## STUDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES

3307 Third Avenue West, Suite 114 Seattle, WA 98119

T 206-281-2061 or 800-737-8826 | F 206-281-2835 | sfs-info@spu.edu | spu.edu/sfs



## **New Undergraduate Financial Aid Checklist**

Use this checklist to plan what you need to do to apply for and receive financial aid. Due to limited resources, student aid is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. You can get help for many of these Action Items from SPU's website and the Student Financial Services office.

Ø	Due Date	Seattle Pacific University Financial Aid Action Item
	November - April	<b>RESEARCH:</b> Outside scholarships. Check your school and local libraries, church, local businesses and civic organizations and your parents' employer(s). Our website also lists resources here: <a href="www.spu.edu/depts/sfs/FinancialAid/GrantsScholarships">www.spu.edu/depts/sfs/FinancialAid/GrantsScholarships</a> .
		Some free Internet scholarship search engines:
		Scholarships for Washington students – <u>www.thewashboard.org</u>
		FinAid on the Web – <u>www.finaid.org</u>
		The College Board – <a href="https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search">https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search</a>
		GoCollege: The Collegiate Websource – <u>www.gocollege.com</u>
		Ready.Set.Grad. – <a href="http://www.readysetgrad.org/">http://www.readysetgrad.org/</a>
	November - April	RESEARCH: Avoid getting scammed! Thoroughly research any financial aid consultants, search services or scholarships you pursue.
		Sites with consumer information:
		U.S. Department of Education: <a href="https://www.studentaid.ed.gov/types/scams">www.studentaid.ed.gov/types/scams</a>
		Better Business Bureau: <u>www.bbb.com</u>
	January 1st	<b>FAFSA:</b> Obtain a Personal Identification Number (PIN) from the Department of Education's PIN Web site at <a href="www.pin.ed.gov">www.pin.ed.gov</a> . This is necessary to complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
	No later than <b>February 1</b> st	<b>FAFSA:</b> File your FAFSA as soon as possible after January 1; transfer your IRS tax return data to your FAFSA using the IRS Data Retrieval tool.
		Online: www.fafsa.ed.gov. Take advantage of built-in edit checking!
	When received	<b>FAFSA:</b> Review your Student Aid Report (SAR), a summary of your processed FAFSA. Correct any inaccurate items on-line at <a href="https://www.fafsa.ed.gov">www.fafsa.ed.gov</a> or on the paper SAR, if you receive one.
		You will receive notice via email if you filed online; paper if you filed by paper.
	No later than February 1 <sup>st</sup> (Early Action – November 15 <sup>th</sup> )	SPU: Apply for Admission at SPU: <a href="http://www.spu.edu/depts/ugadm/">http://www.spu.edu/depts/ugadm/</a>
		When you receive your admissions application packet, note all required application materials and their deadlines.
		Keep copies of all application materials in your records for future reference.
	After admission, ongoing	SPU: Check your new SPU Email account regularly!
		All requests for documents will be sent to your <b>SPU email account</b> . Promptly respond to any school requests for additional information or documentation.
	As soon as possible	SPU: Notify SPU Admissions if you no longer plan to attend SPU.

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	As soon as possible	<b>SFS:</b> Notify Student Financial Services if you have applied for assistance but no longer plan to attend SPU.
	May 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>SPU:</b> Submit your Advanced Payment to the Admissions Office by May 1st to secure your admission.
	May – August	SPU: Sign up for New Student Advising to register for classes, get oriented at SPU, and learn more about the student account and financial aid process.
	Upon Receipt of Offer of Financial Assistance	SFS: Carefully review your Offer of Financial Assistance. Contact Student Financial Services (SFS) if you have any questions about your award.
	Upon Receipt of Offer of Financial Assistance	SFS: Read Managing Your Financial Aid online at www.spu.edu/sfs.
		Most financial aid funds have conditions for receipt and renewal, such as earning a certain grade point average (GPA) or being enrolled full time. Be sure you know the details so you don't lose funding in the future!
	Prior to August 1st	SFS: Calculate what you will owe.
		Complete the Estimating Your Costs worksheet. Available at <a href="http://spu.edu/depts/sfs/studentaccounts/PaymentBilling/worksheets.asp">http://spu.edu/depts/sfs/studentaccounts/PaymentBilling/worksheets.asp</a> . and included in your initial paper Office of Financial Assistance packet.
	August 21 <sup>st</sup>	SFS: Determine if you wish to participate in a payment plan.
		After you register for classes and complete all financial aid requirements, you may sign up for a payment plan online at <a href="www.spu.edu/sfs">www.spu.edu/sfs</a> -> Student Accounts -> Payments/Billing -> Payment Options. The application for 2015-2016 is due September 8, 2015.
	August 21 <sup>st</sup>	SFS: Complete all required loan paperwork, promissory notes, and entrance counseling and submit all requested documents.
		Promissory notes and entrance counseling for Stafford Loans can be done online at <a href="https://www.studentloans.gov">www.studentloans.gov</a> .
		Perkins, Nursing, and Institutional Loan promissory notes and entrance materials will be available in July. You will be notified via SPU email.
		Parent PLUS loan requests and MPNs are completed by the PLUS loan borrower at <a href="https://www.studentloans.gov">www.studentloans.gov</a> .
		Before you sign a promissory note, make sure you read and understand all of your rights and responsibilities; financial aid will not disburse until all documents have been received and evaluated.
	As soon as possible	SFS: Investigate student employment opportunities: <a href="www.spu.edu/studentjobs">www.spu.edu/studentjobs</a> .
	As soon as possible	SFS: Promptly notify SFS of any non-SPU scholarships, grants, or other types of assistance you will receive.
		<b>Personal:</b> Keep copies of all financial aid awards and loan documents in your records for future reference.