How Do I…

Accept or decline my loans?

If you filed a FAFSA, you may have qualified for Direct Subsidized and/or Unsubsidized Loans. These are federal loans that are awarded to eligible students to help offset the cost of their higher education, and the amounts of each vary based on financial need, credits earned, dependency status, and the amount of loans already disbursed in prior semesters. This is considered self-help aid, and you are responsible for paying back your loans and accrued interest after you graduate. Check myUMW to view your loan offers.

How to Accept or Decline Your Loans

1. **Visit StudentAid.gov**
   - Read about federal student loans under Types of Aid > Loans > Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans.
   - Also consider reviewing your payment plan options with the Office of Student Accounts at umw.edu/studentaccounts.

2. **If you choose to accept your loans, log on to StudentLoans.gov**
   - Complete Entrance Counseling. This is an interactive process that details the terms and conditions of borrowing a federal student loan.
   - Complete the Master Promissory Note. This is a legal document in which you promise to repay your loan(s) and any accrued interest and fees to the U.S. Department of Education.

3. **Log on to myUMW**
   - Click on Eagle Gateway to access your award information
   - Under Getting Started, click on My Financial Aid
   - Student and Financial Aid
   - My Award Information
   - Award by Aid Year
   - Find your loan offers and choose to accept or decline. You may choose to accept only a portion of your loan. If you change your mind about your loans later, contact the Office of Financial Aid.

**Questions?** Contact the Office of Financial Aid at finaid@umw.edu, call (540) 654-2468, or visit us in Lee Hall, second floor, in the Student Services Center.