

Applying for Financial Aid (New Incoming MD Students)

- Complete the 2022-23 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** at studentaid.gov/fafsa. The medical school shares a federal school code (003125) with the University of Cincinnati main campus.

If you filed a federal income tax return for 2020, you should use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (IRS DRT) when you complete the FAFSA. To do so, click the 'Link to IRS' button when prompted in the Financials section of the FAFSA. Applicants who do not utilize the IRS data retrieval process and are later selected to verify information may have to request a tax transcript from the IRS or document their status as a non-filer.

Students who wish to receive consideration for UCCOM institutional need-based scholarships and/or need-based loans must include parental information on the FAFSA. Answer 'Yes' to the question "Would you like to answer questions about your parents?" found in the Dependency Status section of the FAFSA. Students who respond 'No' will still receive full consideration for federal student loans.

If your parents are divorced or separated and don't live together, answer the questions about the parent with whom you lived more during the past 12 months (and include your stepparent if that parent is remarried). If you did not live with one parent more than the other over the past 12 months, give answers about the parent who provided more financial support during the past 12 months or during the most recent year that you actually received support from a parent.

- Complete the UCCOM Financial Aid Application at medonestop.uc.edu. Login using your ID and password and follow the links under "Financial Aid." When the application is complete, click "Submit" to upload it to the College of Medicine Office of Student Financial Services. **Submit this application between November 15, 2021 and February 15, 2022.**
- If you apply for UCCOM financial need-based aid, you also must submit **SIGNED** copies of 2020 federal tax returns (i.e. 1040 with all schedules) and W2's for yourself, your parents, and your spouse (if you are married) to the College of Medicine Office of Student Financial Services. If you, your spouse, or your parents did not file a federal tax return for 2020, you must complete the 2022-23 Tax Waiver Statement, available on our website under Forms. Signed documents may be uploaded at medonestop.uc.edu (select Financial Aid > Financial Aid Document Upload). Students applying for federal loans only may skip this step.
- The deadline to complete the financial aid application process outlined above is February 15, 2022.** Students with complete files by this date will receive email notification in April when their estimated award letters are ready to view online. You can check on the status of your application at medonestop.uc.edu inside the portal under "Checklist." Applicants accepted to the College of Medicine after mid-February will be given appropriate deadline extensions.

Accepting Your Financial Aid for 2022-23

- Federal student loan funds for medical students nationwide are lent by the U.S. Department of Education through the Direct Loan Program. If you expect to borrow under this program then complete an **online loan counseling** session by mid-July at studentaid.gov under 'Complete Aid Process' and then 'Complete Entrance Counseling'.
- New borrowers of Direct Loans must also complete a loan agreement known as a Master Promissory Note (or MPN). For the **Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan**, go to studentaid.gov/mpn/grad Choose the Unsubsidized Loan option.

If you are also borrowing the **Direct Grad PLUS loan** navigate to the same page as above and choose the Direct PLUS Loan option. *(If you have a freeze on your credit report, be sure to first contact the three [national credit bureaus](#) to lift the freeze before completing this process.)*

- By July you will receive an email notification from the UCCOM Office of Student Financial Services when your official financial aid award offer is available online for you to view and accept.** This notification will be sent to your UC email account and will direct you to the 'My Finances' tile at catalyst.uc.edu.
- Upon viewing your official award offer in Catalyst, you may then **accept online the amount of Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Loan funds you wish to borrow for the upcoming year. Accept only what you are sure you will need.** The amount you accept as a first-year medical student will be divided into two equal halves that will disburse separately at the start of the fall 2022 semester and then at the start of the spring 2023 semester. We recommend you borrow conservatively and then request an increase from the unused loan funds later in the year if needed.

Note: *Students that are awarded UCCOM need-based financial aid must accept a minimum of \$20,000 from the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan during the same academic year in order to receive their institutional funds. Students who borrow less than this \$20,000 requirement will forfeit any UCCOM financial need-based scholarships and loans.*

- If you need to borrow above the annual amount of your Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford loan, the next level of borrowing is the Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan. To receive this loan, you must submit a 'Grad PLUS Loan Request Form' to the College of Medicine Office of Student Financial Services. It is available in the Forms section of our website. This form can be submitted throughout the academic year. The amount you accept as a first-year medical student will be divided into two equal halves that will disburse separately at the start of the fall 2022 semester and then at the start of the spring 2023 semester. If you do not initially accept your full eligibility, you may request additional funds later in the year.
- At the start of the school year, you should be prepared to meet expenses, such as security deposits

for an apartment and utility set-ups, which you will incur before any financial aid refund becomes available. These one-time expenses may amount to as much as \$2,000.

Office of Student Financial Services

University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
231 Albert Sabin Way
Cincinnati, OH 45267-0552

MDFinAid@uc.edu
(513) 558-6797
www.med.uc.edu/financialservices