

2020-2021
Application Instructions and Checklist for Financial Aid
Tufts University School of Medicine
Medical Students

Candidates for admission are encouraged to complete all financial aid materials as soon as possible. **Do Not Wait Until You Are Accepted To Apply For Financial Aid.** Students who wait may miss important deadlines and thus, certain financial aid funds. Incoming students will begin to receive Financial Aid Award Notices in April. Second year students whose applications are completed by the priority deadline will begin receiving their Financial Aid Award Notices in June. Third, and fourth year students, whose applications are completed by the priority deadline, will begin receiving their Financial Aid Award Notices beginning in May.

For priority consideration, the Office of Financial Aid must receive all application materials by March 27th, 2020.

LATE APPLICANTS: Files completed after the deadline will be reviewed after all on-time applicants. This may result in delayed receipt of funds. Additionally, students who were otherwise eligible may not receive any or all institutional aid should funds not remain.

IMPORTANT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: We feel it is critical for the student/applicant to take ownership in the financial aid process. We encourage students/applicants to work closely with the Office of Financial Aid throughout their educational studies at Tufts University School of Medicine. We are not able to discuss information pertaining to financial aid with any party other than the student. However, we will accept release forms in limited situations should an unforeseen emergency and/or extenuating circumstance arise.

1. **Submit TUSM Application for Financial Aid** (required for Federal and/or Institutional Assistance consideration)
2. **2020 – 21 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** at www.fafsa.gov. TUSM's school code is **E00520**.

The FAFSA is now available on October 1st of each year. The FAFSA should be completed at least 2 weeks prior to the deadline. The FAFSA will include information from two years prior (2018) so students and families should have this information readily available. While estimated income information may be used, this information should be updated to include actual tax information at a later time.

If applying for Tufts University Institutional Assistance, parental information must be submitted on the 2020-21 FAFSA.

3. **Submit Tufts Background Information Sheet**

All students are strongly recommended to complete this form. This form is used as a tool to recommend eligibility for additional scholarships and to share information with donors upon their request.

Requirements for students applying for Institutional Aid on next page →

**Additional Requirements for students who are applying for INSTITUTIONAL AID:
(Not required of “Federal Aid Only” applicants)**

Although medical students are considered independent for federal funds, both student and parental information is considered when determining eligibility for institutional assistance and/or in some cases for Title VII assistance (Primary Care Loan). Parental income, assets, and household information must be provided on the FAFSA in addition to submitting the required documentation listed below. *If parental information is not provided, students will only be considered for federal funds.*

4. **Submit SIGNED copies of 2018 Federal Income Tax Returns (including all schedules and W-2 statements) for student applicant (and spouse) AND PARENTS.**

STATE TAX RETURNS ARE NOT ACCEPTED AND WILL BE SHREDDDED

Foreign taxes must be submitted after being translated to English and converted to U.S. dollars. The exchange rate must be based on the date the FAFSA was filed. All documentation is expected to be received by the financial aid deadline.

5. **Submit Parental Information Form**

If divorced or separated, EACH parent must submit a separate Parental Information Form. Parents who have remarried must provide income and assets for new spouses as well.

6. **Submit Secondary Mortgage Statement (if applicable)** – must include outstanding principal balance on loan owed at the time FAFSA was filed for properties owned other than primary home.

Some Helpful Tips:

- Review credit reports annually to avoid any unforeseen issues that may arise, correct any errors or discrepancies and protect against identity theft. The Office of Financial Aid strongly recommends using the website www.annualcreditreport.com to request information from all 3 credit agencies.
- Make copies of everything submitted and feel free to call or send an email to verify the documents have been received.
- Keep in mind that financial aid is awarded on an annual basis. Look forward to reapplying again next year!