due (traditional students)

	Spring 2019 bills are due for all registered students. Financial aid may not cover		
	the full charges, payments for that balance is due by January 5.		
	Submission of missing information for Spring 2019 financial aid		
	Financial aid awards will begin to be cancelled for students with missing		
	information. Missing information submitted after this deadline will be accepted		
January 26, 2019	and reviewed. Aid may be reinstated if the student is eligible and funds remain.		
	SP19A term disbursements begin		
January 30, 2019	Disbursements will begin for students enrolled in SP19A courses.		
	Spring 2019 Semester disbursements begin		
January 30, 2019	Disbursements will begin for students enrolled in Spring 2019 courses.		
	Submission of missing information to HESAA for Renewal Spring 2019 state aid		
	All requested information must be submitted to HESAA prior to this deadline to be		
March 1, 2019	considered for state funds for the Spring 2019 semester.		
	Submission of missing information to HESAA for New Spring 2019 state aid		
	All requested information must be submitted to HESAA prior to this deadline to be		
March 1, 2019	considered for state funds for the Spring 2019 semester.		
	SP19B term disbursements begin		
March 27, 2019	Disbursements will begin for students enrolled in SP19B courses.		
	Submission of missing information for Summer 2019 financial aid		
	Financial aid awards will begin to be cancelled for students with missing		
	information. Missing information submitted after this deadline will be accepted		
May 19, 2019	and reviewed. Aid may be reinstated if the student is eligible and funds remain.		
	SU19A term disbursements begin		
May 22, 2019	Disbursements will begin for students enrolled in SU19A courses.		
	Summer I 2019 Semester disbursements begin		
May 31, 2019	Disbursements will begin for students enrolled in Summer I 2019 courses.		
	Summer II 2019 Semester disbursements begin		
July 17, 2019	Disbursements will begin for students enrolled in Summer II 2019 courses.		
	SU19B term disbursements begin		
July 17, 2019	Disbursements will begin for students enrolled in SU19B courses.		

### Special Programs/Populations

### Consortium Agreements

A Consortium Agreement is a written, formal agreement between two institutions eligible to participate in Title IV Federal funding programs. The Consortium Agreement allows a student to enroll in courses at another institution while working toward a degree at Centenary University. Furthermore, classes must be fully accepted into a degree program at Centenary.

### **Graduating Students**

If you dropping below full-time in your last semester of study prior to graduation, you may have your financial aid adjusted. You may only receive financial aid for credits required for graduation.

You should complete Direct Loan Exit Counseling online at <a href="www.studentloans.gov">www.studentloans.gov</a> prior to graduating. During Exit Counseling, you can review your entire federal student loan borrowing, including any loans that you may have borrowed while at Centenary as well as from other institutions. In addition to Exit Counseling, if you borrowed from an alternative loan lender, you should contact that lender as well to determine loan repayment options.

#### To learn more about:

- Income-Based Repayment: Find out more about adjusting your monthly payments based on your income
  - www.studentaid.ed.gov/repay-loans/understand/plans/income-based
- Pay-as-you-Earn: Find out more about decreasing your monthly payments due to a financial hardship
  - www.studentaid.ed.gov/repay-loans/understand/plans/pay-as-you-earn
- Loan consolidation: Find out more about consolidating your multiple federal loans into a single loan
  - https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/repay-loans/consolidation
- Federal Public Service Loan Forgiveness: Find out more about having some or all of your federal direct loans forgiven due to public service employment
   http://studentaid.ed.gov/repay-loans/forgiveness-cancellation/charts/public-service

You can also review your federal student loans through the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) online at <a href="http://nsldsfap.ed.gov/">http://nsldsfap.ed.gov/</a>. Remember, it is your responsibility to update each student loan servicer with your contact information.

It is important that you repay your student loans. If you feel you may have a problem making a scheduled payment on your student loans, you should contact your servicer immediately. Your servicer will work with you to help avoid the adverse consequences of delinquency or default. The options to avoid default include changing repayment plans, receiving a deferment, or requesting forbearance. The US Department of Education, Office of the Ombudsman, 877-557-2575, has been created to assist students with problems or discrepancies relating to their loans.

### Second Bachelor's Degree

A student is considered to be completing a second bachelor's degree if he or she has already completed the credits required for a first bachelor's degree, whether or not the degree was actually conferred by

Centenary or another institution. Students working on two degrees simultaneously must complete both degrees in the same semester in order to retain eligibility financial aid. Students who have already completed a bachelor's degree may be eligible to receive Centenary awards, federal loans, work study, and alternative education loans, and outside scholarships, if eligible.

# Study Abroad Programs

Centenary University views international education as part of an undergraduate experience. As technology continues to shrink our world, we encourage all students to spend time abroad and/or away in a structured international activity before graduation.

Many students have concerns about the costs of studying at another institution. While numerous factors contribute to the overall cost of study in a foreign country, Centenary is committed to making study abroad an option for all students. Centenary offers comprehensive financial aid to eligible students for study abroad costs during the academic year.

### Information for Centenary Study Abroad and Study Away Programs

For information on Centenary University Study Abroad Programs, please visit the School of International Program's website at http://www.centenaryuniversity.edu/international-programs.

#### **Study Abroad Financial Aid**

The costs of study through one of Centenary's Study Abroad or Study Away opportunities are similar to the cost of a semester at Centenary. One of the ways that Centenary makes this possible is by allowing our students to apply their financial aid to their semester(s) studying abroad or away.

You may apply your federal (excluding federal work study), state, or institutional awards to your charges for Centenary semester(s) abroad provided that you are enrolled full-time (the equivalent of at least 12 Centenary undergraduate credits per semester).

Centenary University grants associated with on-campus residency may be applied to your charges for study abroad or study away only if your housing charges are billed through Centenary University.

If you are using Centenary University Employee Tuition Benefit Program, you will be eligible to use your benefits on a first-come, first-served basis until funds are exhausted.

If you receive Council of Independent College (CIC) or Tuition Exchange Program (TEP) benefits, you will not be eligible to use these benefits for the cost of a Study Abroad or Study Away program through Centenary University. Your original admission award can be reactivated for your study abroad program. You should contact the Financial Aid Office to discuss options for federal, state, and institutional awards.

In selected cases, your Cost of Attendance (COA) may be adjusted to reflect additional expenses that you may incur while studying abroad. The increase to the COA allows you to apply for additional loan funds to cover study-related expenses. Contact the Financial Aid Office for more information on this process.

### **Centenary Study Abroad Costs**

You will be billed Centenary University tuition and fees and submit your payments to Centenary University.

### **Centenary Study Abroad Housing Charges**

Students in the Washington Semester Program will be billed Centenary University room and board charges for the traditional on-campus room and board component. If you choose other on-campus options, you will be billed for the actual costs through Centenary University.

Students in any other study abroad program will work with the Study Abroad Coordinator to arrange room and board. In certain programs, the Host Institution will bill Centenary and Centenary will bill the student the actual cost of such room and board. In all other cases, students will submit payment for room and board directly to the Host Institutions or other parties.

### Paying Study Abroad Costs with Financial Aid

You may be required to pay some costs (plane tickets, program/housing deposits or other expenses) prior to the date that financial aid is posted to your student accounts. You should expect to pay for these costs out-of-pocket.

Financial aid will be disbursed to your account at Centenary University shortly after your attendance is confirmed at your study abroad or study away location. If your financial aid exceeds the charges on your account, the Student Accounts Office will issue a refund check to you for the excess funds.

### Information for Non-Centenary Study Abroad and Study Away Programs

Centenary students studying through a non-Centenary study abroad program may still be able to use their federal financial aid. You should complete a Consortium Agreement in order to determine if your financial aid can be used for a study abroad program sponsored by another institution.

#### **Additional Sources of Aid**

You may choose to seek additional sources of funding beyond your normal financial aid package for your study abroad experience. You can also research options on two helpful websites, <a href="www.studyabroadfunding.org">www.studyabroadfunding.org</a> and <a href="www.iefa.org">www.iefa.org</a>. If you are hoping to apply for non-Centenary scholarships, you should begin planning early as many of these awards have application deadlines far in advance of the semester of study abroad.

### Summer Financial Aid

Your summer aid is automatically awarded if you are in the School of Professional Studies.

If you are in traditional graduate or undergraduate programs, you should request to be evaluated for summer financial aid. Summer aid is awarded after the current academic year, meaning the current <u>FAFSA</u> is used to process any remaining eligibility for the summer.

A FAFSA for the current academic year must be completed no later than June 30th to be considered for federal student aid for the summer. You must also be matriculated (seeking a degree) and making <a href="Satisfactory Academic Progress">Satisfactory Academic Progress</a> in order to be considered for federal financial aid. Additionally, you must have a complete financial aid file for the current academic year before any summer funds can be disbursed to your account. You may view your financial aid file to check for any missing information via my. Centenary.

There are three summer sessions offered by the University; students may enroll in any combination of classes during the summer.

- Summer 1 mid-May through the beginning of July
- Summer Online early June through mid-July
- Summer 2- mid-July through mid-August

You should register for all of your summer credits before requesting financial aid. For information on classes offered and the registration process, please visit the Registrar's Website.

### **Summer Federal Direct Loan Eligibility for Undergraduates and Graduates**

As an undergraduate student, you must take six or more credits during the summer to receive Federal Direct Loans, which includes Direct Subsidized Loans, Direct Unsubsidized Loans and Parent PLUS Loans.

As a graduate student, you must take at least 4.5 credits during the summer to receive Federal Direct Unsubsidized and Graduate PLUS Loans.

The annual loan limits for Federal Direct Loans are listed below. If you have used all of your loan eligibility during the fall and spring semesters may choose to apply for a <u>private loan</u> or a Parent of Graduate PLUS Loan (if applicable).

### **Dependent Students**

Academic Level	Maximum Federal Maximum Direct Loan Amount	Additional Unsubsidized Amount	Annual maximum amounts a dependent undergraduate may borrow in combined Subsidized and Unsubsidized Direct Loan
Freshman	\$3,500	\$2,000	\$5,500
Sophomore	\$4,500	\$2,000	\$6,500
Junior/Senior	\$5,500	\$2,000	\$7,500

### **Independent Students**

Academic Level	Maximum Federal Direct Subsidized Amount	Unsubsidized Amount	Annual maximum amounts an independent student may borrow in combined Subsidized and Unsubsidized Direct Loan
Freshman	\$3,500	\$6,000	\$9,500
Sophomore	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$10,500
Junior/Senior	\$5,500	\$7,500	\$12,500
Graduate	Not Eligible	\$20,500	\$20,500

### **Private Loan Eligibility**

You are eligible to borrow a private loan during the summer to cover expenses that other financial aid does not cover. If you are enrolling for less than half time during the summer, you may apply for private loans through lenders who do not require you to be enrolled half time or more. We strongly recommend, however, that you exhaust all federal aid options before borrowing a private loan. For more information on private loans, please see our <u>Private Loan</u> section of this guide.

### **Federal Pell Grant for Eligible Undergraduates**

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2017 allows a student to receive Federal Pell Grant funds for up to 150 percent of the student's Pell Grant Scheduled Award for an award year.

To be eligible for the additional Pell Grant funds, the student must meet all general eligibility requirements to receive financial aid for the payment period and must be enrolled at least half time in the payment period for which the student receives the additional Pell Grant funds in excess of 100 percent of the student's Pell Grant Scheduled Award.

Important Note: The amount of Federal Pell Grant funds a student may receive over his or her lifetime is limited by a federal law to be 600 percent. If a student's lifetime eligibility used (LEU) equals or exceeds 600 percent, the student may no longer receive Pell Grant funding. Students can log on to www.nslds.ed.gov to view their Pell Grant LEU.

### **Visiting Students**

Visiting students are not eligible for any financial aid through Centenary, including federal or private loans. Students visiting from another university who would like to take courses at Centenary University over the summer should request a consortium agreement from their home institution, which will allow their home institution to process their financial aid for courses that they are taking at Centenary. Students should work with the Student Accounts Office to determine how they can use their funds from their home institution to pay for their courses at Centenary. Students may be required to pay Centenary for their courses and reimburse themselves with the financial aid received from their home institution.

#### Disbursement of Aid

Financial aid for summer sessions will disburse around the following times:

- Summer 1 first week of June
- Summer Online second week of June
- Summer 2 third week of July

You may be required to pay some costs (living expenses and books) prior to the date that your financial aid will be posted to your accounts. You should expect to pay for these costs out-of-pocket.

Financial aid will be disbursed to your accounts at Centenary University shortly after your attendance is confirmed for the required number of credits. If your financial aid exceeds the charges on your account, the <a href="Student Accounts Office">Student Accounts Office</a> will issue a refund check to you for the excess funds approximately 2 weeks after the excess appears on a student's billing ledger.

# Policies and Disclosures

As required by the Higher Education Opportunity Act – 2008, Centenary provides a variety of information to the campus community and prospective students. Links to these policies and reports and to the offices that provide them can be found at <a href="http://www.centenaryuniversity.edu/about-centenary/general-information/complianceconsumer-information/">http://www.centenaryuniversity.edu/about-centenary/general-information/complianceconsumer-information/</a>. Print copies can be requested from the offices listed on the website.

# Satisfactory Academic Progress

Centenary University students are required to meet the minimum standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) in order to maintain eligibility for federal, state, and institutional financial aid. Centenary is required to establish an SAP policy in accordance with U.S. Department of Education regulation 34 CFR 668.34.

This policy applies to all Centenary students. The SAP policy for financial aid is at least as strict as the academic policy for students who are not receiving financial aid. Students will be evaluated at the end of each award period.

### **Academic Standing**

The Academic Standing policy is listed in the Centenary University catalog. **Please note that Academic Standing is different from SAP**. Students who are academically dismissed from Centenary are ineligible for financial aid. Appeals for readmission to Centenary will be considered by the Academic Review Board (ARB) and students must appeal separately for SAP.

### Minimum Standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) is measured by three standards: qualitative, quantitative, and maximum timeframe.

### Qualitative Standard (GPA)

In order to meet qualitative standard for SAP, students must earn at least a minimum cumulative GPA. The GPA used for determining SAP is the GPA as defined by Centenary's Registrar's Office. Courses excluded for academic amnesty will be included in the GPA used for SAP.

Undergraduate students must earn at least a 2.00 cumulative GPA in their undergraduate coursework and graduate and doctoral students must earn at least a 3.00 cumulative GPA in their graduate coursework.

Undergraduate students must earn a .75 cumulative GPA or below during their first semester at Centenary.

Graduate students who earn more than one grade of C and/or at least one grade of F in a graduate course are not meeting the minimum qualitative standard regardless of cumulative GPA.

Doctoral students who earn more than one grade lower than a B- are not meeting the minimum qualitative standard regardless of cumulative GPA.

### **Quantitative Standard (Pace of Completion)**

In order to meet quantitative standard for SAP, students must complete 75% of cumulative attempted credits.

Pace is defined as the total number of credits completed divided by the total number of credits attempted. For example, a student who has completed 18 of his/her 27 attempted credits would have completed 66.7% of his/her attempted credits. This student would not meet the minimum standard of 75%.

#### Maximum Timeframe

Students may not receive financial aid for credits in excess of 150% of the number of credits required for graduation from their selected program. For example, if the student's program requires a minimum of 39 credits to graduate, the student would become ineligible for financial aid once the student has attempted 58 (39 \* 150%) credits.

Graduate and Doctoral students may not receive financial aid for credits that are taken more than seven (7) years after the beginning their program.

Graduate students in the Student Assistance Coordinator program may not receive financial aid for credits that are taken more than four (4) years after the beginning their program.

### **Students Not Meeting the Minimum Standards for SAP**

Satisfactory academic progress is evaluated at the end of each award period. If the student does not meet the minimum standards of SAP as defined above, one of the following SAP statuses will be assigned to the student.

### **Satisfactory**

If the student meets the minimum standards of SAP as defined above, the student is eligible to receive federal student aid funds in the following semester of enrollment.

A student who has no prior academic history at Centenary or who is meeting the requirements above will be in a Satisfactory status.

### Financial Aid Warning

A student who fails to meet quantitative or qualitative measures of SAP will be placed in a status of Financial Aid Warning for the next award period of enrollment. The student will remain eligible to receive federal student aid funds while in Financial Aid Warning status.

A student who does not meet minimum quantitate or qualitative standards at the end of their period of Financial Aid Warning will be ineligible for financial aid for the next award period and assigned a status of Financial Aid Suspension.

Undergraduate students who earn less than a .75 cumulative GPA during their first semester at Centenary are not eligible for a warning status.

Graduate students who earn more than one C and/or at least one F are not eligible for a warning status. Doctoral students who earn less than a B are also not eligible for a warning status.

### Financial Aid Suspension

A student who does not meet the minimum quantitative or qualitative standards of SAP after a Financial Aid Warning is ineligible for financial aid; however, these students may appeal using the appeals process in this policy.

A student who does not meet the maximum timeframe standard is ineligible for financial aid; however, these students may appeal using the appeals process in this policy.

A graduate student who earns more than one C and/or at least one F is ineligible for financial aid; however, these students may appeal using the appeals process in this policy.

A doctoral student who earns less than a B is ineligible for financial aid; however, these students may appeal using the appeals process in this policy.

A student who has not met the terms of their Financial Aid Probation (see below) is ineligible for financial aid and may not appeal.

### **Financial Aid Probation**

A student will be placed in a status of Financial Aid Probation if an SAP appeal, using the process indicated in the policy below, is approved. The student will remain in a status of Financial Aid Probation as long as he/she continues to meet the terms of their academic plan. Financial Aid Probation ends once the student meets the minimum standards of SAP. Students are eligible for financial aid while on Financial Aid Probation.

A student may receive financial aid for the award period during which the appeal was approved. A student must notify the Financial Aid Office each time that they update their academic plan.

### **Treatment of Courses**

- Attempted credits include all transfer, PLA, AP, IB and CLEP credits in addition to all credits for which the student earned a grade including grades of F, I, MD, P, W or WF. Attempted credits will include all repeated courses, regardless of the grade of the course, at the student's evaluated academic level.
- Completed credits include all transfer, PLA, AB, IB and CLEP credits in addition to all credits for which the student earned any grade other than F, I, MD, W or WF. Completed credits will include all repeated courses that the student has successfully completed at the student's evaluated academic level.
- Audit courses are not counted when determining either the attempted or completed courses.

### **Re-establishing Eligibility**

Students who are ineligible for financial aid can re-establish their eligibility by meeting the minimum standards for SAP. Students may also appeal to have their eligibility reinstated.

### **Appeals Process**

Students who are ineligible for financial aid by reason of not meeting the minimum standards of SAP may appeal for reinstatement of financial aid. To appeal, the student must submit a written explanation of any extenuating circumstances that prevented them from maintaining satisfactory academic progress as well as a graduation plan completed with their advisor.

Appeals should be directed to the Financial Aid Office and should address the entire academic history, not just the prior semester. Supporting documentation, including, but not limited to

doctor's notes, newspaper articles, or letters from third parties, regarding the conditions for appeal are suggested.

All appeal decisions are final. Students will be notified of the results of the appeal via Centenary email. Students awaiting a response to their appeal are responsible for paying their tuition and fees by the payment deadline to register for classes or to avoid late fees.

## Withdrawal Policy

Federal Title IV financial aid funds are awarded under the assumption that a student will remain in attendance for the entire payment period for which the funds were awarded. A student is considered withdrawn if the student does not complete all of the days in the payment period that the student was scheduled to complete. The exact consequences to a student who does not remain in attendance for the entire payment period depend on a number of factors, including, but not limited to the type and amount of aid, current institutional charges, and the last date of attendance.

Centenary adheres to Federal, State and University regulations regarding financial aid funds disbursed for a student who completely withdraws from during a payment period. Return of funds policies are fair and equitable and applied uniformly.

### **Centenary University Withdrawal and Leave of Absence Policies**

Students who will not be returning to Centenary for the following semester or class should provide official notification to the University of their intent to withdraw or take a leave of absence (LOA). Traditional undergraduate and graduate students should work with the Student Success Coach and School of Professional Studies (SPS) students should work with their Program Advisor to withdraw or take an LOA.

Students who leave Centenary or withdraw from all of their courses without providing official notification will be considered to have unofficially withdrawn from the University for the purposes of financial aid.

The last date of attendance will be the date that Centenary determines to be the student's last date of documented attendance at an academically related activity. If no attendance is available, the student will be considered to have never begun attendance.

Withdrawing from, or not attending, classes may also result in a reassessment of charges. The full University withdrawal and leave of absence policies can be found in the appropriate Centenary catalog at <a href="http://www.centenaryuniversity.edu/academics/university-catalog/">http://www.centenaryuniversity.edu/academics/university-catalog/</a>.

### **Centenary Refund Policy**

Centenary's institutional charges refund policy may differ from the refund policy for financial aid. Please visit the Institutional Refund Policy for Tuition, Room, Board, and Fees webpage at <a href="http://www.centenaryuniversity.edu/admission-aid/tuition-and-billing/bursar-office/">http://www.centenaryuniversity.edu/admission-aid/tuition-and-billing/bursar-office/</a>.

#### **Consequences of Withdrawal**

Students must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) in order to receive future financial aid. SAP is comprised of three (3) standards: qualitative, quantitative, and maximum timeframe. Students who withdraw risk not meeting the minimum standards of SAP. For more information on SAP, please review the FA Policy page.

Students who withdraw may have their charges and or financial aid adjusted. These adjustments may result in a balance. Balances above a certain limit may prohibit a student from registration for future semesters or from viewing or receiving their transcripts.

Student who drop below half time or withdraw may begin to go into repayment on their current federal student loans. Students should immediately contact their student loan servicer to determine when their first payment is due to ensure that they do not become delinquent.

Students who had been awarded a Centenary admission award must maintain full-time enrollment in order to remain eligible for their awards. Students who withdraw from the University or do not return for a subsequent semester, and are not on an LOA, will lose eligibility for their scholarship.

### **Payment Periods**

Payment period dates may be adjusted based on the classes that a student is taking. Breaks will not be included in a payment period completed or scheduled dates if the break is a Centenary scheduled break of five (5) or more days.

### **Traditional Payment Periods**

The payment periods for traditional students are the fall semester, spring semester, and summer (which contains the summer I, summer online, and summer II sessions). Scheduled breaks of five or more days, as indicated, will not be counted toward the scheduled days in the payment period.

Award	Registration	Registration	B I.	Term	Days in	C00/
Period	Term	Term Begins	Break	End	Term	60%
Fall 2018	Fall 2018	8/27/18	N/A	12/14/18	110	11/1/18
Spring 2019	Spring 2019	1/14/19	3/11/19- 3/15/19	5/3/19	110	3/21/19
C	Summer I 2019	5/13/19	N/A	6/24/19	43	6/8/19
Summer 2019	Summer OL 2019	5/26/19	N/A	7/20/19	56	6/29/19
2013	Summer II 2019	7/1/19	N/A	8/15/19	46	7/29/19

### School of Professional Studies Payment Periods

Payment periods for accelerated students are the fall, spring and summer trimesters. Scheduled breaks of five or more days, as indicated, will not be counted toward the scheduled days in the payment period.

Award Period	Registration Term	Registration Term Begins	Scheduled Break	Registration Term Ends	Days in Award Period	60%
FA10AD	FA18A	8/26/2018		10/20/2018	112	11/1/2010
FA18AB	FA18B	10/21/2018		12/15/2018	112	11/1/2018
CD40AD	SP19A	1/13/2019		3/9/2019	442	2/24/2010
SP19AB	SP19B	3/10/2019		5/4/2019	112	3/21/2019
SU19AB	SU19A	5/5/2019		6/29/2019	112	7/11/2010
	SU19B	6/30/2019		8/24/2019	112	7/11/2019

Award Period	Registration Term	Registration Term Begins	Scheduled Break	Registration Term Ends	Days in Award Period	60%
CLIAODA	SU18B	6/24/2018	7/1/18 -	8/25/2018	112	9/6/2018
SU18BA	FA18A	8/26/2018	7/7/18	10/20/2018	112	9/0/2018
EA10DA	FA18B	10/21/2018	12/16/18 -	12/15/2018	112	1/24/2019
FA19BA	SP19A	1/13/2019	1/12/19	3/9/2019	112	1/24/2019
SP19BA	SP19B	3/10/2019		5/4/2019	112	F /16 /2010
	SU19A	5/5/2019		6/29/2019	112	5/16/2019

### <u>Payment Periods for Other Groups</u>

Students in Online MLPA, Education Practice, or in other non-term programs have payment periods that are students specific.

#### **Students Enrolled in Accelerated Courses**

A student is considered withdrawn if the student does not complete all of the days in the payment period that the student was scheduled to complete. If a student withdraws from a course in a later accelerated course while still attending a current accelerated course, the student is not considered as withdrawn based on not attending the later accelerated course. However, a recalculation of aid based on the change in enrollment status may be required.

If a student provides written notice to the Financial Aid Office at the time of withdrawal from a current accelerated course that s/he plans to attend a later accelerated course in the same payment period, s/he is not considered a withdrawal. If the student does not provide that written confirmation, a return calculation will be performed to determine the amount of aid the student is eligible to retain. However, if the student does return in a later accelerated course in the same payment period, regardless of whether prior written confirmation was received, the return calculation will be reversed and the student will be awarded the funds that s/he is eligible to receive at the time of return.

### When a Student Fails to Begin Attendance

Aid will be cancelled for any class in which a student fails to begin attendance.

### When a Student Fails or Withdraws from All Courses within a Payment Period

If a financial aid recipient, who has not officially withdrawn, fails to receive a passing grade in at least one class during the term, the Financial Aid Office will determine whether the student actually established eligibility for the aid originally awarded. If the student did not begin attendance, or stopped attending during the payment period, the financial aid originally awarded will be canceled or adjusted.

### Withdrawal v. Change of Enrollment

After beginning attendance in the period, did the student cease to attend or fail to begin attendance in a course he or she was scheduled to attend? If no, this student is not a withdrawal.

When a student ceased to attend or failed to begin attendance, was the student still attending any other courses? If yes, this student is not a withdrawal, however the aid may be recalculated.

Did the student confirm attendance in a course in a module beginning later in the period? If yes, this is not a withdrawal unless the student doesn't return as scheduled.

## Financial Aid Adjustments for Students Withdrawing or Taking an LOA from All Classes

The following chart describes the consequences, by type of aid, when a student stops attending ALL of their classes, whether a withdrawal or an LOA.

Aid Source	Example Aid Programs	Effects of Withdrawal on Term Aid
Federal Title IV Financial Aid	Pell Grant, SEOG, Perkins Loan, Federal Direct Loans (Subsidized, Unsubsidized and PLUS)	A calculation must be performed to determine the amount of aid that a student has earned. Unearned aid must be returned to the aid programs. After the 60% point of the term, all aid is considered earned.
7.1.2	Federal Work-Study	Students are not eligible to work once they have stopped attending.
New Jersey State Aid	NJ Tuition Aid Grant (TAG), Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF), Distinguished Scholars, Urban Scholars, Governor's Urban Scholarship, and NJ STARS II	Eligibility for state funds will be based on the number of credits in attendance at the time of disbursement. If a student is in attendance for all classes required for disbursement of state funds on the date of disbursement, the student will be eligible to retain their state funds. If it is determined that a student was not in attendance for all classes required for disbursement of state funds on the date of disbursement, the student will not be eligible for their state aid disbursement and/or state funds may need to be returned the state.
Centenary Aid	All Centenary University Scholarships, Grants, and Awards	For students who began attendance for the semester, Centenary non-housing related grants, scholarships or awards may be prorated based on the same calculation as tuition.  Students who did not begin attendance are not eligible for any Centenary awards.  Centenary housing related grants, scholarships, or awards may be prorated based on the same calculation as housing charges.  Students who are working under the Institutional Work Study Program are not eligible to work once they have stopped attending.

Outside Aid	Including, but not limited to, outside scholarships, alternative student loans, DVR funding and others	Centenary will confirm with outside entities to determine the student's eligibility for their outside scholarships, grants, awards or loans. Centenary will apply the adjustment policy as indicated by the outside agency.
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### **Federal Return of Funds Policy Guidelines**

Federal regulations require Centenary to determine the earned and unearned portions of Title IV aid as of the date the student ceased attendance based on the amount of time the student spent in attendance. This policy is in effect for students who withdraw or take an LOA.

Centenary will be required to return the lesser of the percentage of unearned charges or the amount to be returned. The student may be required to return any additional aid.

A pro rata schedule is used to determine the amount of Title IV funds the student has earned at the time of withdrawal or LOA up through the 60% point in the semester. After the 60% point in the semester, a student has earned 100% of the Title IV funds he or she was scheduled to receive during the period.

#### **Order of Return of Funds**

The Return of Title IV funds will be calculated in the following order:

- Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan
- Direct Subsidized Stafford Loan
- Perkins Loan
- PLUS Loan / Federal Graduate PLUS Loan
- Pell Grant
- Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG)
- TEACH Grant
- Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant
- Other Title IV assistance

### Example:

John withdraws from all of his classes with a last date of attendance of October 13<sup>th</sup>. John's charges at Centenary were \$15,471.

The following steps will be taken

### 1) Determine the amount of funds disbursed or that could have been disbursed to John

The following federal aid was disbursed to John. There are no undisbursed funds.

\$990 Direct Unsubsidized Loan

\$2226 Direct Subsidized Loan

\$2865 Federal Pell Grant

\$6081 Total Federal Aid Received

### 2) Determine the percentage of aid earned

John has completed 48 of the 111 days in the payment period. John earned (43.2%) 48/111 of his federal aid.

#### 3) Determine the amount of aid earned by John

John is eligible to keep (48/111) 43.2% of his \$6,081 federal aid, or \$2627

4) Determine if funds need to be disbursed to John or returned to the Department of Education John earned \$2,627 of his \$6,081 disbursed: \$3,454 must be returned to the Department of Education

### 5) Determine the amount of unearned aid that Centenary must return

Centenary must return the lesser of

- a) the amount of unearned charges 56.8% (100% 43.2%) of the \$15,471 charges totaling \$8,787, or
- b) the total funds to be returned of \$3,454 from step 4 above

### 6) Return of Funds by Centenary

Centenary will return funds to the Department of Education in the order indicated:

\$990 Direct Unsubsidized Loan

\$2226 Direct Subsidized Loan

\$238 Federal Pell Grant

\$3454 Federal Aid Returned

### 7) Return of funds by John

John would need to return any funds remaining after the calculation in step 6 above. There are no additional funds to return.

### 8) Return of loan funds by John

John will need to repay any additional unearned loan funds under the terms of his Master Promissory Note (MPN). There are no additional loan funds to return.

### 9) Determination and Return of grant funds by John

John would need to return any unearned grant funds, after the application of a 50% grant protection amount has been applied. There are no additional grant funds to return.

### **Post-Withdrawal Disbursement**

If a student withdraws or take an LOA prior to any or all federal aid being disbursed, the student may be entitled to a post-withdrawal disbursement. Students will be notified of their post-withdrawal disbursement. Post-withdrawal disbursements will be credited first toward unpaid institutional charges. Any portion of a post-withdrawal disbursement that exceeds unpaid institutional charges will be offered as a disbursement to the student. Students must accept this disbursement within 14 days of the offer. If a response is not received, or if the offer is declined, these excess funds will be returned to the appropriate Title IV program.

### Example:

Mary withdraws from all of her classes with a last date of attendance of September 13<sup>th</sup>. Mary was awarded the following federal aid, but withdraws before it has disbursed.

\$990 Direct Unsubsidized Loan \$2226 Direct Subsidized Loan \$440 Federal Pell Grant

\$3656 Total Federal Aid Received

Using steps 1 through 4 in the example for John, above, Mary has completed 18 of the 111 days in the payment period. Mary is eligible to keep (18/111) 16.2% of her \$3,656 federal aid, or \$592.

Using the order of Return of Funds, Mary's student account will be credited with the \$440 Pell and Mary will be offered the remaining \$152 (\$592 - \$440) as a Direct Subsidized Loan.

If Mary accepts her loan, the \$152 will be disbursed to her billing ledger. If Mary declines or does not accept her loan, her entire loan will be cancelled.

### **Timeline**

Within 30 days of the date of determination of the withdrawal date (which is the last date of attendance), Centenary will perform the Return of Title IV Funds calculation

Within 30 days of the date of determination of the withdrawal date, Centenary will notify the student if there is a post-withdrawal disbursement due to the student of loan funds or an overpayment of grant funds, if applicable.

Within 45 days of the date of determination of the withdrawal date, Centenary will return the school owed funds to the appropriate Title IV program account.

Within 45 days of the date of determination of the withdrawal date, Centenary will pay a student a post-withdrawal disbursement of grant funds

Within 180 days of the date of determination of the withdrawal date, Centenary will pay a student a post-withdrawal disbursement of loan funds, if student requested funds within 14 days of notification by the school of their availability.

Student will be responsible for any remaining balance on their student account within 30 days.

### **Financial Aid Adjustments for Students Withdrawing from Some Classes**

The following chart describes the consequences, by type of aid, when a student withdraws or stops some of their classes.

Aid Source	Example Aid Programs	Effects of Withdrawal on Term Aid
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Federal Title	Federal Pell Grant	Federal Pell Grant eligibility is calculated based on the number of credits that a student is attending or has completed as of the end of the add/drop period for the last course in a payment period.  For example: Lori is taking 8 credits that began at the beginning of the fall semester. Lori is scheduled to begin a 4 credit class that begins in the middle semester. Lori's Pell Grant eligibility will be determined based on the number of credits she is attending or has completed when her last 4 credit class begins. If Lori had withdrawn from one of her 4 credit classes that started at the beginning of the semester prior to beginning her last class, Lori's Pell Grant eligibility would be for 8 credits only.
IV Financial Aid	Federal SEOG	Students remain eligible for their awarded SEOG as long as they remain eligible for any Pell disbursement and are attending at least 1 class.
	Federal Perkins, Direct Subsidized and Direct Unsubsidized Loans	Federal Direct Subsidized, Unsubsidized, or PLUS Loan eligibility is based on the number of credits that a student is scheduled for in a semester.  Students must be enrolled at least half-time to be eligible for a disbursement of loan funds. Half-time enrollment is defined as 6 credits for undergraduate students and 4.5 credits for graduate students.
	Federal Work-Study	Students remain eligible to work as long as they are attending at least one (1) class in a payment period.
New Jersey State Aid	NJ Tuition Aid Grant (TAG), Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF), Distinguished Scholars, Urban Scholars, Governor's Urban Scholarship	Eligibility for state funds will be based on the number of credits in attendance at the time of disbursement. If a student is in attendance for all classes required for disbursement of state funds on the date of disbursement, the student will be eligible to retain their state funds.  If it is determined that a student was not in attendance for all classes required for disbursement of state funds on the date of disbursement, the student will not be eligible for their state aid disbursement and/or state funds may need to be returned the state.

Centenary Aid	All Centenary University Scholarships, Grants, and Awards	Aid for graduate students will be adjusted based on the number of credits for which the student began attendance. Students must be in attendance for at least 12 credits (full-time) to be eligible for disbursement of undergraduate aid. Students who drop below full-time status after disbursement will be eligible to keep their non-housing related awards.  Housing-related awards, such as the Community Citizenship Grant, may be adjusted if the student moves out of housing.
Outside Aid	Including, but not limited to, outside scholarships, alternative student or parent loans, DVR funding and others	Centenary will confirm with outside entities to determine the student's eligibility for their outside scholarships, grants, awards or loans. Centenary will apply the adjustment policy as indicated by the outside agency.

## **Consumer Information**

The Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) of 2008, which reauthorized the Higher Education Act of 1965, requires Centenary University to make available to enrolled students a number of consumer notices and disclosures. These disclosures provide information about some of the University's policies and practices, including academics, tuition and costs, financial aid, student life, campus safety, student success, and student outcomes. The student can find more information regarding centenary University consumer information at <a href="http://www.centenaryuniversity.edu/about-centenary/about-centenary/general-information/complianceconsumer-information/">http://www.centenaryuniversity.edu/about-centenary/about-centenary/general-information/complianceconsumer-information/</a>.

## Communication with Students

All correspondence from the Financial Aid Office will be sent to the student. If the parent or spouse of a student wants to receive information about a student's financial aid package, it is the student's responsibility to forward that information to the appropriate parties.

For new students who do not have a Centenary e-mail account, the office communicates via the student's Centenary email account and via the U.S. Postal Service. For students who have a Centenary e-mail account, the office communicates via e-mail notifications and through my.Centenary. It is important for students to check their Centenary e-mail account regularly (including summer and seasonal breaks)—to be sure they receive correspondence from the Financial Aid Office.

All paper letters will be mailed to your address in Centenary's database. It is important that you update your address with the Registrar's Office to ensure correspondence is sent to the correct address.

There are many times throughout the academic year when information and announcements are sent through my. Centenary. All students with a Centenary email account have access to my. Centenary. It is your responsibility to check for financial aid information and announcements. The Financial Aid Office attempts to communicate in multiple methods to students. However, some information will be sent only via e-mail and some only via the U.S. Postal Service.

# Special Circumstances/Expenses

The FAFSA may not always portray an accurate picture of your financial situation.

Although considerations for specific situations are limited, we may be able to give consideration as described below. If you believe you have a special circumstance, please complete the Change of Circumstances Form available from our website at <a href="https://www.centenaryuniversity.edu/finaid">www.centenaryuniversity.edu/finaid</a>.

Examples of Circumstances that May be Considered

- Catastrophic medical/dental care expenses
- Loss or reduction of income (layoff, illness, forced reduction of hours, temporary employment, etc.), or benefits (unemployment, disability, social security, child support, alimony, etc.)
- Non-reoccurring payments received
- Increase of standard living expenses
- Death, divorce, separation

Examples of Circumstances that May Not be Considered

- Purchasing material items such as a car, home appliances, vacations, second homes
- Reduction of assets
- Credit issues, line of credit changes, previous student loan debt, etc.
- Siblings or parents who are also attending university. Siblings are already taken into account on the FAFSA.

Tax documents and other documents pertaining to the circumstance may be required.

Decisions are final and will be communicated directly to the student. Additional funding awarded is only available for the academic year for which the special circumstance is approved. Special circumstances must be reviewed annually.

The special circumstance process has several phases and may take some time (several weeks) to complete and will likely result in multiple award revisions. You will be notified of all changes made throughout the process. Aid may be increased, remain the same, or be decreased as a result of this process. Additional aid is not guaranteed.

### Student Records Release

The Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) limits the information Centenary can release without the student's permission. You are the only person we can discuss financial information with unless we are given written authorization to speak to a specific person (for example, a parent or spouse). If you would like the Financial Aid Office to be able to speak with another individual regarding your file, please complete FERPA release in the Registrar's Office.

# Financial Aid Calculators and Resources

### Financial Aid Calculators

Financial Aid calculators can help you to better manage your investment in yourself at Centenary University. Tools like the Net Price Calculator can potential students to determine how much their education may cost after receiving their financial aid.

<u>Federal loan repayment calculators</u>, offered by Federal Student Aid, are another good resource to help you plan for your future.

Use the calculators to the right to help estimate what the cost of a Centenary education could be for you, now and in the future.

# Third Party Scholarship Search Sites

- FASTWEB
- Scholarships.com
- CollegeNET
- Knowhow2go.org

## Federal Financial Aid Websites & Services

- <u>Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)</u> Complete the most important Financial Aid form here.
- Federal Student Aid Learn about Federal Student Aid programs.
- <u>StudentLoans.gov</u> Take the next steps towards obtaining Federal Student Aid such as signing the Master Promissory Note or completing Federal Direct Loan Entrance Counseling.
- <u>Federal Student Loan Servicing</u> Log in to and manage your Direct Loan or TEACH grant accounts.
- Federal Direct Loan Consolidation Learn about Direct Loan Consolidation.
- Selective Service Member Information
- NSLDS Manage your Federal Direct Loans or complete Exit Counseling here.

### State Financial Aid Website & Services

- <u>HESAA</u> New Jersey Higher Education Student Assistance Authority
- NJ FAMS HESAA's online resource to monitor your state grants

### General Financial Aid Websites

- The College Board Get helpful tips about paying for college and Financial Aid
- National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA)

# Financial Aid Sites for International Students & U.S. Students Looking to Study Abroad

- International Financial Aid & College Scholarship Search
- International Scholarships.com
- eduPass
- Institute of International Education

### **FAQs**

## Undergraduate FAQs

### Who is eligible for financial aid?

Financial aid is available to all students who have been accepted and are enrolled in a matriculated program for a minimum of 6 credits, make satisfactory academic progress, and file a <a href="Free Application for Federal Student Aid">Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)</a>. International students are not eligible for United States federal or state aid programs.

### How do I apply for Financial Aid?

In order to receive federal aid, graduate students must complete a <u>Free Application for Federal Student</u> <u>Aid (FAFSA)</u> each year.

### How do I sign my electronic FAFSA form?

You must sign your FAFSA using your FSA ID. If you do not have an FSA ID you can create one at the Federal Student Aid website.

### What is the FAFSA?

In addition to Centenary University's private scholarships and grant awards, the U.S. Department of Education also provides financial assistance for students furthering their education beyond high school. Students and their families receive money from the U.S. government to fund their education by filling out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). Based on factors such as household income, the results of the FAFSA help determine how much money a student may be granted or will be able to borrow for their college education.

### What role does FAFSA play in determining my Financial Aid package?

The FAFSA will be used to determine your Expected Family Contribution (EFC). Once your EFC is determined, Centenary will apply any institutional aid (incentive and need-based) and Federal and State Aid. EFC - Total Grants and Scholarships = Student's Actual Cost. Your Actual Cost is the amount that you will be expected to pay for your education through current income, loans and savings. This amount often exceeds your EFC, as it is assumed that as the primary beneficiaries, all students should be responsible for some portion of their educational costs.

### How many freshmen receive Financial Aid?

Last year, 100% of Centenary's first-year students received financial aid. More than \$18 million in aid was received by students overall.

### What types of Financial Aid are available to Centenary's undergraduate students?

Scholarships, grants, work-study funds, and loans make up Centenary's Financial Aid package.

### What is the difference in the Cost of Attendance (COA) for resident and commuter students?

Because commuter students do not live on campus and do not pay for room and board, their total cost of attendance is often less than resident students'. Visit the Tuition & Fees website for a chart detailing the differences in cost of attendance for resident and commuter students.

### Must I complete a FAFSA to receive Institutional funds?

Students are not required to file a FAFSA to be considered for Centenary academic scholarships. However, in order to receive almost all other forms of aid, the FAFSA form must be completed. We highly recommend that this form be completed each year in the event you find yourself in need of federal funds during the academic period.

### Is there a FAFSA filing deadline?

There is no deadline for new students to complete the FAFSA. However, some funding is limited, so earlier is better. Returning students must complete their FAFSA and all additional information no later than April 1<sup>st</sup>.

The deadline to complete your FAFSA for aid (TAG and EOF) from New Jersey is April 15<sup>th</sup>. Students who miss this deadline will be ineligible for any state funds for the 2018-2019 year.

### What is the FAFSA federal school code for Centenary University?

Our federal school code is 002599.

### How long after I complete the FAFSA will I receive a financial aid package?

In most instances, financial aid packages are mailed to students about one week after the FAFSA is received by Centenary University, providing there are no processing issues with your application at the Department of Education Processing Center.

### Does Centenary award scholarships to Undergraduate Students?

Yes, and some scholarships are also reserved for students who show academic achievement and financial need.

### How can a student apply for a scholarship at Centenary?

To apply for a scholarship at Centenary, no additional steps must be taken – your application for admission to Centenary automatically considers you for Centenary scholarships.

### **Graduate FAQs**

### How do I apply for Financial Aid?

In order to receive federal aid, graduate students must complete a <u>Free Application for Federal Student</u> Aid (FAFSA) each year.

### How do I sign my electronic FAFSA form?

You must sign your FAFSA using your FSA ID. If you do not have an FSA ID you can create one at the Federal Student Aid website.

### Am I required to report my parental/spousal information on the FAFSA?

Students pursuing graduate level degrees are independent by the Department of Education. Therefore, parental information is not required when completing your FAFSA. If you are married, however, you must include your spouse's information on the form.

#### What is the FAFSA?

The U.S. Department of Education provides financial assistance for students furthering their education beyond high school. Students and their families receive money from the U.S. government to fund their education by filing out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). Based on factors such as income, the results of the FAFSA help determine how much money a student may be granted or will be able to borrow for their college education.

### What role does the FAFSA play in determining my Financial Aid package?

The FAFSA will be used to determine your Expected Family Contribution (EFC). Once your EFC is determined, Centenary will apply any institutional aid (incentive and need-based) and Federal and State Aid. EFC - Total Grants and Scholarships = Student's Actual Cost. Your Actual Cost is the amount that you will be expected to pay for your education through current income, loans and savings. This amount often exceeds your EFC, as it is assumed that as the primary beneficiaries, all students should be responsible for some portion of their educational costs.

### Must I complete a FAFSA to receive Institutional funds?

Students are not required to file a FAFSA to be considered for Centenary admission scholarship funds. However, in order to receive almost all other forms of aid, the FAFSA form must be completed. We highly recommend that this form be completed each year in the event you find yourself in need of federal funds during the academic period.

#### Is there a FAFSA filing deadline for Graduate Students?

There is no FAFSA filing deadline for graduate students.

### What is the FAFSA federal school code for Centenary University?

Our federal school code is 002599.

### How long after I complete the FAFSA will I receive a financial aid package?

In most instances financial aid packages are mailed to graduate students about one week after the FAFSA form is received, providing there are no processing issues with your application and the Department of Education Processing Center.

### How much aid am I eligible to receive?

In addition to potential graduate scholarships or discounts that you may be eligible for, eligible students (U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens, enrolled in at least 6 credits per semester, pursuing a degree, not in default on prior student loans) may receive up to \$20,500 in the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan. Graduate students may also apply for the Federal Graduate PLUS Loan. Graduate PLUS loans require that students be credit-approved. Eligible students may borrow up to the cost of attendance minus any other financial aid received.

### Am I eligible for the NJ Tuition Aid Grant (TAG) as a Graduate student?

No, graduate students are not eligible for the TAG.

### Terms to Know

#### **Award Notice**

A letter sent to students by the Centenary University Financial Aid Office, listing and describing the funds, if any, for which they qualify.

### **Cost Of Attendance (COA)**

The cost of attendance is an estimate of how much money will be required to attend Centenary University for the year that the student is enrolled (this includes all direct and indirect costs).

- **Estimated Direct costs for the year include** tuition, fees, and Room & Board. These are expenses you will need to pay directly to Centenary University.
- Estimated Indirect costs for the year include: books, transportation, personal expenses and living allowance. These are expenses that can vary and will be unique to your personal and academic decisions.

#### Defer

Students may choose to postpone their loan repayment period; doing so is called deferring your loans. During a "grace period" after graduation, many lenders (both private and public) will allow you to postpone loan repayment.

### **Expected Family Contribution (EFC)**

Your Expected Family Contribution or EFC is a measure of your family's financial situation. Your EFC is determined by a Federal formula that is calculated using the information you provided about your family's circumstances on the FAFSA.

### **Financial Need**

Financial need determines your eligibility for many types of aid. Financial need is the difference between the Cost of Attendance at a university or college and the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) as calculated according to the federal Need Analysis Formula. The Cost of Attendance includes estimates for tuition, fees, room, board (meals), transportation, books, and personal expenses.

The Financial Need formula is: Cost of Education – EFC = Financial Need

#### Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Students and their families can receive money from the U.S. government to fund their education by filing out the FAFSA (<u>Free Application for Federal Student Aid</u>). Based on factors such as parental income, the results of the FAFSA help determine how much money a student can be granted or may borrow for their college education. Visit the FAFSA website here.

### **Grants**

Similar to scholarships, grants are provided to students for various reasons such as financial need, academic achievement, or both. Grants are available through Centenary University, the U.S. Department of Education, and some states, and do not need to be repaid.

#### **Interest Rate**

Because lenders give students the ability to borrow sums of money, they charge interest on the amount

of the loan up until the time that money is repaid. An interest rate is the percentage of the total amount borrowed that a lender charges a borrower for the loan. Interest rates are determined by a number of factors, and there are different interest rates for each type of loan. Some loans have fixed interest rates and some are variable.

#### Loans

College loans can be acquired either through the U.S. Department of Education or private lenders. Loans must be paid back—and often accrue interest while a student or parent pays back the loans. Interest rates and repayment terms vary per loan. Learn more about Student Loans.

### **NJ Tuition Aid Grant (TAG)**

The <u>Tuition Aid Grant</u> is a grant provided through the state of New Jersey to students who are: legal U.S. residents, residents of New York State, and attend college in New Jersey.

### **Private Lender**

A private lender could be a bank, credit union, or another financial institution. A private lender is not affiliated with a university or the government.

### **Scholarships**

Centenary offers various scholarships to students based on a number of factors: financial need, academic achievement, community involvement, and areas of study. Scholarships do not need to be repaid. Learn more about scholarships offered by Centenary University. Learn how to search for additional scholarships here.

#### Subsidized

Federal Subsidized Direct Loans are available to qualified students with subsidized interest, meaning the federal government pays the interest on the loan while a student is in college. So, no payments need to be paid until the student stops attending at least half-time. The government does not pay any other portion of the loan during or after college, and the loan begins collecting interest following a six- or ninemonth "grace period" after the student stops attending at least half-time (6 credits per semester).

#### Unsubsidized

Federal Unsubsidized Direct Loans are also available to students if they require additional money beyond what grants, scholarships, or subsidized loans cover. These loans will accrue interest while a student is in school. It is recommended that students pay the accruing interest while they are in school; otherwise the interest is capitalized on the loan. Capitalizing means that the interest is added to the principle amount of the loan and then interest accrues on that amount also.