

Financial Aid Information for Prospective CVM Students

INTRO

Many questions can be answered by visiting the medical student web site at www.finaid.msu.edu/med/default.asp. If your questions are not addressed on the web page, contact the medical advisory staff for assistance.

COST OF EDUCATION

11-12 TUITION AND FEES

	2 SEMESTERS
RESIDENT	\$24,778
NONRESIDENT	\$51,184

AVERAGE INDEBTEDNESS FOR 2011 GRADUATES

6 graduates with no debt	
102 graduates with debt	\$154,004 (includes undergrad & grad/prof studies)
73 of 102 w/resident tuition rates	\$132,010 (includes undergrad & grad/prof studies)
29* of 102 w/nonresident tuition rates	\$209,367 (includes undergrad & grad/prof studies)

*1 nonresident graduate accepted a bona fide offer of full-time employment in Michigan following graduation. The student who remained in Michigan applied for a tuition credit for \$28,737, the equivalent to 12 months of differential tuition for residents and non-residents. The tuition credit for the 1 student changed the average indebtedness for non-residents from \$209,367 to \$208,376.

For a total cost estimate (including living allowance and books/supplies) for the entire 4 year medical program costs see www.finaid.msu.edu/read/budcvm.pdf

BUDGETING INFORMATION

- It is important to live within the budget as grant/loan resources cannot exceed the budget. In other words, your aid resources are limited and you need to utilize a budget plan to ensure you have adequate financial resources.
- The estimate living allowance is \$1612 per month.
- The budget is just for the student. If you have children and little or no income, you can apply for an increase for dependent living costs.
- Budgets are modest; you may need to reduce personal debt prior to enrolling. Try to establish a cash reserve account for unexpected expenses. Check your credit history as some loans are granted based on your creditworthiness. Try to think about ways to reduce spending so you can minimize borrowing and thereby reduce total educational indebtedness.

HOW TO APPLY FOR AID

- Apply for your Personal Identification Number (PIN) at www.pin.ed.gov. This is the password used as your electronic signature when completing the Free Application for Federal Financial Aid (FAFSA). Record the PIN in a secure place as you will have to use this password when you reapply for aid next year.
- It is ok to file the 2012-13 FAFSA at www.fafsa.gov before you are admitted. Make sure to release the FAFSA data to MSU -- school code 002290. It is ok to estimate your 2011 income and correct data after filing your tax return if needed.
- We encourage you to include parental data on the FAFSA (although it is not mandatory) to be considered for all aid programs; parental data is not needed for SAG or Stafford funds. Reporting parental data can only help you secure additional assistance; it will not hurt you.
- MSU will notify you of your aid eligibility via your MSU email address. Make sure to activate your email account.

SPECIAL CONDITION APPLICATIONS (SCA)

If you have any special circumstances not taken into account on the FAFSA, contact the medical advisory staff to discuss your situation. If appropriate a SCA will be mailed to you, so we can re-evaluate your financial need.

SOURCES OF FINANCIAL AID

- See **Primary Sources of Financial Aid** (www.finaid.msu.edu/med/medchart.pdf) for the typical aid programs.
 - Note: the maximum for a federal Stafford loan is \$40,500 for two semesters of attendance. If you do not have sufficient savings or family support to cover the cost of education, you may need to consider borrowing a more costly loan called a Graduate PLUS. Given the 7.9% fixed interest rate for a Graduate PLUS loan as compared to 6.8% fixed interest rate for a Stafford loan, you should carefully review your expenses for possible budget adjustment before accepting the Graduate PLUS loan. Approval a Graduate PLUS loan is based on a good credit record.
- Scholarships
 - The best place to apply for scholarships is with the medical school you will attend.
 - You can also do an online scholarship search (see Outside Scholarships at www.finaid.msu.edu/sships.asp). An online search takes some work, but could be worth your effort.
- See **Web Resource Links** (www.finaid.msu.edu/med/medlinks.asp)

LOAN REPAYMENT INFORMATION FOR GRADUATES

Students rely on federal loans to help meet educational and living costs while in medical school as most are unable to work or do not have sufficient savings or family help. Based on the average indebtedness figures listed for MSUCVM 2011 graduates many accumulate a significant amount of educational debt. Effective July 2009, two new loan repayment programs—Income Based Repayment and Public Service Loan Forgiveness—were introduced to make repayment more manageable for graduates. Both programs are briefly described below. If you would like more information regarding these programs see www.ibrinfo.org or contact one of the medical advisors.

- **Income Based Repayment (IBR)** - This program can significantly reduce monthly payments for high debt/lower income borrowers.
 - Must have “partial financial hardship”. Eligibility is determined annually based on household adjusted gross income, household size, and poverty line amount for state of residence.
 - Payment is 15% of disposable income that is above 150% poverty line for household size
 - The government will pay the borrower’s interest on qualifying subsidized Stafford loans not covered by the reduced payment for up to 3 years.
 - After 25 years of monthly qualifying payments, any remaining balances on the applicable loans will be eligible for forgiveness by the government.
- **Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF)** - Under this program, the government will forgive the remaining federal debt after the borrower makes 120 qualified monthly payments while working full-time in certain public service jobs. All payments must be made under the Direct Loan Program. Those pursuing a career in Local, State, or Federal Government, a 501(c) (3) Non-profit Organization, AmeriCorps, the Peace Corps or another Public Service Organization may receive a significant benefit from this program.