

Available Federal Financial Aid Programs

Federal Pell Grant

The Federal Pell Grant is a federally funded, need-based grant that does not have to be repaid. Federal Pell Grants are generally awarded only to undergraduate students who have yet to earn their bachelor's degree or reach their lifetime eligibility of 600%. The maximum Pell Grant amount permitted per student is \$7,395.00 per academic year. Students who wish to apply for the Federal Pell Grant must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) *and meet with the Financial Aid Department at Northwestern Technological Institute*. More information on the Federal Pell Grant can be found on the Federal Student Aid website at www.studentaid.gov.

Federal Direct Subsidized Loan

The Federal Direct Subsidized Loan is a low-interest, fixed-rate, long-term loan made available to undergraduate and graduate students to help fund their education. Under this program, the U.S. Department of Education acts as the sole lender. For all new Direct Stafford Loans first disbursed on or after July 1, 2025 and before July 1, 2026, interest begins to accrue six months after the student's last physical date of attendance. The maximum Direct Subsidized Loan amount permitted per student is \$3500.00 per academic year. In order to apply for a Federal Direct Subsidized Loan, students must first demonstrate need, as determined by a standardized formula. Students who wish to apply for a Federal Subsidized Direct Loan must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and meet with the Financial Aid Department at Northwestern Technological Institute. Repayment of a Federal Direct Subsidized Loan begins six months after the student's last physical date of attendance. More information on Federal Direct Subsidized Loans can be found on the Federal Student Aid website at www.studentaid.gov.

Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan

The Federal Direct *Unsubsidized* Loan is a form of additional funding for borrowers who do not qualify for the maximum Direct Subsidized Loan, or for those borrowers who require funding beyond the Direct Subsidized Loan. Under this program, the U.S. Department of Education acts as the sole lender. An independent undergraduate student or a dependent student whose parents have applied for but were unable to receive a Federal Direct PLUS Loan (parent loan) may borrow up to \$9,500.00. No more than \$3,500.00 of this amount may be in Direct Subsidized Loans. If a parent of a dependent student elects not to take part in the Federal Direct PLUS Loan program, the student is eligible to borrow up to \$2,000.00 in an additional Federal Direct Unsubsidized

Loan. Students who wish to apply for a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and meet with the Financial Aid Department at Northwestern Technological Institute. Borrowers are responsible for the interest that accrues during any period over the life of the loan. More information on Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans can be found on the Federal Student Aid website at www.studentaid.gov.

Federal Direct Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS)

A Federal Direct Parent Loan is a non-need-based loan offered to the parents of an undergraduate student. This loan is made from the federal government and is processed much like a consumer loan. It is dependent upon the borrower's credit rating and does not have a stated maximum amount. Parents may borrow up to the difference between education costs and financial aid received. Repayment begins sixty days after loan funds have been fully disbursed and must be repaid within ten years. Interest on a Direct PLUS Loan begins to accrue when the first installment is disbursed. To apply for the Federal Direct Parent Loan, students must still complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as well as meet with the Financial Aid Department at Northwestern Technological Institute. More information on Federal Direct Parent Loans can be found on the Federal Student Aid website at www.studentaid.gov.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING SOURCES

Michigan Works! Call toll free: 1-800-285-WORKS (9675)

The Michigan Works! Service centers offer one-stop access to a wide range of career development services including job training, information about education, internships and apprenticeships.

[Michigan Rehabilitation Services \(MRS\)](#) Call toll free: 1-800-605-6722

The MRS is a part of the Michigan Department of Career Development (MDCD). The Agency is responsible for the vocational rehabilitation of Michigan citizens who are physically or mentally impaired. They work with eligible individuals to help them determine an appropriate employment goal and to develop an individualized plan to reach their goal. They also arrange, provide or purchase the service necessary to accomplish the plan.

[Michigan Family Independence Agency \(FIA\)](#)

The FIA is a state agency that administers several programs that provide assistance with basic living expenses such as shelter, food, dependent care and medical needs. Income, assets and other factors determine eligibility. Applications for their various programs are available at an individual's county FIA office.

[Veterans Benefits](#) Call 1-888-GI-BILL-1 (1-888-442-4551)

Benefits vary among individuals; candidates should contact the Buffalo, New York Regional Office for additional information.