



## J.S.D. Program in Intercultural Human Rights

### 2012-2013 FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION SHEET

To assist students with financing their educational costs St. Thomas University offers financial assistance to eligible students primarily through the U.S. Department of Education's Federal Direct Student Loan Programs. Scholarship opportunities and private/alternative loans may also be available to eligible students.

#### FINANCIAL PLANNING

To assist you with your financial planning we have included the following Estimated 2012-2013 Cost of Attendance (COA) based on full-time enrollment (9 credits per semester). Your total financial aid award (including all scholarships, grants, loans, and other awarded financial assistance) cannot exceed the total COA.

#### Estimated 2012-2013 Cost of Attendance per semester

Tuition & Fees	\$3,441
Books & Materials	625
Loan Fees	39
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,105</b>

Estimated COA figures are subject to change without notice

#### Federal Student Loans:

To be considered eligible for all Federal Student Aid Programs (Stafford Loans or Graduate PLUS Loans) available you must meet the following eligibility requirements.

1. Be accepted and enrolled in the J.S.D. Program in Intercultural Human Rights.
2. Be a citizen, national, or eligible non-citizen of the United States with a valid Social Security Number.
3. Be registered with selective service if required to do so by law.
4. Be maintaining Satisfactory Academic Progress
5. Not owe a refund of any Title IV funds or be in default of any previously borrowed student loans.

To apply for the U.S. Department of Education's William D. Ford Federal Direct Stafford Unsubsidized Loan program, you will need to complete the following:

**Request your Personal Identification Number (PIN)** at [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov). Your federal student aid PIN is used to electronically apply for federal student aid and access your federal student aid records online. Your PIN serves as your electronic signature. Be sure to keep your PIN in a safe place.

**2012-2013 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** on the web at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). The result of your FAFSA is called the Student Aid Report (SAR) and it summarizes the data you reported on your application. You will receive your SAR via e-mail confirmation. Please be sure to read and review this information carefully for accuracy. Should you need to make corrections you may do so electronically by submitting a FAFSA correction online at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov).

**St. Thomas University's Federal School Code is 001468**

**Loan Entrance Counseling.** Federal regulations governing the borrowing of Federal Student Loans require that all students receiving a Direct Stafford and/or Direct Grad PLUS Loan must complete a Loan Entrance Counseling. If you are borrowing a Direct Stafford or Graduate PLUS Loan for the first time as a student of St. Thomas University's School of Law, you must complete an Entrance Counseling online at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov) before your loans can be disbursed. You will only be required to complete the Loan Entrance Counseling once.

**Direct Stafford Unsubsidized Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN).** You must have an MPN on file with the U.S. Department of Education before your loans can be disbursed. If you are borrowing a Direct Stafford Loan for the first time as a student of St. Thomas University's School of Law, you must complete a Stafford Unsubsidized MPN online at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov). You may be eligible to borrow up to the Cost of Attendance (COA) each semester through the Stafford Loan program. These loans are unsubsidized so interest will begin accruing at disbursement at a fixed rate of 6.8%. This loan is subject to a 1% federal loan fee deducted at the time of disbursement. There is no credit check required and no payments are required while you are in school at least half-time. Several repayment options are available. You will only be required to complete this MPN once.

**2012-2013 Direct Stafford Loan Request Form.** You must submit this form every time you are requesting a new loan online at [www.stu.edu/faforms](http://www.stu.edu/faforms). If you are completing this form for the first time, you will be required to create your own username and login. If you are requesting a loan for both the Fall and the Spring semesters be sure to select both terms on this form.

Students who may be otherwise eligible to borrow through the Federal Direct Stafford Loan program, but have met their aggregate loan limit, may be eligible to borrow up to the Cost of Attendance through the Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan program.

For more information on the Federal Direct Student Loan Programs please visit [www.direct.ed.gov](http://www.direct.ed.gov).

## Private or Alternative Loans

**Private Loans are non-federal student loans typically borrowed by students who are not eligible for Federal student loans.**

Private loans are subject to credit approval by your lender of choice. In some cases, you may be required to apply with a credit-worthy cosigner. Although the private loan may allow you to borrow up to your total cost of attendance, you should borrow only what you need. In most cases, these loans have variable interest rates and repayment terms may vary between lenders. International students may be required to apply with a credit-worthy United States citizen as a co-signer/borrower. In some cases, the lender may require that you submit additional information along with your application such as, proof of U.S. citizenship or proof of income. For more information or to apply for a private loan, please visit STU's Financial Aid home page at [www.stu.edu/financialaid](http://www.stu.edu/financialaid) and select "Student Loan Programs" to view a listing of private lenders and compare their benefits.

## Scholarships

Scholarships may be available to eligible students and are typically awarded at the time of admissions by the Admissions Committee. Other scholarship opportunities may also be available to deserving students, subject to availability of funds, and are awarded and administered by the J.S.D. Program Director.

### Standards for Satisfactory Academic Progress

The federal regulations governing the student financial assistance programs stipulate that in order to continue to be eligible to participate in the Federal Student Aid (Title IV) programs students must maintain satisfactory academic progress towards their degree. Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) will be reviewed at the end of each semester to determine your continued eligibility for Federal Student Aid. Additional information regarding the Financial Aid Standards for Satisfactory Academic Progress may be found online at [www.stu.edu/lawfinancialaid](http://www.stu.edu/lawfinancialaid).

### Dropping/Withdrawing

Federal student aid is subject to the U.S. Department of Education's Return of Title IV funds policy which states that when a student completely drops or withdraws from school during a semester in which he/she received federal student aid (including loans), the school must calculate, according to formulas defined by the U.S. Department of Education, the portion of aid the student earned for the time he/she was enrolled in school. If you completely drop or withdraw from school prior to completing at least 60% of the semester, you and/or the school may be required to return all or a portion of the aid awarded to you, and you may incur a balance with the University. To avoid any unnecessary financial hardship, you should consult with your Financial Aid Advisor prior to dropping or withdrawing.

### Additional Documentation

In some cases, you may be required to submit additional forms of documentation such as: proof of U.S. citizenship or permanent residency, income verification, copies of a valid Driver's License or Social Security Card, proof of Selective Service Registration, and/or proof of non-default before your financial aid request can be completed. Your financial aid file can only be processed once you have submitted all required documents. It is important that you submit all required documents in a timely manner to the Office of Student and Financial Affairs to avoid any unnecessary delays. You can view the status of your financial aid file online at <https://bobcat.stu.edu>.

### Award Notification

You will receive an award notification shortly after your financial aid file has been completed. By accepting a loan as part of your financial aid package, you incur a binding obligation to repay the loan in full, including interest and any applicable fees. You can view your award letter and check on your financial aid status online at <https://bobcat.stu.edu>.

### Direct Deposit and Refunds

If after your financial aid payment has been received by the University your student account reflects a credit balance, a refund for the credit balance will be directly deposited into your personal bank account. To complete the Direct Deposit Form, please go to [www.stu.edu/BASIC](http://www.stu.edu/BASIC), select Forms, and complete the Direct Deposit Form. For assistance, please contact the University's Student Accounts Office at (305) 474-6977.

### How to borrow wisely

- Don't borrow without looking into alternate methods of financing your education (i.e. scholarships, fellowships, savings, family assistance, etc.)
- If you borrow a private loan, carefully compare the terms of the loan, interest rates, loan fees, and repayment incentives.
- Repay your debts as soon as possible, the longer you owe, the more you will pay.
- To help secure your financial future, don't borrow more than what you will be able to afford to repay.
- Try to borrow as little as possible. **Borrow ONLY what you need.**

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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