

## What is an Award Offer?

Students who filed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and have been accepted at Savannah State University will receive an award offer indicating the type and amount of financial aid available to the student.

The Office of Financial Aid encourages students and their families to carefully review their financial aid and consider all available options to assist students in financing their education.

Financial aid awards/offers reflect student's eligibility based on the information provided on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and other information.

Once a financial aid award package has been established for you by the Office of Financial Aid, you must accept and/or decline the offered award online. This process must be completed each academic year or when changes have been made to your financial aid award package. Please refer to the instructions below for accepting or declining a Federal Subsidized/Unsubsidized Stafford Loan.

## To Accept or Decline Loan Offers

1. Review your award to accept and/or decline the offer.

- Log into [PAWS](http://www.savannahstate.edu/student-affairs/paws.shtml) @ [www.savannahstate.edu/student-affairs/paws.shtml](http://www.savannahstate.edu/student-affairs/paws.shtml)
- Select the **Student and Financial Aid** Tab
- Select "**Financial Aid**"
- Select "**Award**"
- Select "**Award for Aid Year**"
- Select the **appropriate aid year** and **click submit**
- Select "**Accept Award Offer**" tab
- **Read Terms and Condition**
- Choose "**Accept**" or "**Decline**" in the drop menu beside each offer
- Click "**Submit Decision**"

2. First Time Borrowers of a Federal Direct Stafford Loan must complete the [Entrance Loan Counseling and a Master Promissory Note](#) (see below). If you have signed the MPN in a previous year and that promissory note is currently valid, you are not required to sign again.

3. The parent who applied for the **Federal Direct Parent Loan (for undergraduate students)**, must complete a MPN.

**Direct Loan Entrance Counseling** explains the obligations you agree to meet as a condition of receiving a Direct Loan.

**The Master Promissory Note (MPN)** is the legal document used to make one or more Direct Loans for one or more academic years (up to 10 years). By signing an MPN, the borrower is agreeing to repay all loans made under the MPN.

**There are two types of MPNs:**

- **Direct Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loan MPN**
  - A student borrower must complete and sign a Direct Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loan MPN before a school can make the first disbursement of a Direct Subsidized or Direct Unsubsidized Loan.
- **Direct Parent (PLUS) Loan MPN**
  - A parent borrower or a graduate/professional student borrower must complete and sign a Direct PLUS Loan MPN before a school can make the first disbursement of a Direct PLUS Loan.

Complete the Direct Loan Entrance Counseling and Master Promissory Note (MPN) electronically at the secure [StudentLoans.gov](http://StudentLoans.gov) web site. You will need your Federal Student Aid (FSA) PIN to sign in. If you do not have an FSA PIN, you may obtain one at <http://www.pin.ed.gov/PINWebApp/pinindex.jsp>.

To complete the Direct Loan Entrance Counseling online:

- From the [StudentLoans.gov](http://StudentLoans.gov) home page, click on the “Sign In” button located in the “Manage My Direct Loan” box. The Sign In page will appear.
- Once signed in, click on the on the “Entrance Counseling” link located in the “Manage My Direct Loan” box.
- Follow the instructions to complete the Entrance Counseling.

To complete the MPN online:

- From the [StudentLoans.gov](http://StudentLoans.gov) home page, click on the “Sign In” button located in the “Manage My Direct Loan” box. The Sign In page will appear.
- Once signed in, click on the “Complete MPN” link located under the “Master Promissory Note” heading on the left menu bar. The Complete MPN page will appear.
- Under “Select the type of loan you would like to receive,” choose the appropriate link.
  - If you are an undergraduate or graduate student borrowing a Direct Subsidized Loan and/or Direct Unsubsidized Loan to pay for your own education, select Subsidized/Unsubsidized.
  - If you are a parent borrowing a Direct PLUS Loan to pay for your dependent undergraduate student’s education, select “Parent PLUS”.
  - Follow the instructions to complete, sign, and submit your MPN.