A college education is an invaluable investment and the knowledge students gain will help shape future professional and personal decisions. Oakland University’s Student Financial Services provides one location to take care of matters related to financial aid, billing and student employment.

Financial Aid

Applying for Aid

FSA ID
Every student must create an FSA ID to access certain federal websites related to financial aid and to complete the FAFSA electronically. One parent of dependent students must also create an FSA ID to sign their student’s FAFSA. The FSA ID should be created prior to completing the FAFSA.

Learn more: http://fsaid.gov

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
Students should complete the FAFSA annually to see how much federal and/or state aid is available.

Students should submit the FAFSA at fafsa.gov or on the MyStudentAid app (available on iOS and Android devices) as soon as possible after October 1, beginning in their senior year of high school and every year in college.

Learn more: fafsa.gov

Types of Aid

Scholarships and Grants
Incoming undergraduate students are automatically awarded Oakland University scholarships and/or grants. Students can use OU’s scholarship search tool to determine eligibility for OU scholarships and grants. Additional OU departmental scholarships are available.

Learn more: oakland.edu/financialservices/available-financial-assistance/undergrad

Loans
Loans are offered to students who complete the FAFSA. The most commonly awarded loans for undergraduate students are the Federal Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized loans. Parents of dependent students may be offered the option to apply for a Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan. If offered loans, students must decide to accept or decline the loan on MySAIL.

Financial Aid Tools

MySAIL
The online student portal, MySAIL, provides students access to OU email, financial aid and employment information, and eBill.

OU Email
Students must activate and check their OU email regularly for award notifications, requirements, billing information, and other communication from Student Financial Services.

Financial Aid Award Information
Students can access financial aid offers, learn about specific awards and choose to accept, reduce or decline loans.

Authorizations
Students can authorize Student Financial Services to use their excess financial aid funds to pay for miscellaneous charges such as health center charges, fines, for damages, etc., annually.

Financial Aid Requirements
Students should carefully review financial aid requirements in MySAIL. Financial aid requirements are due within 14 days of the request unless otherwise indicated.

Proxy
Students can designate parents, spouses, and others as a proxy to access and view academic, financial, and account information.

Learn more: oakland.edu/financialstatus

Direct Deposit
Direct deposit is the fastest and most secure way to receive a financial aid refund and OU paycheck. Avoid waiting for a check to be mailed and the need to make a trip to the bank or ATM.

Learn more: oakland.edu/directdeposit

Net Price Calculator and Cost Estimator
By answering a few simple questions, prospective students can obtain an estimate for the full-time cost of attendance and financial assistance at OU using the Net Price Calculator. Admitted and enrolled students should use the Cost Estimator to estimate their bill, prior to assessing charges.

Learn more: oakland.edu/financialservices/costs

Access Student Financial Services on the go by downloading the OU MySAIL mobile app, available on iTunes and the Google Play store.
BILLING

*eBill*

The eBill system offers students and authorized users the ability to view billing account activity, make payments, enroll in payment plans, and view billing statements. OU does not mail paper bills. Students and authorized users will receive an email when a statement is ready to view and pay in eBill. Students should pay all OU bills on or before their due dates to avoid a late payment penalty or being canceled (dropped) from classes.

Learn more: oakland.edu/billingcycle

*Payment Plans*

Enroll in an OU Payment Plan and spread tuition and on-campus housing charges into several smaller payments. OU will waive the $25 payment plan processing charge if students or authorized users schedule installment payments using one of these payment options: checking or savings account, debit card or credit card.

Learn more: oakland.edu/paymentplan

*Authorized Users*

Students may assign parents or others as authorized users to eBill. The authorized user will receive their own username and password to access the eBill system, receive emailed billing statement notifications, and have the ability to make payments or enroll in a payment plan.

Learn more: oakland.edu/ebill

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Student employment enriches students’ academic experiences and helps them gain invaluable experience for future career goals. There are two types of student employment at OU:

*Federal Work-Study* provides jobs for students who demonstrate financial need. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is required; awards are made on a first come, first served basis.

*Regular Student Employment* allows on-campus employment for students who do not qualify for Federal Work-Study. The FAFSA is not required.

Learn more: oakland.edu/student-employment

*Handshake*

Handshake is an online forum where students can search and apply for jobs, including:

- On-campus student employment (work-study and non-work-study positions available)
- Off-campus student employment
- Internships and career related positions

Handshake is updated daily, accessible 24/7 and has free online registration open to OU students and alumni. Access Handshake through MySAIL.

Learn more: oakland.edu/financialservices/student-employment