

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

Policy on Terms and Conditions Governing Medical Student Financial Aid

I. PURPOSE

To create and guide the actions and equitable procedures for medical students who apply for financial aid and demonstrate a financial need.

II. SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- Applicants to the UPSOM for the M.D. degree
- UPSOM Medical Students
- UPSOM Office of Admissions & Financial Aid Staff

III. POLICY

All Financial Aid recipients will adhere to University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and Federal guidelines in accordance with Title IV aid.

Need-Based Grants

Need-based grants at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine are limited to those applicants who demonstrate financial need.

Adjustments and Over Awards

Per federal regulations, financial aid cannot exceed the student's documented financial need. To comply with guidelines and regulations concerning over awards, the Financial Aid Office must have accurate information regarding any financial assistance a student may have received or anticipates receiving in the form of grants, scholarships, loans or other aid during the academic year. Students are required to report any additional source of funding to the financial aid office within 30 days of notification of the award. Our policy is that we will first attempt to reduce loan eligibility so that there is no effect on UPSOM institutional scholarship resources.

Appeal Procedure

A student may appeal a decision made by the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid regarding an award amount, a calculation of need, a satisfactory progress determination, an adjustment or a repayment request. The appeal must be in written form and contain documentation of any special circumstances which may directly affect the student's financial situation. All appeals should be addressed to the Assistant Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid.

Satisfactory Academic Progress

Satisfactory academic progress or probationary status must be maintained for continued consideration for financial assistance at the University of Pittsburgh.

Educational Funds

Financial aid proceeds must be used solely for meeting direct education costs and related living expenses of the student.

Loan Counseling Provisions

To ensure that student borrowers understand their rights and responsibilities, they are required to complete entrance counseling before borrowing. Upon completion of study or termination of attendance, all student loan borrowers are required to complete exit counseling.

Unit Loan Concept

To ensure that high-need students have priority for institutional need-based scholarship funds, a unit loan is offered to meet financial need to students before determining eligibility for institutional need-based assistance.

IV. POLICY AUTHOR(S)

- Office of Admissions & Financial Aid

V. RELATED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Title IV Aid

VI. REFERENCES

- LCME Standard 12.1: Financial Aid/Debt Management Counseling/Student Educational Debt: A medical school provides its medical students with effective financial aid and debt management counseling and has mechanisms in place to minimize the impact of direct educational expenses (i.e., tuition, fees, books, supplies) on medical student indebtedness.

VII. APPROVALS

Educational Policy Council, approved August 14, 2023.

Executive Committee, approved November 1, 2023.

Dean, School of Medicine, approved January 22, 2024.