2016-17 FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS: Domestic MSL Students

INTRODUCTION

Financial aid consists of federal and private loans, as well as scholarships from the MSL Scholarship Program. Each of these has a separate application process, to be completed after admission is granted. These applications have different deadlines. The Chicago Office of Financial Aid administers federal, institutional, and private educational loan programs, and packages all loan funding. The Office of Admissions and Financial Aid confers MSL Scholarship Program awards.

APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship applications are due by the date indicated in the financial aid email you will receive from the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid. Only full-time MSL students will be considered for scholarships. To be considered for scholarships, please complete the following item:

1. Scholarship Application
   • To be emailed to you by the Admissions Office with the deadline for the application following your admissions offer.

APPLYING FOR FEDERAL LOANS

The application for federal loans is due by:

   May 2, 2016

(or, if admitted after this date, within five days of admission)

To be considered for federal loans, please complete the following two items:

1. 2016-17 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (school code 001739)
   • Available online starting January 1, 2016, for U.S. citizens and eligible noncitizens.
   • If you do not already have an FSA ID, you will need to set one up before completing the FAFSA. This FSA ID will be your log-in for many Department of Education websites.
   • The Chicago Office of Financial Aid may contact you if additional information is needed.

2. 2016-17 University Aid Application
   • Available in CAESAR by March 15, 2016.
   • Log into CAESAR using your Net ID and password, and complete it on your “To Do” list. If it is not listed on your “To-Do” list after March 15, 2016, please contact the Chicago Office of Financial Aid via email.

Northwestern Pritzker School of Law considers all MSL applicants independent and does not require parental financial information. If you prefer to borrow private student loan funding in place of or in addition to federal student loan funding, please contact the Chicago Office of Financial Aid for more information.
NOTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL AID

Scholarships – The Office of Admissions and Financial Aid sends out scholarship notifications via email throughout the Spring.

Loans – The Chicago Office of Financial Aid reviews all financial aid applications in the order in which they are received. Official packages are sent out via email over the summer.

FILING YOUR FEDERAL TAX RETURN

We strongly recommend that you file your federal tax return at least 1-2 weeks before filing your FAFSA. Once the IRS approves your tax return, the FAFSA can auto-populate certain data, thus simplifying the process for you.

CHECKING THE STATUS OF YOUR FAFSA

If you provide an email address on your FAFSA, you will receive an electronic Student Aid Report (SAR) via email. If you do not provide an email address, you will receive a SAR in the mail. Allow one week for your FAFSA to be processed by the Central Processing Service (CPS).

Upon receipt of your SAR, please review it immediately to see if you need to take further action. If you do not receive your SAR within two weeks or need a duplicate SAR, please call the Federal Student Aid Information Center at (800) 433-3243.

CHANGE IN CIRCUMSTANCES

If your financial circumstances change from what you report in your application materials, you must immediately notify the Chicago Office of Financial Aid via email. Failure to do so may jeopardize your eligibility for assistance in the current and/or subsequent academic period.

A change in circumstances includes, but is not limited to, marriage, a change in enrollment, a change in your or your spouse’s expected earnings, and receipt of an outside scholarship or monetary gift.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For fellowship-related questions: Northwestern University School of Law Office of Admissions and Financial Aid Rubloff, Room 130 375 East Chicago Avenue Chicago, IL 60611-3078 Phone: (312) 503-8465 Fax: (312) 503-0178 admissions@law.northwestern.edu For loan-related questions: Northwestern University Chicago Office of Financial Aid Abbott Hall, Room 629 710 North Lake Shore Drive Chicago, IL 60611-3078 Phone: (312) 503-8722 Fax: (312) 503-8700 financial-aid-chicago@northwestern.edu