



Office of Financial Aid  
Terms and  
Conditions 2025-26

Office of Financial Aid

Phone 619-432-4686

Email [financialaid@newschoolarch.edu](mailto:financialaid@newschoolarch.edu)

## **FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS**

### ***INTRODUCTION***

NewSchool of Architecture and Design is certified by the U.S. Department of Education as being eligible to participate in the Federal Pell Grant program, the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) program, the Federal Direct Loan program, and the Federal Work Study program.

The following sections detail the policies related to financial aid programs. Federal regulations that govern the administration of federal aid programs are subject to change. Notification of any regulatory changes will be provided to all students prior to the effective date of the new or revised policy.

### ***FEDERAL PELL GRANT***

A Federal Pell Grant is gift assistance that does not have to be repaid. A Federal Pell Grant is offered to **undergraduate** students who have not earned a bachelor's or professional degree.

Annually, the US Department of Education determines student eligibility for this grant. For the 2025-26 years, the minimum grant for a full academic year for an eligible student is \$740 and the maximum grant is \$7,395.

The amount of Federal Pell Grant funds you may receive over your lifetime is limited by federal law to be the equivalent of six years (12 semesters) of Federal Pell Grant funding. Since the maximum amount of Federal Pell Grant funding, you can receive each year is equal to 100%, the six-year equivalent is 600%. This change affects all students regardless of when or where they received their first Federal Pell Grant. Students may view their percentage of Federal Pell Grant used by logging on to [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov). The "Lifetime Eligibility Used" percentage will be displayed in the "Grants" section under "Pell Grant History". The U.S. Department of Education (ED) determines and keeps track of your Pell Grant Lifetime Eligibility percentage used.

If you have additional questions regarding your Federal Pell Grant eligibility or the remainder you have left, please contact the Office of Financial Aid.

### ***FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY GRANT (FSEOG)***

The FSEOG is gift assistance that does not have to be repaid. FSEOG may be offered from limited funds to undergraduate students who have an exceptional financial need as determined by the US Department of Education. Students with a Pell eligible EFC may be offered FSEOG. The maximum annual financial aid offer varies based on available funding which varies year to year.

### ***FEDERAL WORK STUDY (FWS)***

Federal Work-Study provides subsidized part-time employment for undergraduate students with financial need who qualify for federal student aid, giving them an opportunity to earn money to help cover their education expenses, such as tuition and books and transportation, as well as providing them with positions that complement their education programs or career goals, whenever possible. To be eligible for work-study employment, students must be in good academic standing and enrolled or accepted for enrollment. The Office of Financial Aid provides as many work-study positions as funding allows. Please note that students cannot earn federal work-study funds during their scheduled class hours.

**FEDERAL SUBSIDIZED DIRECT LOAN**

The Federal Subsidized Direct Loan program provides low-interest loans through the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan program. Eligibility for this need-based loan is determined by the federal formula as calculated by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for undergraduate students who are attending at least half time (six credits per quarter).

- The maximum annual loan amount for the first academic year (grade level 01) is \$3,500, less the loan fee and other fees (if applicable).
- The maximum Federal Subsidized Direct Loan for grade level 02 is \$4,500.
- This loan is capped at \$5,500 each for undergraduate grade levels 03, 04, and 05.
- Interest does not accrue during periods of enrollment and grace.
- Payments are not required while enrolled at least half time or during the grace period, which is six months after the student leaves school.
- The minimum payment amount is \$50 per month if the loan can be paid in full in 10 years.
- Federal Subsidized Direct Loans provide many flexible repayment plans, including a plan which takes into consideration the student’s ability to make payments.
- Interest rates are determined each spring for the upcoming award year, which runs from July 1 to the following June 30. Each loan has a fixed interest rate for the life of the loan.
- Borrowers who have other outstanding Federal Direct Loans may be eligible to consolidate these into one loan payment.
- Aggregate (lifetime) Federal Subsidized Direct Loan limits are \$23,000 for undergraduate loans.

**Grade Level Progression for Undergraduate Programs**

**Bachelor of Architecture**

Grade Level	Units
1	0 to 47.99
2	48 to 95.99
3	96 to 145.99
4	146 to and up
5	197 and up

**All Other Undergraduate Programs**

Grade Level	Units
1	0 to 47.99
2	48 to 95.99
3	96 to 145.99
4	146 and up

The student loan borrower is responsible for knowing the total amount of federal loans borrowed. All information submitted for the purpose of securing a Title IV, HEA loan, will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Education and accessible by authorized agencies, lenders, and institutions. Go to [StudentAid.gov](https://StudentAid.gov) to view your aid summary.

### ***FEDERAL UNSUBSIDIZED DIRECT LOAN***

The Federal Unsubsidized Direct Loan program provides William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan eligibility for students in addition to their subsidized loans and those who do not qualify for a full or partial Federal Subsidized Direct Loan based on their calculated financial need and who are attending at least half time (6 credits per quarter). Additionally:

- All undergraduate eligible students may qualify for a \$2,000 Federal Unsubsidized Direct Loan.
- Independent undergraduate students and certain dependent undergraduate students may borrow additional unsubsidized amounts up to \$4,000 per year for the first and second academic years (grade levels 01 and 02) and \$5,000 per year for undergraduate grade levels 03, 04, and 05.
- Aggregate (lifetime) Federal Direct Loan limits for subsidized and unsubsidized loans combined are \$31,000 for dependent undergraduates and \$57,500 for independent undergraduates (only \$23,000 may be subsidized).
- Interest rates are determined each spring for the upcoming award year, which runs from July 1 to the following June 30. Each loan has a fixed interest rate for the life of the loan.

Interest accrued during in-school and deferment periods is not subsidized for these loans, and the borrower is responsible to pay the interest. However, these interest payments can be added to the principal and repaid when the loan enters repayment. Students who are interested in making interest payments while in school should contact the Federal Direct Loan servicer. Repayment terms are the same as the Federal Subsidized Direct Loan except as noted above for in-school and deferment periods.

Creditworthiness is not a requirement to obtain a Federal Direct Stafford Loan (subsidized or unsubsidized). Under this program, students may borrow up to their maximum annual loan limit every award year. Loan funds can be used to cover direct education costs such as tuition and fees, room, and board, as well as indirect costs such as travel to and from school, books, and other education-related expenses. Federal Direct Loans borrowed while enrolled at another institute may impact a student's loan eligibility at NewSchool of Architecture and Design. Before any funds are disbursed, students must read important disclosure information regarding their student loan(s). The disclosure statement provides information about the Direct Subsidized Loan and/or Direct Unsubsidized Loan that NewSchool plans to disburse (pay out) by crediting the student's school account, paying the student directly, or both. There is also a Plain Language Disclosure that will explain the terms of the loan(s).

Students are encouraged to keep a copy of all disclosures for their records. All information submitted for the purpose of securing a federal student loan will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Education and accessible by authorized agencies, lenders, and institutions. The student loan borrower is responsible for

knowing the total amount of federal loans borrowed. A summary of an individual's federal loan debt is available via the [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov).

### ***FEDERAL DIRECT PARENT PLUS LOAN***

The Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan is a credit-based loan available to parents who wish to apply for additional assistance for their undergraduate dependent's education. The Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loans are made through the Federal Direct PLUS Loan program. The amount of the Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan cannot exceed the student's cost of attendance less other financial aid. The parent may begin making interest and principal payments 60 days after the loan is fully disbursed or may contact the Federal Direct Loan servicer to defer payments until six months after the student ceases eligible enrollment. Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan eligibility requires that the student be attending at least half time (6 credits per quarter). Interest rates are determined each spring for the upcoming award year, which runs from July 1 to the following June 30. Each loan has a fixed interest rate for the life of the loan.

The student loan borrower is responsible for knowing the total amount of federal loans borrowed. All information submitted for the purpose of securing a Title IV, HEA loan, will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Education and accessible by authorized agencies, lenders, and institutions. Go to [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) to view your aid summary.

### ***CA STATE AWARDS***

NewSchool is approved to participate in programs funded through the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC). These grants are offered on the basis of academic achievement and financial need and can only be used at an approved California college or university. Both programs, Cal Grant A and B, are renewable for up to 4 years of undergraduate study, with a fifth year of eligibility for students in the 5-year architecture program. A student must submit a FAFSA by March 2 of each applicant year to be considered for California grants.

- Cal Grant A is offered to eligible financially needy students for tuition and fees.
- Cal Grant B is offered to eligible students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds for living expenses and expenses related to transportation, supplies, and books. Beginning with the second year of benefits, the offer may also be used for tuition and fees.
- Cal Grant B Access Award funds will be released to the student directly unless the student authorizes NewSchool to apply these funds directly to any institutional charges on the Cal Grant B Subsistence Authorization Form.
- Students selected for Transfer Entitlement Verification may be asked to provide proof of High School Graduation and California residency prior to disbursement of funds.
- California Dream Act students must submit a Dream Act Affidavit to the Office of Financial Aid prior to disbursement of funds.
- The disbursed amount of a Cal Grant tuition award in the Cal Grant A and B programs cannot exceed the amount of tuition charged to the student per payment period/term.

To be considered for a new Cal Grant, a student must submit a GPA Verification Form that has been certified by a high school or college official no later than March 2 of each application year.

## GRADUATE STUDENTS

### ***FEDERAL WORK-STUDY (FWS)***

Federal Work-Study provides subsidized part-time employment for **graduate** students with financial need, giving them an opportunity to earn money to help cover their educational expenses, such as tuition and books and transportation, as well as providing them with positions that complement their educational programs or career goals, whenever possible. To be eligible for work-study employment, students must be in good academic standing and enrolled or accepted for enrollment. The Office of Financial Aid provides as many work-study positions as funding allows. Please note that students cannot earn federal work-study funds during their scheduled class hours.

### ***FEDERAL UNSUBSIDIZED DIRECT LOAN***

The Federal Unsubsidized Direct Loan program provides William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan eligibility for students who are attending at least half time (typically 6 credits per quarter). Additionally:

- Graduate students may borrow up to \$20,500 in Federal Unsubsidized Direct Loans annually.
- Aggregate (lifetime) Federal Direct Loan limits for subsidized and unsubsidized loans combined are \$138,500 for graduate students.
- Payments are not required while enrolled at least half time or during the grace period, which is six months after the student either leaves school or is enrolled less than half time.
- Interest rates are determined each spring for the upcoming award year, which runs from July 1 to the following June 30. Each loan has a fixed interest rate for the life of the loan.

Interest accrued during in-school and deferment periods is not subsidized for these loans, and the borrower is responsible for paying the interest; however, these interest payments can be added to the principal and repaid when the loan enters repayment. Students who are interested in making interest payments while in school should contact the Federal Direct Loan servicer.

Creditworthiness is not a requirement to obtain a Federal Direct Stafford Loan. Under this program, students may borrow up to their maximum annual loan limit every award year. Loan funds can be used to cover direct education costs such as tuition and fees, room, and board, as well as indirect costs such as travel to and from school, books, and other education-related expenses. Federal Direct Loans borrowed while enrolled at another institute may impact a student's loan eligibility at NewSchool of Architecture and Design. Before any funds are disbursed, students must read important disclosure information regarding their student loan(s). The disclosure statement provides information about the Federal Direct Subsidized Loan and/or Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan that NewSchool plans to disburse (pay out) by crediting the student's school account, paying the student directly, or both. There is also a Plain Language Disclosure that will explain the terms of the loan(s).

Students are encouraged to keep a copy of all disclosures for their records. All information submitted for the purpose of securing a federal student loan will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Education and accessible by authorized agencies, lenders, and institutions. The student loan borrower is responsible for knowing the total amount of federal loans borrowed. Go to [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) to view your aid summary.

### ***FEDERAL DIRECT GRADUATE PLUS LOAN***

The Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan is a credit-based loan available to graduate students who wish to

apply for additional assistance for their educational costs. Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loans are processed by the Federal Direct PLUS Loan program. The amount of the Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan cannot exceed the student's cost of attendance less other financial aid. Interest rates are determined each spring for the upcoming award year, which runs from July 1 to the following June 30. Each loan has a fixed interest rate for the life of the loan. Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan eligibility requires that the student be attending at least half time (6 credits per quarter in most cases). Payments are not required while enrolled at least half time or for the 6-month period after the student either leaves school or is enrolled less than half time. Interest accrued during in-school and deferment periods is not subsidized for these loans, and the borrower is responsible for paying the interest; however, these interest payments can be added to the principal and repaid when the loan enters repayment. Students who are interested in making interest payments while in school should contact the Federal Direct Loan servicer.

The student loan borrower is responsible for knowing the total amount of federal loans borrowed. All information submitted for the purpose of securing a Title IV, HEA loan, will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Education and accessible by authorized agencies, lenders, and institutions. Go to [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) to view your aid summary.

### ***ENTRANCE COUNSELING***

First-time borrowers are required to complete Federal Direct Loan Entrance Counseling prior to receiving the first disbursement of a Federal Direct Loan. Counseling is completed online at [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) and will help the student understand his/her rights and obligations as a student loan borrower. Loan counseling must be completed before the student can receive loan funds.

### ***EXIT COUNSELING***

Federal regulations require that students complete Exit Counseling to help them to understand the responsibilities and repayment obligation for their student loans. The US Department of Education has compiled the [Exit Counseling Guide](#) to provide a general overview of information to successfully repay the Direct Subsidized and Direct Unsubsidized Loans. For more detailed information about any of the topics covered in this guide, students should review their Master Promissory Note (MPN). Exit Counseling is also available online at [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) or in the Office of Financial Aid. This process should be completed:

- Before graduation
- Before transferring to another institution
- Before withdrawal and leaves of absence
- If enrolled less than half time

Students should regularly check with [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) to manage their student loan portfolio. This database shows the status of loans during repayment, the servicer of the loans, interest rates, and Outstanding Principal Balance (OPB). This database is accessible 24 hours a day and requires access with the student's FSA ID.

### ***FEDERAL STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT PLANS***

Federal Direct PLUS and Stafford Loans offer several [repayment plan options](#). Some of the options carry a lower monthly payment than standard repayment but choosing these other options extends the term of the loan and increases the total amount of interest paid during the life of the loan.

[Loan Simulator](#) is a new tool that William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) and Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) program borrowers can use to obtain preliminary repayment plan eligibility information and estimated repayment amounts. This easy-to-use tool offers borrowers the opportunity to obtain preliminary repayment information across all the repayment plans. Its advantage over repayment plan-specific calculators is that it provides side-by-side results for all plans and information about the total cost of a loan over time.

### **LOAN DEFERMENTS**

Under certain circumstances, an enrolled borrower is entitled to have the repayment of a loan deferred. During deferment, the borrower is not required to pay loan principal and interest on subsidized loans does not accrue. After the in-school deferment, the borrower may be entitled to one grace period of 6 consecutive months. The date that the deferment starts may affect the length of the grace period.

Students who have a valid social security number on file at NewSchool of Architecture and Design will have their enrollment here reported and updated monthly with the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC). The NSC communicates electronically with the federal and non-federal loan servicers to ensure that students who remain enrolled maintain the in-school deferments for which they are eligible.

**NewSchool of Architecture and Design's Policy:** Students who seek to defer repayment of their prior student loans and do not want to rely on the electronic exchange with the NSC must fill out forms to have their enrollment status verified. Students must get the forms from their lender(s) and send them directly to:

NewSchool of Architecture and Design  
Office of the Registrar  
600 B Street  
San Diego, CA 92101

At the top of the form, students should include their enrollment start date and the term for which they are requesting an in-school deferment.

***Note:** Any deferment paperwork sent to NewSchool of Architecture and Design's Office of the Registrar for enrollment verification is forwarded to the National Student Clearinghouse on a weekly basis.*

## **FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION POLICIES**

### **STUDENT FINANCIAL AID RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **STUDENT RIGHTS**

- Students may decline all or any part of a financial aid offer. This must be done in writing or through the student portal.
- Students may cancel a federal loan disbursement within 14 days of the date of disbursement notification and assume responsibility for any resulting tuition account balance.
- Students will be notified in writing of any changes to financial aid eligibility and/or offers.
- Students may request a review of a financial aid application due to special or unusual circumstances that would change the family's ability to pay and/or the cost of attendance. All such requests should be submitted in writing. The Request for Review of Special Circumstances Form is available from the Office of Financial Aid. Supporting documentation is required.
- Under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), NewSchool will not release specific information about a financial aid offer to third parties without the student's permission.

- Students have the right to contact the Federal Student Financial Aid (FSA) Ombudsman to resolve issues related to student loans. More information on problem resolution and the FSA Ombudsman is provided later in this section.
- Students may contact the Director of Financial Aid with any unresolved financial aid concerns.

### ***STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES***

- Students must be admitted by the Office of Admissions to a course of study leading to a degree or certificate.
- Students must promptly attend scheduled financial aid appointments.
- Students must provide all documentation as requested by the Office of Financial Aid to complete the file. All requested verification or confirmation documents (such as signed copies of tax returns or proof of citizenship) must be provided before NewSchool will finalize the financial aid offers.
  - Failure to provide timely documentation may jeopardize the student’s ability to start the next term (unless cash payment is made) or may result in access to limited financial aid funds.
  - While the intent is to complete all documentation in time to receive financial aid disbursements for the immediate term, all federally required documentation must be completed no later than the last date of attendance for that academic year. The student must report to the Office of Financial Aid any additional resources, scholarships, tuition waivers, and funding from outside agencies, etc., that may also apply.
- Students must accept or change the offered loan amounts through their student portal.
- Students must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) as described in this publication.
- Students must immediately inform NewSchool of any address changes.
- Students must complete loan entrance counseling as requested, and loan exit counseling upon graduation, withdrawal, or enrollment in fewer than half time credits for a term, if student is a federal loan recipient.

If a student obtains a loan to pay for an educational program, the student will have the responsibility to repay the full amount of the loan plus interest, less the amount of any refund, and that, if the student has received federal student financial aid funds, the student is entitled to a refund of the money not paid from federal student financial aid program funds.

### **STUDENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

To receive aid from any of the federal student aid programs administered by the Office of Financial Aid, a student must meet all of the following criteria:

- Be a US citizen or eligible non-citizen
- Have a high-school diploma or a GED certificate, or pass an approved ability-to-benefit (ATB) test
- Enroll in an eligible program as a regular student seeking a degree
- Have a valid social security number
- Meet satisfactory academic progress standards
- Not be in default on a federal student loan nor owe money on a federal student grant
- Not exceed the lifetime aggregate or annual loan limits without documentation that the debt has been reaffirmed

A conviction for any offense, during a period of enrollment for which a student is receiving Title IV financial aid, under any federal or state law involving the possession or sale of illegal drugs will result in the loss of eligibility for any Title IV grant, loan, or work assistance.

### ***STEP ONE – APPLICATION FORMS***

NewSchool encourages students to begin the financial aid process as early as possible. In fact, students may begin the financial aid application process before full acceptance by the college. The annual application procedure for new and continuing students is as follows:

- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Assistance (FAFSA) via the Internet at <https://studentaid.gov>
- List NewSchool using the School Code **030439**

### ***STEP TWO – ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION***

Once the FAFSA is completed, the Office of Financial Aid will advise the student of any additional documentation requirements. Required documentation may include signed tax returns, transcripts, and proof of permanent residency or citizenship.

### ***STEP THREE – FINANCIAL AID OFFER DETERMINATION AND ACCEPTANCE***

Financial aid is offered by academic year based on:

- The family’s ability to contribute as determined by the federal formula
- The overall cost of attending NewSchool
- Merit (for non-federal offers)
- Other eligibility criteria including credit load (the dollar amount of the student’s financial aid is affected by the number of credit hours the student takes each quarter and will be adjusted after the add/drop period each quarter)
- Program-specific requirements

The cost of attendance includes tuition fees, room, board, books, supplies, and miscellaneous expenses and is based in part on the College Board expense budgets and survey information. NewSchool estimates 2025-26 indirect costs as follows:

- \$6,044/quarter room and board budget for students living off campus
- \$1,281/quarter room and board budget for students living with their parents
- \$1,392/quarter estimated transportation expenses
- \$2,373/quarter estimated miscellaneous expenses such as clothing, entertainment, and personal items, depending
- \$1,100/quarter estimated for books and supplies

The definition of an academic year for degree programs is 36 quarter credits and 30 weeks.

Financial aid is offered on a rolling basis as FAFSAs are received. When all necessary documents have been received, the Financial Aid Advisor will prepare a financial aid offer letter using the most beneficial package of available funds for which the student is eligible. The financial aid offer letter detailing specific offers and amounts for each term in the academic year is sent to the student or available online through the NewSchool

student portal with enclosures of additional forms and information pertinent to the financial aid offers.

- The student must review and either accept or decline the financial aid offer(s) through the student portal.
- Student loans and most other aid will not be certified until the borrower formally accepts the financial aid offers.
- Aid will not be processed until all required documents are completed and returned. The Master Promissory Note (MPN) must be signed electronically or signed and returned to the Office of Financial Aid.

Students and parents may obtain additional federal loan funds without having to sign a new MPN for each academic year or period of enrollment. However, NewSchool requires active confirmation of each loan offered, which means the school must receive acceptance of the new loan amount before proceeding to certify the new loans.

The Office of Financial Aid processes financial aid offers on a rolling basis. It is recommended that students have a complete financial aid application at least 4 weeks prior to the start of a term. A complete financial aid application includes all documents required for the offering and disbursing of funds. The Office of Financial Aid (OFA) will continue to accept applications, prepare financial aid offers and process disbursements in the last 30 days of the term, but the OFA cannot be held responsible if funds are not able to disburse for the term. Delays can occur that are outside of the control of the OFA. For example, a student may not be able to obtain timely third- party documentation, such as selective service letters, overlapping financial aid forms and Federal Direct PLUS endorsers.

Required documents may include, but are not limited to:

- Proof of social security number
- Proof of legal name
- Proof of date of birth
- Proof of citizenship
- Proof of registration with the Selective Service
- Copies of 1040 tax returns (signed) and all schedules/IRS tax transcripts and W-2 forms
- Documentation of Federal student loan default resolution
- Documentation of Federal student grant overpayment resolution
- Academic records from previously attended institutions

Students must also maintain all federal aid eligibility requirements for the entire term.

After financial aid has been offered and accepted, a student with a remaining tuition balance for a term must make payment arrangements with the Business Office.

#### ***STEP FOUR – DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS***

A portion of each financial aid offer is typically credited to the student's tuition account each term. Please note that state programs and some institutional offers do not provide disbursements for the summer term. A first year, first- time borrower's account will not be credited with Federal Direct Loans until the student completes entrance loan counseling.

As with all financial aid, the student may lose eligibility in whole, or part based on the number of credits for which they are registered. It is highly recommended that students notify the Office of Financial Aid of any schedule changes after financial aid has been disbursed. Doing so may result in funding being returned, leaving the student owing money to the school.

Disbursement occurs 10 days after the start of the term. At this time aid will be disbursed to eligible students.

Most financial aid is disbursed electronically to the student's account in accordance with the terms/amounts listed on the accepted offer letter once enrollment status and progress have been confirmed.

### **FINANCIAL AID NOTIFICATIONS**

The [myFinAid](#) web portal is the student's 24/7 source for financial aid information for students who complete the FAFSA. The Office of Financial Aid will notify the student through their NewSchool email account when updates, including financial aid offer notifications and changes, are made to financial aid information on [myFinAid](#); however, financial aid recipients are responsible for checking their [myFinAid](#) page periodically for any updates. Students may contact the Office of Financial Aid via email [financialaid@newschoolarch.ed](mailto:financialaid@newschoolarch.ed) or phone: 1-619-432-4686.

Students who complete the FAFSA will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR). Students should read the SAR carefully as it contains important information about the student's eligibility.

### **VERIFICATION POLICY**

In accordance with U.S. Department of Education regulations, NewSchool is required to verify the accuracy of financial aid application information on selected students. NewSchool strongly suggests that all students who are eligible and who filed a federal tax return use the IRS Data Retrieval tool when filling out their FAFSA on the Web. Using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool may expedite the verification and financial aid offer process.

Additional information for the verification process may include but is not limited to the following:

- 1040 tax returns (signed) and all schedules
- IRS tax return transcripts
- W-2s
- IRS verification of non-filing
- Official proof of High School Completion Status
- Identification documents
- and a signed Statement of Educational Purpose

If you are selected for verification, the documents that you will need to submit to the Office of Financial Aid will be scheduled on your [myFinAid](#) portal or via email. If students are required to submit their tax information, NewSchool financial aid staff may accept a signed 1040 tax return. If you did not retain a copy of your 1040 tax return, you can obtain an official IRS Tax Return Transcript, free of charge, through:

- (1) Get your tax record at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov);
- (2) You're your tax record by MAIL at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov);
- (3) automated telephone request 1-800-908-9946; or
- (4) paper request IRS Form 4506T-EZ [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

Students can obtain an IRS Verification of Non-Filing Letter by paper request IRS Form 4506T [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). Once the required documents are received in the Office of Financial Aid, the normal processing time is 7-14 business days. Participation in the verification process is not optional. If students do not complete the

verification process by the end of the enrollment period, they will not be able to receive federal financial assistance for that award year.

Upon reviewing the verification documentation, NewSchool will submit corrections to the Central Processing System (CPS) if any information on the FAFSA is determined to be incorrect. Students will be notified by their NewSchool email account if they must make a correction to their FAFSA or, because of completing the verification process, their expected family contribution (EFC) changes and results in a change to their financial aid offer amount. A student whose FAFSA information is selected for verification by the Department of Education must complete the verification process before the Office of Financial Aid can make any changes to their cost of attendance (COA) or to the values of the data items required to calculate their EFC.

Please be aware that if students intentionally misreport information and/or alter documentation for the purpose of increasing aid eligibility or fraudulently obtaining federal funds, they will be reported to the U.S. Department of Education Office of the Inspector General or to local law enforcement officials.

### ***UNUSUAL ENROLLMENT HISTORY FLAG***

The U.S. Department of Education added the Unusual Enrollment History Flag to the ISIR (Institutional Student Information Record) to indicate whether students have an unusual enrollment history regarding the receipt of Federal Pell Grant and/or Federal Direct Loan funds (not including a Federal Direct Consolidation loan, Federal Perkins loan, or a Federal Direct Parent PLUS loan). The U.S. Department of Education enforced this process to determine if recipients were enrolling with the sole purpose of collecting Title IV credit balances. Students may be required to submit additional documentation to determine federal financial aid eligibility at NewSchool.

### ***ATTENDED ANOTHER SCHOOL/OVERLAPPING FINANCIAL AID***

Federal aid received at another institution can impact the amount of federal aid that a student may receive at NewSchool. As required by federal regulations, NewSchool participates in the federal transfer monitoring process whereby the U.S. Department of Education may take up to 90 days into the start of a student's first term to notify NewSchool of Architecture and Design that the student has federal aid received at another institution that overlaps into his or her enrollment dates at NewSchool of Architecture and Design.

The Office of Financial Aid may not be able to make an initial financial aid offer to a student or may have to cancel aid that has already been offered if we receive information that the student has applied for and/or received federal aid at another institution for an overlapping period.

For example, if the loan period at a student's prior institution ends even one day after his or her starting quarter/semester at NewSchool of Architecture and Design, the student has an overlapping period, and we must deduct aid received at the other institution from the student's annual eligibility at NewSchool of Architecture and Design. If the loan information is not already updated on the U.S. Department of Education's Common Origination & Disbursement (COD) website, the student may be asked by this office to have the student's prior institution complete an Overlapping Financial Aid Form to confirm the last date of attendance and disbursed loan amounts at the prior institution.

## **ENROLLMENT POLICY**

Financial aid is offered based on the assumption that students will be enrolled for at least 12 credits per quarter unless the student's program is structured for a lower number of credits per quarter. When students enroll for fewer credits in a term, their aid may be adjusted at the end of the 'add/drop' period to reflect their current enrollment status. Students must be enrolled at least half-time to remain eligible for federal student aid. Students who enroll in two sequential courses over the quarter should register for both courses before the start of the quarter to avoid disbursement delays. Please note that if both courses are in the 2nd 5 weeks of the quarter, the disbursement will be delayed until day 10 of the course.

### ***ENROLLMENT STATUSES FOR FINANCIAL AID***

Full-time = 12 or more units

Three-quarter time = 9 to 11 units

Half-time = 6 to 8 units

Less than half-time = 5 or less units

## **MILITARY EDUCATION BENEFITS**

NewSchool is approved to train veterans and other eligible persons under Title 38, United States Code.

NewSchool follows Veteran's Administration (VA) regulations and related military regulations in administering student financial and academic affairs for veteran and military students.

Eligible veterans and dependents as defined by the VA can be accepted for education. Eligible veterans and dependents may file an application either with NewSchool or the VA.

Veterans are subject to the same rules and regulations that govern other students. Absences and tardiness will be reported to the VA in accordance with current VA directives. The tuition and refund policies of the school are detailed later in this publication. Rules governing VA benefits/veterans and Title IV funding from the Department of Education may not be the same. Please see your VA Certifier for more details.

NewSchool maintains a written record of previous education and training of the veteran or eligible person, grants appropriate credit for equivalent coursework, clearly indicates the credit granted for transfer credits on the student record, shortens the training period proportionately, and notifies the student. Current VA directives prohibit the payment of benefits for any period of training designated as "make-up time."

NewSchool honors the following education benefits for active-duty service members, reservists, veterans of the armed forces, spouses, and their dependents:

- **The Montgomery GI Bill® (MGIB)** reimburses tuition costs through an educational assistance allowance.
- **The Post-9/11 GI Bill®** applies direct funds to cover a portion of costs for tuition, fees, and books.
- **Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship** provides up to nine months of additional Post-9/11 GI Bill® benefits (to a maximum of \$30,000) to qualifying Veterans and Fry Scholars seeking an undergraduate STEM degree.
- **Active Military Tuition Assistance** gives a portion of funds to cover costs of tuition and fees. This program is sponsored by the specific branch of the military you serve.<sup>6</sup>

- **The Tuition Assistance Top-Up Program** provides supplemental funds for tuition costs that are not covered under the Tuition Assistance program.
- **The VA Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Program** offers benefits to veterans with service-connected disabilities.
- **The Dependents Educational Assistance Program (DEA)** offers benefits to dependents of service members who are permanently disabled due to a service-related condition or who died while on active duty.
- **The Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP)** provides benefits to members of the Reserve called to active duty in response to a war or natural disaster.

\*Only one tuition-reduction benefit may be applied to tuition at a time. For more detailed information regarding benefit programs please contact the Office of Financial Aid or visit <https://www.gibill.va.gov>  
GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the US Department of Veteran's Affairs (VA).

### **YELLOW RIBBON**

For the 2025-26 school year, NewSchool has committed to an unlimited dollar amount and an unlimited number of students in the Yellow Ribbon program. The Yellow Ribbon program is designed to assist students whose tuition and fee costs exceed the annual Post 9/11 GI Bill® limit. The VA will match NewSchool's contribution dollar for dollar per student.

Only Veterans entitled to the maximum benefit rate, as determined by service requirements, or their designated transferees may receive this funding. Active-duty service members and their spouses are not eligible for this program. Child transferees of active-duty service members may be eligible if the service member is qualified at the 100 percent rate.

### **Veterans Affairs Pending Payment Compliance Policy (Title 38 U.S.C. § 3679(e))**

NewSchool of Architecture & Design (NSAD) complies fully with Title 38 U.S.C. § 3679(e), also known as the *Veterans Benefits and Transition Act of 2018*. This law requires institutions of higher education to permit covered individuals—students using VA education benefits under Chapter 31 (Veteran Readiness & Employment) or Chapter 33 (Post-9/11 GI Bill®)—to attend or participate in classes while payment from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is pending.

### **Policy Statement**

Upon receiving a Certificate of Eligibility (COE), Statement of Benefits, or VA Form 28-1905 (authorization) from a covered individual, NSAD will not:

- Prevent or delay the student's enrollment;
- Assess late fees, finance charges, or other penalties;
- Require the student to secure additional or alternative funding; or
- Deny access to classes, libraries, or other institutional facilities because of delayed VA payments.

These protections remain in effect until the earlier of:

1. The date NSAD receives payment from the VA, or
2. 90 days after the school certifies tuition and fees to the VA following receipt of the COE or authorization.

## **Student Responsibilities**

To ensure timely processing and continued eligibility under this policy, covered students must:

1. Submit a COE, Statement of Benefits, or VA Form 28-1905 to the Office of Military & Veteran Services on or before the published tuition due date each term.
2. Request certification for the term through NSAD's VA certification process.
3. Pay or arrange payment for any portion of charges not covered by VA benefits, such as remaining tuition balances, non-allowable fees, or housing costs billed directly to the student.

## **Institutional Procedures**

- **Certification & Billing:** The School Certifying Official (SCO) and Registrar will certify enrollment and tuition/fees promptly upon receipt of valid documentation. Student Accounts will track VA payment status and ensure no penalties are applied within the 90-day protection window.
- **Reconciliation:** VA payments will be applied promptly upon receipt, and any resulting overpayment will be refunded or credited to the student in accordance with institutional policy.
- **Communication:** Students will receive written confirmation when their certification is submitted and when VA payments post to their account.

## **Financial Aid and Student Accounts**

This policy ensures that students using VA benefits are not financially penalized while waiting for VA disbursements. However, it does not waive the student's responsibility for charges not covered by VA funds. Students remain responsible for any remaining balances by standard payment deadlines.

## **Recordkeeping**

NSAD maintains all required documentation, including COEs, certification requests, and VA payment records, in the student's official VA file for audit and compliance purposes. The institution keeps a log of receipt dates, certification dates, and VA payment posting dates.

## **Availability**

This policy is published on the NSAD Military & Veteran Students webpage and included in the Financial Aid Handbook and Academic Catalog to ensure accessibility and transparency regarding compliance.

## **Authority**

- Title 38 U.S.C. § 3679(e) – Veterans Benefits and Transition Act of 2018
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs – 3679(e) School Compliance Guidelines

## **INSTITUTIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS**

NewSchool celebrates and recognizes academic and design excellence. NewSchool also recognizes the individual financial circumstances of our students. Therefore, NewSchool offers a scholarship program that is both merit and need based. The student must complete a FAFSA and their GPA and financial need is reviewed to determine eligibility. The scholarship is renewable based on satisfactory academic progress.

NewSchool provides merit and need-based scholarships and discounts. Specific updated scholarship information is available in the Office of Financial Aid. Please call (619) 432-4686 or visit <https://newschoolarch.edu>. A sample of current scholarships offered includes:

### ***FELLOWS AWARD***

NewSchool Fellows will be exposed to an array of special opportunities which allow for the identification and development of their unique talents and abilities. Within the context of a learning environment that is collaborative, diverse, and practice based. NewSchool Fellows will take advantage of resources and experiences to help them succeed as thought leaders in the design professions.

### ***ACE/MENTOR PROGRAM***

This program brings together architects, contractors, and engineers (ACE) to provide encouragement to high school students interested in entering careers in construction and design-related fields. Please visit <http://www.acementor.org> to find out if your high school participates in this program and learn more about application requirements.

### ***MILITARY DISCOUNT***

Students, who are active duty, reserves, and veterans of the U.S. Air Force, Army, Navy, Marines, and Coast Guard, as well as their spouses, qualify for 15% off tuition.

### ***PRESIDENT'S AWARD***

NewSchool celebrates and recognizes academic and design excellence. Therefore, NewSchool offers a limited number of merit-based scholarships for our continuing students. These are one-time offers and based on availability of funds. Students applying for the President's Award must submit a letter of intent, portfolio project, and letters of recommendation.

### ***OPPORTUNITY AWARD***

NewSchool annually offers the Opportunity Award to outstanding students in all our degree programs who are experiencing temporary financial hardship. All eligible students are encouraged to apply by the deadline. Scholarship offers are made for varying amounts, generally up to \$10,000, with specific amounts dependent on the number of qualified applicants, amount of student's financial need and the amount of funds available. Scholarship funds are disbursed quarterly during the academic year. Financial need and proof of temporary hardship are the two most important criteria used in determining recipients.

### ***EARLY ACTION SCHOLARSHIP***

NewSchool offers one-time scholarships for new, incoming students who meet the early application and/or registration deadlines. Students must meet all admissions requirements, complete their application (with all supporting materials), and pay the required tuition deposit by the early application deadline that is announced annually.

### ***UNIVERSITY BRIDGE SCHOLARSHIP***

NewSchool's need based scholarship program aimed at middle income families. Scholarships are offered to students with an expected family contribution under 20000 and who do not qualify for any federal or state grants other than 1<sup>st</sup> year Cal Grant B.

### ***ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP***

NewSchool provides a scholarship for eligible alumni who are interested in pursuing further education at NewSchool. The annual scholarship is equivalent to a 25% reduction of tuition costs. The scholarship offer may not be stackable with other university scholarships.

### ***CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY SCHOLARSHIP***

Students who are employed in construction or a related field qualify for a 15% tuition reduction. The scholarship offer requires students to meet the NewSchool admissions requirements for the Master of Construction Management program. The scholarship offer may not be stackable with some other university scholarships.

### ***RESIDENCY IN STATES OTHER THAN CALIFORNIA***

Students with residency in states other than California may contact their state education agency for additional information. Telephone numbers and links to state agency websites can be found at:

<https://www2.ed.gov/about/contacts/state/index.html>

### ***STIPENDS/CREDIT BALANCES***

Stipends are student refund checks issued to students showing a credit balance on their account ledger after financial aid has been posted. Post-census stipends generally become available after the add/drop period to ensure that all charges have been posted correctly to the student account. Any changes the student makes to their registered units, whether before the end of the add/drop period or through appeals after the close of census can affect the amount of aid they receive. This can include the loss of funding and the creation of a balance the student will owe the school.

### ***STUDY AT ANOTHER INSTITUTION OR STUDY ABROAD***

Enrollment in certain programs of study at another school or study abroad approved for credit by NewSchool of Architecture and Design may be considered enrollment at the university for the purpose of applying for assistance under the Federal Title IV financial aid programs. However, students may not be eligible for some institutional funds during a semester of study abroad.

For students to access federal financial aid, a consortium agreement is required between the schools whereby the home school disburses federal aid for courses taken at a host school. The host school agrees not to disburse federal aid and to monitor the student's enrollment for the home school. Consortium agreements may be made between NewSchool (home school) and a host school if the student has been approved by NewSchool to take coursework at the host institution that will fully transfer toward the NewSchool degree program. NewSchool degree seeking students must submit a copy of the NewSchool "Permission to Take a Course at Another Institution" form and a "Consortium Agreement" form signed by the host school's financial aid office to NewSchool's Office of Financial Aid.

Students must also meet all other federal eligibility requirements. If the student is approved for a consortium agreement by NewSchool, NewSchool will disburse federal aid to the NewSchool student account and the Bursar's Office will issue the refund to the student. The student is responsible for meeting payment deadlines set by the host school. NewSchool does not pay the host school on behalf of the student unless special arrangements are made in advance, and NewSchool does not alter the financial aid disbursement schedule to meet deadlines set by the host school.

## **REFUND POLICIES**

### ***STUDENT'S RIGHT TO CANCEL***

- A student has the right to cancel an agreement for a program of instruction, without any penalty or obligations, through attendance at the first-class session, or the seventh calendar day after enrollment, whichever is later. After the end of the cancellation period, a student also has the right to stop school at any time; and the right to receive a pro rata refund if he or she has completed 60% or less of the scheduled quarter through the last day of attendance.
- Cancellation may occur when a student provides a written notice of cancellation at the following address: 1249 F Street, San Diego, CA, 92101. This can be done by mail or by hand delivery.
- The written notice of cancellation, if sent by mail, is effective when deposited in the mail properly addressed with proper postage.
- The written notice of cancellation need not take any particular form and however expressed; it is effective if it shows that the student no longer wishes to be bound by the Enrollment Agreement.
- If the Enrollment Agreement is cancelled, the school will refund the student any money he/she paid, less an application fee not to exceed \$250, and less any deduction for equipment not returned in good condition, within 45 days after the notice of cancellation is received.

### ***FEDERAL RETURN OF TITLE IV FUNDS***

The R2T4 policy determines the amount of federal loan and grant (Title IV) aid a student may retain based on the amount of time spent in attendance. Title IV funds include Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG), Federal Subsidized Direct Loan, Federal Unsubsidized Direct Loan, or Federal Direct PLUS Loan. The calculation of Title IV funds earned by the student has no relationship to the student's incurred institutional charges.

### ***CREDIT BALANCE***

If a Title IV credit balance remains after calculation of both the Institutional Refund and the R2T4 policies, the balance will be paid to the student unless the student requests the additional credit be returned to federal student loans.

### ***ADDITIONAL FUNDS***

If a student earned more Title IV aid than was disbursed, the institution will credit earned grant funds to unpaid institutional charges and will disburse additional earned grant funds to the student. Any unpaid earned loan funds will be offered to the student to apply to unpaid institutional charges, and any additional amounts will be offered to the student. The student should accept these funds within 14 days of the date of the notification. Any post-withdrawal loan disbursement must be paid within 180 days of the student's withdrawal.

### ***REQUIRED REFUNDS***

If more funds were disbursed than are considered “earned” after the R2T4 calculation, refunds due from the college will be made within 30–45 days of the student’s effective withdrawal date. If the student received a credit balance refund for living expenses prior to the completion of the withdrawal calculations, the student may be required to return an amount of those funds. A required R2T4 may also result in a debit tuition account balance, which the student must pay to the college. Refunds are allocated in the following order:

- Federal Unsubsidized Direct Loan
- Federal Subsidized Direct Loan
- Federal Direct PLUS Loan
- Federal Pell Grant

Students will be notified of any refunds due to the Federal Direct Loan servicer on their behalf through the mailed exit interview material. Refunds to any of the Title IV or state programs will be paid within 30 days from the date of determination.

### ***RETURN OF FEDERAL FUNDS CALCULATION***

The R2T4 amount is calculated for any Title IV recipient who officially withdraws before the end of the term or ceases attending all classes for 14 consecutive days. The calculation may result in a required return of Title IV funds to their source if the student withdrew before completing 60% or less of the quarter. The percentage of Title IV to be retained is equal to the number of calendar days from the beginning of the quarter to the withdrawal date divided by the total number of calendar days in the quarter. Breaks of more than four days are excluded from the number of days in the formula. After the 60% point in the quarter, a student has earned 100% of the Title IV funds he or she was scheduled to receive during the period.

### ***RETURN OF FEDERAL FUNDS REFUND EXAMPLE***

A student withdrew on the ninth day of the term (Tuesday of the second week) of a 79-calendar day quarter. The R2T4 calculation shows the student attended 9/79 or 11.4% of the term. Below is a breakdown of disbursed amounts prior to withdrawal and the amounts that must be returned:

- Federal aid offered and disbursed prior to withdrawal is as follows:
  - \$1,200 Federal Direct Loan
  - \$1,100 Federal Pell Grant
- Total federal aid equals \$2,300, and 11.4% or \$262.20 was earned so \$2,037.80 must be returned:
  - \$1,200 to Federal Direct Loan
  - \$837.80 to Federal Pell Grant

## **STATE PRO RATA REFUND POLICY**

All students who leave school having completed 60% or less of the term are entitled to a pro rata refund. The refund shall be the amount the student paid for the instruction multiplied by a fraction (the numerator equals the number of days of instruction which the student has not attended, but for which the student has paid, and the denominator is the total number of days of instruction for which the student has paid) less a \$100 administrative fee.

The institution shall also provide a pro rata refund of nonfederal student financial aid program moneys, including Cal Grant A and B funds paid for institutional charges and Military Tuition Assistance, for students who have completed 60 percent or less of the period of attendance. Funds will be returned to the California Student Aid Commission or the Department of Defense as applicable.

### ***STATE PRO RATA REFUND EXAMPLE:***

- Student attended 31 out of 90 days scheduled for the term  
31/90 is 0.344
- Term charges were \$6,000 tuition and \$125 operations fee = \$6,125  
\$6,000 x 0.344 is \$2,064  
\$125 x 0.344 is \$43
- Total tuition and fees earned by school \$2,107
- School may retain total of \$2,107 plus \$100 withdrawal fee
- Account will be credited \$3,836 tuition refund and \$82 operation fee refund.

### ***CREDIT BALANCE***

A remaining credit balance, after both the Return of Title IV Funds (R2T4) and State Pro Rata Refund policies have been calculated, will be used to repay NewSchool funds, other private sources as required, and then the student, with the exception that any Cal Grant A received in excess of tuition and fees for the quarter will be returned to the Cal Grant program.

### ***CONFIRMATION OF RETURN ENROLLMENT AFTER WITHDRAWAL FROM PART OF A QUARTER***

Students who withdraw from a course in the first part of a quarter and remain registered for a course in the second part of a quarter will be asked to confirm that they plan to return. Federal rules do not allow NewSchool to rely on previous registration if the student withdraws from the first course. An R2T4 calculation will be processed using the earlier withdrawal date for students who indicate that they will return and do not.

### ***ADJUSTMENTS TO FINANCIAL AID***

Federal financial aid is offered based on an estimate of the student's eligibility. The Office of Financial Aid may have to cancel or reduce financial aid before or after disbursement, based on new information that becomes available after the time of offering or disbursement. Examples of changes that would require adjustments to aid:

- Student does not begin attendance in any courses.
- Federal Pell Grant recipient does not begin attendance in all courses of the term.

- Student withdraws from all courses in the term (officially or unofficially).
- Receipt of other resources including NewSchool scholarships not offered or reported at the time of offering financial aid or disbursement.
- Student becomes federally ineligible based on the receipt of updated information from the U.S. Department of Education.
- Student does not meet course participation requirements.
- Student enrolls in fewer credits, which may require an adjustment of federal aid. Most students are offered financial aid based on the assumption of enrollment in 12 undergraduate credits per quarter.

In some instances, a federal Return of Title IV (R2T4) calculation will be required.

### ***WITHDRAWAL FROM A QUARTER***

Students withdrawing from all courses in the quarter prior to the completion of 60% or less of the quarter may find that funds are owed to the school as a result of the federal R2T4 formula. Students who stop engaging in academically related activities during the quarter, without officially withdrawing from the courses, are subject to the R2T4 calculation. In such cases, the last date of academically related activity, as determined by NewSchool, is used as the withdrawal date for the quarter. Prior to withdrawing from all courses in the quarter, it is suggested that students contact the Office of Financial Aid to determine the amount of federal aid that must be returned. Federal student aid may not cover all unpaid charges due to NewSchool upon the student's withdrawal.

### ***LEAVE OF ABSENCE***

A student who takes an approved leave of absence is considered, for financial aid purposes, to have withdrawn from the school. A leave of absence is approved if the following criteria are met:

- The student has made a written request for a leave of absence.
- The leave of absence does not exceed 180 calendar days.
- The student has had only one leave of absence in a 12-month period.

The federal Return of Title IV refund calculation applies to leaves of absence and withdrawals for recipients of Title IV aid.

These leave of absence requirements also affect students' in-school status for the purposes of deferring payment of Federal Direct Stafford and Federal Direct PLUS Loans. Students on an approved leave of absence are not eligible for an in-school deferment for their Federal Direct Loans.

Students who take an unapproved leave of absence or fail to return to the school at the end of an approved leave of absence are no longer enrolled at the school and are not eligible for in-school deferment of their loans.

## **OVERAWARD OF FEDERAL AID**

The receipt of additional estimated financial assistance and/or a reduction in the cost of attendance that was not accounted for at the time of the initial offer of financial aid may cause an overaward of federal funds (the term "overaward" refers to any estimated aid that exceeds a student's financial need and/or cost of attendance). Estimated financial assistance includes but is not limited to the following: tuition reductions, tuition waivers, scholarships, third party payments, and/or other resources. In such instances, the Office of Financial Aid will correct the overaward by adjusting the federal financial aid.

Federal aid may be adjusted by reducing or reallocating funds prior to disbursement or returning funds to federal programs if disbursement has already occurred. Loans will be reduced before any reduction is made to scholarship or grant offers.

## **FINANCIAL AID SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS POLICY (SAP)**

Federal and State regulations governing student financial aid require that students receiving financial aid must maintain standards of reasonable academic progress in the completion of their degree or certificate program. New School has developed a standard of satisfactory academic progress policy to monitor a student's academic progress in accordance with the most recent federal and state regulations.

## **OVERVIEW OF THE SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (SAP) STANDARDS**

### **Standard 1 – Minimum Cumulative CGPA**

- Maintain a minimum cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) specific to your academic program.

### **Standard 2 – Minimum Cumulative Pace of Completion**

- Satisfactorily complete (earn credit in) at least 67% of the cumulative units you attempt.

### **Standard 3 – Maximum Time Frame of Aid Eligibility for Degree Completion**

- Complete a degree or certificate program within a maximum number of attempted units equal to 150% of the units required for the specific academic program.

The above standards are separate from the institution's academic policies and are applicable to all federal, state, and institutional (i.e., State Grants) financial aid including grants, loans, and work-study. Students awarded only scholarships, graduate assistantships, veteran's benefits, stipends and (excluding Cal Grant B stipend), must meet the eligibility requirements specific to those programs.

Below is a summary of the minimum standards students must meet to remain eligible for financial aid.

**IMPORTANT:** A student's entire academic history must be considered in these standards regardless of whether the student received financial aid for that course work.

***Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress will be evaluated quarterly.***

### **Standard 1 – Minimum Cumulative CGPA**

The cumulative CGPA calculation includes all attempted courses while enrolled at NewSchool.

#### **Academic Level CGPA**

Undergraduate 2.0  
Graduate 3.0

## **Standard 2 - Minimum Cumulative Pace of Completion**

The Pace Standard determines the pace at which a student is progressing toward program completion. The Pace Standard is calculated by dividing the total number of credit hours completed (passed with units earned) by the total number of credit hours attempted. To meet the Pace Standard, students must satisfactorily complete 67% of all cumulative credit hours attempted.

Types of courses and credits included in the Pace Standard calculation are:

- All NewSchool courses attempted including courses for which a W is posted.
- All transferable courses from other colleges and institutions
- Repeated coursework
- Consortium coursework, if applicable
- Coursework from Study Abroad program

## **Standard 3 – Maximum Time Frame of Aid Eligibility for Degree Completion**

Students are eligible to receive financial aid for a maximum number of attempted units equal to 150% of the units required for the degree program. All attempted units at NewSchool and transfer units are counted whether or not financial aid was received. Be aware that some federal and state programs (i.e., Pell Grants and State Grants) have additional limitations.

### **Undergraduate Programs (Entering as a First-Year Student)**

#### **Second Degree:**

Students pursuing an additional Baccalaureate degree, additional Master's degree at NSAD, or pursuing dual programs concurrently, may reach the maximum time frame standard at an accelerated pace. As such, students must have their SAP status and aid eligibility reviewed individually by a financial aid administrator.

### **CONSEQUENCES FOR NOT MEETING ONE OR MORE SAP STANDARDS:**

**Warning Status:** Students who do not meet the CGPA standard and or the minimum Pace of Completion will be placed on financial aid **“warning status”** for one quarter and may continue to receive financial aid for one payment period. Students who reach and/or exceed the maximum time frame standard are not eligible to receive a financial aid warning status and will be deemed ineligible to receive financial aid.

#### **Suspension Status:**

Students whose performance falls short in one or more of the three SAP standards during the probation or warning period will be deemed ineligible to continue to receive financial aid. Students with extenuating circumstances beyond their control may submit an appeal.

#### **Probation Status:**

Students who are placed on probation after having successfully appealed their suspension status will be reviewed at the end of the following payment period. Students on probation must meet the terms specified in their Academic Plan. Unless otherwise stated in the Academic Plan, all three SAP standards must be met upon completion of the probationary period to be removed from probationary status and be eligible for continued funding.

#### **SAP APPEAL PROCESS:**

Students who fail to meet satisfactory academic progress (SAP) standards and have documented extenuating circumstances beyond their control may submit an SAP appeal to the Financial Aid Office via the financial aid email. The deadline to submit an appeal is 14 calendar days from the payment period end date in which they became ineligible.

**Conditions that would be considered during an appeal:**

- Death of a family member – parent, guardian, spouse, sibling, or child during the academic year.
- Serious illness or injury of student which led to a complete or partial withdrawal from course(s). The serious illness or injury of a family member (parent, guardian, spouse, sibling, or child) that required the student to be the primary caregiver and prevented the student from passing course(s).
- Documented Extreme personal hardship or trauma in your life that impaired your emotional and/or physical health.
- Compulsory military duty.

**Appeals that will NOT be considered:**

- Appeals submitted after the established deadlines.
- Encountering a situation that could have been anticipated.
- Change of major or addition of a major or minor are not viewed as extenuating circumstances, since the standard is quite generous in the time frame allowed to complete a degree.
- Dissatisfaction with course material, instructor, instructional method, and/or class intensity.
- Lack of motivation.
- Participation in extracurricular activities.
- Academic/unit overload.
- Workload

**SAP appeal procedures:**

Students may regain eligibility when there is a determination that the student is again meeting the SAP standard policy. Students with extenuating circumstances beyond their control may submit a SAP appeal to Student Financial Aid. A student may appeal a maximum of two times during a program. The SAP Appeal form is available at [Financial Aid Forms](#). A complete SAP appeal must include: Statement of Explanation and any supporting documentation from the checklist below

**Students will be required to submit a written “Statement of Explanation”, which clearly explains the following:**

- The circumstances that prevented the student from meeting the satisfactory academic progress standards.
- What the student’s responsibility had been for these events.
- How their circumstances have changed so that the situation will not occur again.

**REQUIRED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION CHECKLIST:****SAP Appeals for CGPA deficiencies must include:**

- ✓ A completed Academic Plan reviewed and signed by the academic advisor. The Academic Plan must include all courses through the expected graduation date.

**SAP Appeals for Pace of Completion must include:**

- ✓ A completed Academic Plan reviewed and signed by the academic advisor. The Academic Plan must include all courses through the expected graduation date.

**SAP Appeals for Excessive Units must include:**

- ✓ Copy of the student’s Official Program signed by the Department Chair or designee.
- ✓ A copy of the students “Degree Progress Report
- ✓ A listing of all “remaining coursework” required to complete degree program indicating “expected term of graduation”.

**SAP Appeals for all circumstances:**

- ✓ Students should attach additional supporting documents that further document their situation (i.e., letter from doctor, copy of a death certificate, etc.).

The SAP committee meets every two weeks, appeals will be processed as received on a first come-first served basis. Students will receive notification of appeal determination by e-mail. Students awaiting a response are responsible for paying their tuition fees by the payment deadline specified in the Schedule of Classes in order to register for classes or to avoid being dropped from enrollment.

If the appeal is approved, the student will be placed on probation. Students on probation must either improve their academic performance to meet all SAP standards by the end of the probationary term or will need to follow the specific details of an approved Academic Plan as specified in the approval communication.

**APPEAL OF DENIAL (Second Level Appeal):**

If your appeal was denied and you wish to challenge the denial, you must provide a clearly written (typed) rationale for your challenge to the SAP Appeals Committee. The deadline to submit a second level SAP appeal is 14 calendar days from the date of the SAP appeal decision notification.

Second level appeals may be sent to the NSAD Financial Aid Email

Be aware that the Committee’s decision is final. If the Committee rendered a decision to uphold the denial, the student is not permitted to submit additional appeals until the next academic year. The student may also regain eligibility for financial aid if their progress allows them to meet all three Satisfactory Academic Progress standards.

***Please note the SAP policy and its appeal procedures are current as of the date of publication. The SAP Policy is subject to change any time during a given academic year to ensure compliance with the Federal and State regulations.***

**OMBUDSMAN NOTIFICATION**

Please contact NewSchool’s Office of Financial Aid with any questions or concerns regarding Federal Direct Loans, Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program loans or grant programs. If the financial aid staff is unable to resolve a student’s questions or concerns, it will be brought to the attention of the Director of Financial Aid.

The Department of Education’s Office of the Ombudsman is available if a student is unable to resolve a student loan issue and the above options have been exhausted. An ombudsman resolves disputes from a neutral, independent viewpoint. The Office of FSA Ombudsman will informally research a borrower problem and suggest resolutions. Students may contact their office by:

- Online assistance: <https://studentaid.gov/feedback-ombudsman/disputes/prepare>
- Toll-free telephone: 1-877-557-2575
- Fax: 1-606-396-4821
- Mail: U.S. Department of Education FSA Ombudsman Group, PO Box 1843 Monticello, KY 42633

**AID SUMMARY INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS**

Students may access their federal aid summary on [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) by providing the following information:

- Social security number
- Date of birth
- FSA ID (used to complete the FAFSA on the web)
- The first two letters of the student’s last name

## **FINANCIAL AID E-SIGN POLICY**

NewSchool partners with Adobe and AirSlate to allow students to sign most financial aid documents electronically. Students and parents must consent to conduct business electronically prior to e-signing any documents.

- Admitted students may sign forms electronically by accessing them in the financial aid section of their student portal.
- All students and parents appearing in person may e-sign forms using a NewSchool Office of Financial Aid tablet only after providing the Office of Financial Aid staff with a copy of their NewSchool ID, Driver's License or other valid government issued ID for verification.
- All students and parents may e-sign forms remotely by having the forms emailed directly to the email address used on a valid submitted FAFSA.
- Students and parents are not required to e-sign forms. Paper forms are available in the Office of Financial Aid or may be downloaded from the NewSchool [website](#).

NewSchool partners with Adobe and AirSlate to allow students to sign most financial aid documents electronically. Students and parents must consent to conduct business electronically prior to e-signing any documents.

- Admitted students may sign forms electronically by accessing them in the financial aid section of their student portal.
- All students and parents appearing in person may e-sign forms using a NewSchool Office of Financial Aid tablet only after providing the Office of Financial Aid staff with a copy of their NewSchool ID, Driver's License or other valid government issued ID for verification.
- All students and parents may e-sign forms remotely by having the forms emailed directly to the email address used on a valid submitted FAFSA.
- Students and parents are not required to e-sign forms. Paper forms are available in the Office of Financial Aid or may be downloaded from the NewSchool [website](#).

## **COLLECTIONS OF UNPAID BALANCE POLICY**

Applicable to All Students, including VA Beneficiaries

### **Purpose**

This policy establishes NewSchool of Architecture & Design's (NSAD) procedures for managing and collecting unpaid student account balances while ensuring compliance with federal regulations, veteran education benefit protection, and the institution's commitment to equitable financial practices.

### **General Policy**

Students are financially responsible for all tuition and fees assessed each term. All payments are due by the published payment deadline. NSAD communicates account balances through the student portal and official email. The University makes every reasonable effort to notify and assist students in resolving unpaid balances before initiating any collection activity.

## **Veteran and Military-Affiliated Students**

Consistent with Title 38 U.S.C. § 3679(e), NSAD does not impose penalties, late fees, or registration holds on students using VA education benefits under Chapter 31 (Veteran Readiness & Employment) or Chapter 33 (Post-9/11 GI Bill®) when payment delays result from pending VA disbursements.

Covered individuals must submit a Certificate of Eligibility (COE), Statement of Benefits, or VA Form 28-1905 to the School Certifying Official before the start of the term to receive these protections. Such protections remain in place until the earlier of: (1) the date the VA remits payment to NSAD, or (2) Ninety (90) days after the School certifies the student's tuition and fees to the VA. Students remain responsible for any portion of tuition and fees not covered by VA funds, including non-allowable fees or partial benefit tiers.

## **Collection Procedures**

1. If an account balance remains unpaid after the tuition due date and is not covered by VA, Title IV, or other verified third-party funding:  
Initial Notice: Student Accounts issues an electronic notice detailing the balance and available payment options.
2. Second Notice (30 days): If no payment or payment plan is established, a follow-up reminder is sent.
3. Third Notice (30-90 days): Accounts that do not respond may be placed on administrative hold, restricting registration.
4. Final Notice (90–180 days): Unresponsive accounts will be placed on a financial hold. This hold prevents the release of the official diploma until the balance is resolved.
5. Collections Referral (> 180 days): Accounts unresolved after internal efforts may be referred to a third-party collection agency in accordance with the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA). Before referring to NSAD, verify that all applicable financial aid, VA benefits, and payment plan arrangements have been applied correctly.

## **Payment Plans and Financial Hardship**

Students experiencing financial hardship may request a Payment Plan or Hardship Review through the Bursar's Office before referral for collections. Approval requires documentation and a signed agreement outlining payment terms.

## **Recordkeeping and Compliance**

NSAD maintains documentation of billing statements, correspondence, and payment history; COEs and VA remittance records for veteran students; and payment plan agreements and collection notices. All records are retained for at least three (3) years following the student's final certified term, consistent with VA M22-4 Part 10 and DOE 34 C.F.R. § 668.164 requirements.

## **Coordination of Offices**

- Student Accounts (Bursar): Oversees billing, payment plans, and collections.
- Financial Aid: Coordinates the application of Title IV and institutional aid before collection. Confirms VA entitlement and prevents improper collection actions while VA payments are pending.