

# Financial Aid Information Guide



## **FINANCIAL AID OFFICE**

Ameritech College of Healthcare

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The Financial Aid Office supports Ameritech’s mission by diligently working to provide financial assistance, information and advice to students and parents in order to remove barriers in meeting their higher education expenses, all while fulfilling their responsibility as stewards of federal, state and institutional funds.

## **GET STARTED!**

Review the information in this handbook.

Find all Consumer Disclosures on our website  
**[www.ameritech.edu/consumerinfo](http://www.ameritech.edu/consumerinfo)**.

Complete all necessary steps found on the checklist on page 23.

If you have questions, feel free to call or stop by our offices.  
Financial Aid Advisors are available to help!

AMERITECH’S FINANCIAL AID OFFICE ENCOURAGES ALL STUDENTS TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

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*Disclaimer: While this publication was prepared on the basis of the best information available at the time, all information is subject to change without notice.*

*The Financial Aid Office reserves the right to revise offers of financial aid any time during the academic year or during a student's period of enrollment based on availability of funds, changes in regulations, procedures mandated by federal or state authorities, and/or changes in Ameritech's policies and procedures.*

# WHAT IS FINANCIAL AID?

Financial aid refers to a variety of financial aid sources are available to help you pay for college or career school. It is money in the form of grants, scholarships, work-study, loans, or a benefit from completing community service or military service to help students pay for education after high school.

Aid comes from various sources, with a majority of aid coming from the U.S. Department of Education. Aid also comes from states, including Utah State. Ameritech also supports its student by providing opportunities to apply for Institutional Grants and Scholarships.

## What's a Grant?

A grant is a form of financial aid that doesn't have to be repaid (unless, for example, you withdraw from school and owe a refund). A variety of federal grants are available, including Pell Grants, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG), Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grants, and Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grants.

## What's a Scholarship?

Many nonprofit and private organizations offer scholarships to help students pay for college or career school. This type of free money, which is sometimes based on specific criteria like academic merit, talent, or a particular area of study, can make a real difference in helping you manage your education expenses.

## What's Federal Work Study?

The Federal Work-Study Program allows students to earn money to pay for school by working part-time.

## What's a Student Loan?

When you receive a student loan, you are borrowing money to attend a college or career school. You must repay the loan as well as interest that accrues. It is important to understand your repayment options so you can successfully repay your loan.

## What are Veterans Benefits?

There are special aid programs or additional aid eligibility for serving in the military or for being the spouse or child of a veteran.

# WHAT TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE AT AMERITECH?

## Federal Grants

### Federal Pell Grant

This grant program provides need-based grants to low-income undergraduate and certain post-baccalaureate students to promote access to postsecondary education. Grants are not loans. They do not need to be paid back. You can receive the Federal Pell Grant for no more than 12 semesters.

### Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG)

This grant helps financially needy undergraduate students, who have not earned a bachelor's or professional degree, meet the cost of postsecondary education. The program gives priority to students who receive Federal Pell Grants. The award is made by the school based on the availability of funds. A FSEOG does not need to be repaid.

A FAFSA or Federal Application for Federal Student aid must be completed at [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov) to apply for all federal aid.

## State Grants

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) is a federally funded program that provides supportive and training services to eligible customers. In Utah, WIOA is administered by the Department of Workforce Services, Vocational Rehabilitation and Adult Education. The Workforce Development Division fuels Utah's economic engine by supporting the workforce with training, education and other resources. For more information and to find you Workforce Center go to <https://jobs.utah.gov/wioa/index.html>.

## Employee Tuition Grant

Ameritech employees (all full-time; part-time employed at least six months) and immediate family members are eligible for a tuition discount for Ameritech College programs. This discount is for tuition only and does not apply to books, fees, or other costs associated with attendance at Ameritech. This discount is currently fifty percent (50%) of tuition cost. Ameritech reserves the right to modify or cancel this discount or program at any time.

Eligible employees may take advantage of this tuition discount to enroll in an Ameritech program. Immediate family members are defined as parents, siblings, spouse, children, and spouse's children.

# LOANS

*Remember a loan is money that you borrow and must pay back with interest.*

## A. Federal Direct Loans

- a.** Direct Subsidized Loans are loans available to eligible undergraduate students who demonstrate financial need to help cover the costs of higher education at a college or career school.
  - i.** Interest does not accrue on the Subsidized loan while you are enrolled at least half-time.
  - ii.** Repayment on the loan begins 6 months after you graduate or withdraw from the school.
  
- b.** Direct Unsubsidized Loans are loans made to eligible undergraduate, graduate, and professional students, but eligibility is not based on financial need. The school determines the amount you can borrow based on your cost of attendance and other financial aid you receive.
  - i.** Interest begins to accrue on the Unsubsidized loan from the date of the first disbursement.
  - ii.** You are responsible for paying the interest on a Direct Unsubsidized Loan during all periods.
  - iii.** If you choose not to pay the interest while you are in school and during grace periods and deferment or forbearance periods, your interest will accrue (accumulate) and be capitalized (that is, your interest will be added to the principal amount of your loan).
  
- c.** Direct PLUS Loans are loans made to graduate or professional students and Parents of dependent undergraduate students to help pay for education expenses not covered by other financial aid.
  - i.** Eligibility is not based on financial need and can be applied to cover the entire cost of attendance.
  - ii.** A credit check is required. Borrowers who have an adverse credit history must meet additional requirements to qualify.
  - iii.** If you are a dependent student and your parent is denied the PLUS loan because of an adverse credit history, the student may apply for an additional Direct Unsubsidized Loan.

## MAXIMUM LOAN ELIGIBILITY

Dependent Students, Excluding students whose parents cannot obtain a PLUS Loan	Annual Base Amount maybe be all Subsidized, all Unsubsidized, or a combination	Annual Unsubsidized Amount, above Base Amount	Annual Loan Limit
First-year Undergraduate	\$3,500	\$2,000	\$5,500
Second-year Undergraduate	\$4,500	\$2,000	\$6,500
Third year and beyond Undergraduate	\$5,500	\$2,000	\$7,500
Independent Students, Excluding students whose parents cannot obtain a PLUS Loan	Annual Base Amount maybe be all Subsidized, all Unsubsidized, or a combination	Annual Unsubsidized Amount, above Base Amount	Annual Loan Limit
First-year Undergraduate	\$3,500	\$6,000	\$9,500
Second-year Undergraduate	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$10,500
Third year and beyond Undergraduate	\$5,500	\$6,000	\$12,500

## What are the interest rates for federal student loans?

The interest rate varies depending on the loan type and (for most types of federal student loans) the first disbursement date of the loan. The table below provides interest rates for Direct Subsidized Loans, Direct Unsubsidized Loans, and Direct PLUS Loans first disbursed on or after July 1, 2020, and before July 1, 2021.

Perkins Loans (regardless of the first disbursement date) have a fixed interest rate of 5%.

Undergraduate Borrowers	Graduate or Professional Borrowers	Parents and Graduate or Professional Students
2.75%	4.30%	5.30%
Direct Subsidized Loans and Direct Unsubsidized Loans	Direct Unsubsidized Loans	Direct PLUS Loans

All interest rates shown in the chart above are fixed rates that will not change for the life of the loan.

## What is interest?

Interest is paid to a lender as a cost of borrowing money. Interest is calculated as a percentage of the unpaid principal amount. Unlike other forms of debt, such as credit cards and mortgages, Direct Loans are daily interest loans, which means that interest accrues (accumulates) daily. Depending on whether your loans are subsidized or unsubsidized, you may or may not be responsible for paying the interest that accrues during all periods.



If you choose not to pay the interest that accrues on your loans during certain periods when you are responsible for paying the interest (for example, during a period of deferment on an unsubsidized loan), the unpaid interest may be capitalized (that is, added to the principal amount of your loan).

**Note:**

Each year, the terms, interest rates, and fees assessed for Direct Loans may change. If you have previously borrowed loans, please contact the lender or servicer of each loan you have borrowed to determine the terms and conditions of the loan(s).

For more information on current rates, please visit

**<https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types/loans/interest-rates>.**

**Disclosure:**

Students and parents of students are advised that if they enter into a Federal Loan, the loan data will be submitted to the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS), and will be accessible by guaranty agencies, lenders, and institutions determined to be authorized users of the data system.

The NSLDS Privacy Impact Assessment may be accessed at:

**<https://www2.ed.gov/notices/pia/nslds.pdf>**

Additional information regarding the National Student Loan Data System may be accessed at: **<https://nslds.ed.gov/npas/index.htm>**

# LOANS

*Remember a loan is money that you borrow and must pay back with interest.*

## B. Private (Preferred and Alternate Lenders)

If Federal Loan programs do not meet students borrowing needs, Private lenders offer a variety of supplemental borrowing programs. These loans are considered consumer loans, and approval is based on a good credit history and a satisfactory debt-to-income ratio. Borrowers should compare fees, interest rates, and repayment options before applying.

### **Ameritech has the following Preferred Lenders:**

#### **Mountain America Student Loan Program**

The Mountain America Loan is for undergraduate students who are:

- Enrolled in a degree or certificate program
- Enrolled full-time, half-time or less than half-time
- U.S. citizens or permanent residents

Application Process: Students can apply at, **[www.macu.com](http://www.macu.com)**, at their local branch, or by calling the Service Center at **1-800-748-4302**. After a student has applied, they will receive an Application and Solicitation Disclosure that will go over all the terms and conditions of a generic loan.

## Sallie Mae Student Loan Program

Sallie Mae Loans for undergraduate and graduate students who are:

- Enrolled in a degree or certificate program
- Enrolled full-time, half-time or less than half-time

Application Process: Students can apply at, [www.salliemae.com/SmartLoan](http://www.salliemae.com/SmartLoan) or by calling the Service Center at **1-855-429-9759**. After a student has applied, they will receive an Application and Solicitation Disclosure that will go over all the terms and conditions of a loan.

## In School Payment Plans

Ameritech allows students to arrange for payment of tuition in installments over the course of the semester. There is no application fee, and payment plans are interest free.

# WHAT IS THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR FINANCIAL AID?

## A. Federal Aid

- a. Be a citizen or eligible noncitizen of the United States.
- b. Have a valid Social Security Number. (Students from the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau are exempt from this requirement.)
- c. Have a high school diploma or a General Education Development (GED) certificate or have completed homeschooling. If you don't, you may still be eligible for federal student aid if you were enrolled in college or career school prior to July 1, 2012. Go to <https://studentaid.ed.gov/eligibility/basic-criteria> for additional information.
- d. Be enrolled in an eligible program as a regular student seeking a degree or certificate.
- e. Maintain satisfactory academic progress as defined in the academic catalog
- f. Not owe a refund on a federal student grant or be in default on a federal student loan.
- g. Not have a conviction for the possession or sale of illegal drugs for an offense that occurred while you were receiving federal student aid (such as grants, work-study, or loans). If you have such a conviction, you must complete the Student Aid Eligibility Worksheet to determine if you are eligible for aid or partially eligible for aid.

## B. Institutional Aid

- a. Ameritech does not have a citizenship requirement for Institutional Aid.
- b. You must meet individual grant or scholarship criteria.
- c. You must have a financial need to cover the cost of tuition and fees. Institutional Aid is not available to cover other costs in your total cost of attendance.
- d. You must meet application deadlines.

## HOW IS YOUR FINANCIAL NEED DETERMINED?

### What is Financial Need?

Financial need is the difference between what it costs to attend a certain school and what the family can reasonably be expected to contribute toward the cost of attendance.

**Cost of Attendance- Expected Family Contribution (EFC)= Need**

### What is Cost of Attendance?

The cost of attendance includes fixed costs such as tuition, fees, room & board and personal expenses such as books and supplies, transportation, off-campus room and board, and miscellaneous personal expenses.

The Department of Education requires that each college prepare budgets based on average costs of its students living at home with parents, on-campus housing, and off-campus housing.

These cost of attendance budgets are adjusted depending on the number of semesters enrolled and the enrollment status (full time, three quarter-time, half time and less than half time). Your actual personal expenses will depend on how far you live from school and your lifestyle.

### What is Expected Family Contribution (EFC) , How is it Calculated?

Your EFC is calculated using a standard congressional formula.

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) collects information such as family size, number in college, whether you are dependent or independent of parents, and you and your family's income and assets. This information is used by the federal government to determine what the family can reasonably be expected to contribute toward your education.

### What if the EFC does not reflect your or your parent's current financial situation?

Contact the Financial Aid office to start an appeal. The office will review your current circumstances and financial situation and be able to make a determination if it can document your special circumstance and recalculate your Estimated Financial Contribution and your need for additional Financial Aid. To submit a financial aid appeal, send an email to [financialaid@ameritech.edu](mailto:financialaid@ameritech.edu).

# HOW DO I GET AN ESTIMATE ON COSTS AND AID?

## Ameritech's Net Price Calculator Tool

You can use this tool to get an estimate of your EFC, Cost of Attendance and Estimated Financial Aid:

<https://www.ameritech.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/npcalc.htm>

**College Financing Plan** is a resource tool to help you better understand your educational costs and the financial aid that is available to meet those costs. This form was created by the Department of Education (ED) and is available to help prospective students compare the cost of attendance (COA) and aid offers from multiple institutions in order to make an informed decision about where to attend school. Please contact the Financial Aid office at [financialaid@ameritech.edu](mailto:financialaid@ameritech.edu) for your personalized College Financing Plan.

**College Affordability & Transparency Center** provides the Department of Education tools for comparing college costs, please visit: <https://collegecost.ed.gov>.

# WHAT ARE THE FINANCIAL AID POLICIES I SHOULD BE AWARE OF?

## Verification

What is Verification? Each year the Central Processing System (CPS) of the U.S. Department of Education selects a number of Free Application for Federal Student Aid forms (FAFSAs) for a process called verification. If your FAFSA is selected for verification, Ameritech will need to collect additional documentation from you in order to verify some of the information you provided on your FAFSA. For example, Ameritech may ask for additional information about your income, the number of people in your household, the number of people attending college in your household and/or other information.

**How You Will Be Notified?** If your FAFSA is selected for verification, you will be notified as follows:

1. When the Department of Education sends you the Student Aid Report (SAR), it will include an asterisk (\*) next to the Expected Family Contribution (EFC). The asterisk lets you know that Ameritech will ask for documentation for the verification process.
2. Ameritech will notify you by e-mail. Notifications will begin as soon as Ameritech receives the FAFSA selected for verification. Notifications will continue until you have submitted all documents required for verification or the deadline for submission has passed.

The notifications from Ameritech will include information about required documentation. After you submit documents for review, the Financial Aid Office may reach out to you again to resolve the conflicting information by requesting additional documentation.

**Correcting Errors on the FAFSA:** Upon receipt of the Student Aid Report (SAR), you should review all the information listed and submit for correction any errors reported on the original FAFSA.

The CPS will send Ameritech an electronic summary of the selected student's original FAFSA and any corrected FAFSA information. Once received, all FAFSA data, verification worksheets, and any supplemental verification documents will be reviewed by the Financial Aid Office to verify the accuracy of the student's FAFSA information and to calculate the student's eligibility for FSA. If the FAFSA information changes as a result of the verification process, Financial Aid staff will

- Submit the FAFSA changes and corrections to CPS for processing
- Recalculate the Federal Pell Grant based on the student's recalculated EFC
- Notify you via e-mail of any changes to that academic year's FSA package
- Adjust that academic year's FSA package based on the recalculated EFC

**Verification Deadline and Failure to Submit:** The Financial Aid Office will not award or disburse Federal Student Aid (FSA) until the verification process is complete. Failure to complete the verification process by the deadline may result in a student not being eligible for FSA, in which case the student will need other means to pay for courses. Requested verification documentation must be submitted no later than 120 days after the student's last date of attendance for the current award year.

**Subsequent FAFSA Transactions:** Making changes or updates to your FAFSA will result in a subsequent transaction being sent to Ameritech. If the subsequent transaction is selected for verification after FSA has been awarded or disbursed, you will be notified via email. You have 15 calendar days after the date of notification to submit all requested documentation for review. Failure to submit the requested documents within the 15-day timeframe will result in the cancellation of all need-based FSA.

**Referral of Fraud Cases:** Students and parents are advised that Ameritech must and will refer to the Office of Inspector General (OIG) any credible information indicating that an applicant for FSA may have engaged in fraud or other criminal misconduct in connection with FAFSA applications. Common misconduct includes false claims of independent status, false claims of citizenship, use of false identities, forgery of signatures of certifications, and false statements of income. Note that fraud is the intent to deceive as opposed to a mistake on an application.

## Satisfactory Academic Progress

All students are expected to maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). In addition, SAP must be maintained to remain eligible to continue receiving federal financial assistance. SAP is measured using maximum time frame, successful course completion rate (quantitative measure), and Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) standards (qualitative measure). These standards are outlined below and are considered minimum requirements.

**Maximum Time Frame:** Students must successfully complete the educational objectives of the program, including the clinical, fieldwork or externship experience (if applicable), within a maximum time frame not to exceed 150% of the normal program length. Maximum time frame will be measured by limiting students to attempt 1.5 times, or 150% of the number of credits in their program of study (see table below for a listing of programs together with the 150% calculation). If a SAP review shows that a student cannot complete the program within 150% of the normal program credits, all Title IV aid must stop, even if the student has not yet attempted the maximum 150% of the total program credits.

Program Name	Total Program Semester Credits	150% of Program Credits
Medical Assistant	43	64
Associate of Science in Nursing	69	103
BSN Degree Program RN-BSN Track	51	77
BSN - Pre-licensure Track	120	180
MSN- Direct Entry Track	95	142
Occupational Therapy Assistant	66	99

**Successful Completion Rate:** A student must complete at least 67% of the credits attempted to be making Satisfactory Academic Progress. The successful course completion rate is calculated as the cumulative number of credit hours of courses successfully completed divided by the cumulative number of credit hours attempted for all courses. If a student has transfer credits earned at other institutions, those credits are counted in the calculation as both credits attempted and as credits completed. A student must earn a minimum of 67% of the credits attempted each payment period to complete the program within the maximum time frame and to avoid being placed on Financial Aid Warning. A payment period covers fifteen weeks of instruction regardless of whether the program is scheduled as one fifteen-week semester, three five-week blocks, or as two, seven and one half-week blocks within each semester. Courses with a grade of Incomplete, Withdraw, Withdraw Fail, and course withdrawn prior to completion are counted as credits attempted but not credits completed. Both failed courses and repeated courses are counted in the calculation as credits attempted but not completed. Ameritech College of Healthcare has no provisions for remedial course work, non-credit courses, or pass/fail grades and these activities have no effect on SAP. The successful course completion rate requirements are detailed in the Satisfactory Academic Progress Standards table below.



**Cumulative Grade Point Average Requirements:** Students must meet specific Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) requirements at specific points during their enrollment to be making Satisfactory Academic Progress. These requirements are detailed in the table below. Students are required to achieve a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0 to graduate from a program. To avoid being placed on Financial Aid Warning, a student must achieve a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0 as measured at the end of each payment period. At the time a student begins a program of study, the Satisfactory Academic Progress policy goes into effect.

## SAP Standards

Minimum CGPA requirement:	Minimum course completion rate:	Financial Aid Warning if CGPA and/or course completion rate is below minimum:	Suspension if CGPA and/or course completion rate is below minimum:
2.0	67%	End of any payment period	End of one Financial Aid Warning payment period

## SAP Warning, Suspension and Withdrawal and its Impact on Financial Aid

At the end of each payment period after grades have been posted, each student's CGPA and rate of progress is reviewed to determine if the student is meeting (SAP) as defined above. Students will be placed on Financial Aid Warning when the CGPA and/or the rate of progress falls below the values specified in the table above. During the period of Financial Aid Warning, students are considered to be making satisfactory progress for both academic and financial aid eligibility. Students will remain on Financial Aid Warning for one payment period and should work with their Instructors/Academic Advisor through the Financial Aid Warning period. The Academic Advisor will work with the student's Program Director if tutoring is needed. If at the end of the Financial Aid Warning payment period, the CGPA and/or rate of progress are at or above the 2.0 and 67% respectively the student will be removed from Financial Aid Warning and returned to active status. If at the end of the Financial Aid Warning payment period, the CGPA and/or rate of progress are still below the minimum 2.0 and 67% respectively, the student will be placed on Suspension and withdrawn from the College and will be required to complete an exit interview with the Financial Aid Office.

At the end of any payment period if a student is not meeting SAP and it is mathematically impossible for the student to meet the minimum SAP standards by the end of the next payment period, or if it is highly improbable for the student to meet those SAP standards, the student will not be placed on Financial Aid Warning, but will be suspended and withdrawn from college and will be required to complete an exit interview with the Financial Aid Office.

## Pell Recalculation Date

The Pell Recalculation Date at Ameritech is the 7th day of the start of the semester.

After the Pell Recalculation Date, any classes added will not count towards your Federal Pell Grant eligibility, regardless of the start date of the class. If you drop or do not attend your classes, you are registered for your financial aid classes may be adjusted as follows:

1. If funding is disbursed, you may be required to repay your financial aid
2. If funding has yet not disbursed
  - a. And your enrollment decreases to less than 6 credits, any loans you were awarded will not disburse
  - b. And you were awarded a Federal Pell grant, your award will be reevaluated to determine your eligibility

## Return of Title IV Funds

Ameritech is required by Federal statute to recalculate Federal financial aid eligibility for students who withdraw, drop out, are dismissed, or take a leave of absence prior to completing 60% of a payment period or term.

The Federal Title IV financial aid programs must be recalculated in these situations:

- a. If a student leaves the institution prior to completing 60% of a payment period or term, the financial aid office recalculates eligibility for Title IV funds. Recalculation is based on the percentage of earned aid using the following Federal Return of Title IV funds formula:

Percentage of payment period or term completed = the number of days completed up to the withdrawal date divided by the total days in the payment period or term (Any break of five days or more is not counted as part of the days in the term.) This percentage is also the percentage of earned aid.

- b. Funds are returned to the appropriate federal program based on the percentage of unearned aid using the following formula:

Aid to be returned = (100% of the aid that could be disbursed minus the percentage of earned aid) multiplied by the total amount of aid that could have been disbursed during the payment period or term

If a student earned less aid than was disbursed, the institution would be required to return a portion of the funds and the student would be required to return a portion of the funds. Keep in mind that when Title IV funds are returned, the student borrower may owe a debit balance to the institution.

If a student earned more aid than was disbursed to him/her, the institution would owe the student a post-withdrawal disbursement which must be paid within 120 days of the student's withdrawal.



The institution must return the amount of Title IV funds for which it is responsible no later than 30 days after the date of the determination of the date of the student's withdrawal.

Refunds are returned in the following order:

- Federal Unsubsidized Direct Stafford Loans
- Federal Subsidized Direct Stafford Loans
- Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loans
- Federal Pell Grants
- Federal Supplemental Opportunity Grants
- Other funds

## **Credit Balance**

If your financial aid award exceeds your direct costs at Ameritech (tuition, room and board, etc.), you will receive a Credit Balance refund.

- i. Refunds begin to be issued within 14 days after the disbursement date.
- ii. You may select the method in which you want your refund delivered to you. We encourage you to use direct deposit, the fastest and most efficient method of receiving your refund.
- iii. All funds issued to you by Ameritech through a federal financial aid refund must be used toward educational expenses only and using these funds in any other manner is in violation of and punishable by federal law.

## **Impact of Withdrawals, Incompletes and Leave of Absence**

Students taking a leave of absence or withdrawing from classes who are recipients of Federal Financial Aid should contact the Financial Aid office to determine the implications of that leave/withdrawal for their financial aid program.

Any change in enrollment may result in the partial or complete loss of tuition dollars for the semester. Students should contact the Financial Aid office to discuss individual cases.

Once you withdraw, drop below half-time enrollment, or leave school, your federal student loan goes into repayment. In most cases, however, you have a six-month grace period before you are required to start making regular payments.

## **Default**

If you are delinquent on your student loan payment for 90 days or more, your loan servicer will report the delinquency to the three major national credit bureaus. If you continue to be delinquent, your loan can risk going into default.

You're considered to be in default if you don't make your scheduled student loan payments for at least 270 days.

## **Consequences of Default:**

- i. The entire unpaid balance of your loan and any interest you owe becomes immediately due (this is called "acceleration").
- ii. You can no longer receive deferment or forbearance, and you lose eligibility for other benefits, such as the ability to choose a repayment plan.
- iii. You lose eligibility for additional Federal Student aid.
- iv. The default is reported to credit bureaus, damaging your credit rating and affecting your ability to buy a car or house or to get a credit card.
- v. Your wages, tax refunds and federal benefit payments may be withheld and applied toward repayment of your defaulted loan.

# WHAT ARE MY RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES?

## Rights

- You have the right to know what financial aid is available to you, including all federal, state and institutional programs. In addition, you have the right to know the deadlines, selection criteria, terms, policies, procedures and regulations that apply to each of the programs.
- You have the right to know how your financial need was determined.
- You have the right to appeal your financial aid award if you feel there are special circumstances that were not originally taken into consideration
- You have the right to know how Ameritech determines whether you are making Satisfactory Academic Progress.
- You have the right to know how and when your financial aid will be disbursed.
- You have the right to know Ameritech's Refund Policies.
- You have the right to expect that all information reported by you and/or your family will remain confidential and will not be released without your written consent according to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
- If you have a loan, you have the right to know the terms of the loan, such as interest rate, the total amount that must be repaid, the length of time you have to repay, when you must start repayment, cancellation provisions, deferment and forbearance possibilities and any special consolidation or refinancing options.
- You have the right to consolidate all your federal loans after graduation.

## Responsibilities

- You are responsible for providing accurate and timely information to the Financial Aid Office
- You are responsible for reapplying for financial aid each and every year.
- You are responsible for submitting documentation and information requested by the Financial Aid Office in a timely manner and keeping copies for your own records.
- You are responsible for notifying Ameritech of any name or address changes.
- You are responsible for notifying the Financial Aid Office of any financial awards you receive from outside resources (including scholarships, grants, Veteran's Benefits, tuition waivers, or other educational/tuition assistance) not already listed on your Financial Aid Award Letter.
- If you borrow a student loan, you are responsible for completing loan master promissory note, entrance and exit counseling.
- You are responsible for the repayment of all loans in accordance with the terms of your promissory note.
- You are responsible for maintaining Satisfactory Academic Progress.
- You are responsible for the repayment of any over award of financial aid.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **1. How do I know if I am dependent or independent?**

For each school year, the United States Department of Education determines you are independent of your parents if:

- i. You are 24 years old or older;
- ii. You are an orphan;
- iii. Are ward of the court or were until age 18;
- iv. Are a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces;
- v. Have legal dependents other than a spouse;
- vi. Will be enrolled in a graduate school;
- vii. Are married; or
- viii. Can prove to the school extremely unusual circumstances that would warrant a dependency override.

## **2. Will I get more financial aid if I am “independent” of my parents?**

Not necessarily. Sometimes you will get less.

## **3. Is aid available if I already have a bachelor’s degree?**

Federal grants are not available once you obtain your first bachelor’s degree, but some loans are still available.

## **4. Should I work while I’m attending college?**

Students who attempt to juggle full-time work and full-time studies may have difficulty completing their academic programs. However, students who choose to work a moderate amount often do better academically. You may find that working in campus jobs related to your career goals may be a good way to manage college costs, get experience and create new ties at Ameritech.

## **5. What do I do if I have accepted all my financial aid and it is still not enough to pay for school?**

If you do not have enough federal aid to cover all costs associated with attending Ameritech, we recommend speaking with our Financial Aid Office.

# GLOSSARY OF FINANCIAL AID TERMS

**Academic year:** The time period in which a student's academic work must be completed. Ameritech follows semester system consisting of fall semester and a spring semester. Financial aid is based on the academic year and evaluated annually.

**Adjusted Gross Income:** Wages, salaries, interest, dividends, etc., minus certain deductions from income as reported on a federal income tax return. Used by the Federal Methodology to determine eligibility for Pell grants and other forms of federal financial aid.

**Award letter:** An official document, issued by the financial aid office, describing a student's full financial aid eligibility for the academic year. This letter includes the student and parent contributions, the cost of attendance, and the amounts and types of financial aid available to the student. Financial aid award letters may be revised at the discretion of the financial aid office based on changes in family circumstance or additional information.

**Borrower:** The person who assumes legal obligations for the repayment of the loan principal plus interest. In the case of a Federal Perkins Loan, Federal Direct Loan, or Ameritech Loan, the borrower is the student. In the case of the Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan, the borrower is the parent.

**Cost of attendance (COA):** An estimate of the total costs for an academic year at Ameritech. COA includes tuition and fees; room and board; and allowances for books, travel costs, and personal expenses. After subtracting the expected parent contribution and student contribution, financial aid covers the remaining cost of attendance.

**Credit Balance:** The amount remaining in a student's account after payment of all billed charges.

**Data Retrieval Tool (DRT):** The IRS Data Retrieval Tool allows students and parents to access the IRS tax return information needed to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and transfer the data directly into their FAFSA from the IRS web site. The Data Retrieval Tool is one of two options to satisfy the federal verification requirement (the other option is an IRS tax return transcript).

**Default:** Failure to repay a loan according to the terms agreed to in the master promissory note. For most federal student loans, default will occur if no payment has been made in more than 270 days (unless the borrower has requested & received a deferment or forbearance). Borrowers may experience serious legal consequences if they default; borrowers having difficulty making monthly payments can choose a different repayment plan to continue making payments & avoid default.

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**Deferment:** A postponement of required payments on a loan, allowed under certain conditions (such as graduate school enrollment). During a deferment, interest does not accrue on Direct Subsidized Loans or Federal Perkins Loans; all other federal student loans will continue to accrue interest. Any unpaid interest accrued during the deferment period may be added to the principal balance of the loan(s)

**Dependency status:** The definition of an applicant as dependent or independent of parent finances in determining financial aid eligibility. Questions on the FAFSA determine dependency status for federal aid purposes. Ameritech considers nearly all students “dependent” for institutional aid purposes. Dependency status for financial aid is unrelated to dependency for federal tax purposes.

**Disbursement:** The process by which funds are made available to students for use in meeting educational expenses. Financial aid funds and direct payments are disbursed to each student’s account (administered by the Bursar) to first pay any billed charges: tuition, fees. Any funds in excess of the billed charges constitute a credit balance.

**Expected Family Contribution (EFC):** A measurement of family finances based on the information provided in the FAFSA. The EFC is reported on the Student Aid Report (SAR) and used to determine eligibility for federal financial aid—for example, the Pell Grant.

**Expected student contribution:** The portion of the cost of attendance that is expected to come from each student’s summer earnings and, where applicable, savings and other student assets.

**FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid):** The basis for federal financial aid eligibility which must be completed by all U.S. citizens, permanent residents, and other eligible non-citizens who wish to be considered for financial aid. Apply online at [fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafsa.ed.gov).

**Federal Direct Loan:** A federal student loan, made through the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program, for which eligible students and parents borrow directly from the U.S. Department of Education at participating schools. Direct Subsidized Loans, Direct Unsubsidized Loans, Direct PLUS Loans are types of Direct Loans.

**Federal Methodology (FM):** The formulas used to determine a student’s eligibility for federal (Title IV) financial aid funds. The formulas take into account income, certain assets, certain expenses, family size and other factors. Retirement savings, home equity and non-custodial parents are not considered; stepparent finances are included. Distinct from Institutional Methodology (IM), which is used to determine eligibility for Ameritech financial aid funds.

**Federal Work Study (FWS):** A form of need-based employment to help cover educational costs as part of a financial aid package. To help meet demonstrated financial need, Ameritech students may be eligible for either Federal Work Study (funded by the Department of Education; eligibility based on the FAFSA) or need-based campus employment funded by the college.

**Financial need:** The portion of the cost of attendance (COA) beyond a family's ability to contribute to college, as determined by the Office of Financial Aid. Demonstrated financial need is equal to the COA minus the family contribution (including student and parent contributions).

**Forbearance:** A period during which monthly loan payments are temporarily suspended or reduced based on certain types of financial hardship. A lender may grant forbearance at a borrower's request if the borrower is willing but unable to make loan payments. During forbearance, principal payments are postponed but interest continues to accrue; unpaid interest accrued during the forbearance will be added to the principal balance, increasing the total amount owed. Distinct from deferment, in which loan payments are temporarily suspended because a student meets predetermined conditions, such as graduate school attendance.

**Grace period:** A period of time after a borrower graduates, leaves school, or drops below half-time enrollment during which they are not required to make payments on certain federal student loans. Some federal student loans will accrue interest during the grace period, which will be added to the principal balance of the loan when the repayment period begins.

**Grant:** Financial aid that does not need to be repaid. Many grants, including the Ameritech Grant, are based on financial need (Repayment may be required under certain uncommon circumstances—for example, if a student withdraws from school mid-semester and owe a refund.)

**Interest:** A loan expense charged for the use of borrowed money and paid by a borrower to a lender. Interest for federal student loans is calculated as a percentage of the unpaid loan principal amount.

**Interest rate:** The percentage at which interest is calculated on a loan(s).

**Lender:** A financial institution that provides loan funds to parents or students. For federal Direct Loans (including parent PLUS Loans), the Department of Education is the lender.

**Loan origination fee:** An administrative fee assessed by the federal government and deducted from a loan before funds are made available. Fees are assigned each year and vary depending upon your origination date and year.

**Loan principal:** The amount originally borrowed. Simple daily interest is calculated based on the loan principal.

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**Loan servicer:** An organization that manages loan payments and administrative functions on behalf of the lender. Students can look up the loan servicer by logging into the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS.ed.gov).

**Master Promissory Note:** A binding legal document setting out the contractual terms of a loan. A signed master promissory note must be on file before loan funds can be sent to the student account. Promissory notes for Direct and PLUS loans are signed online.

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**Merit-based:** Funding distributed on the basis of academic or artistic accomplishments or individual leadership, rather than a family's ability to pay for college.

**Need analysis:** The process by which financial aid officers assess each family's ability to pay for the cost of a college education. The biggest factors in need analysis are income, assets, family size, and number of children in college; many other factors are incorporated to a lesser degree. The goal of need analysis is to provide an equitable and consistent assessment of each family's unique financial situation.

**Need-based:** Funding distributed on the basis of each family's financial strength and ability to pay for college, primarily considering income, assets, family size and number of children in college. Ameritech provides exclusively need-based (as opposed to merit-based) financial aid.

**Net Price Calculator:** A tool to estimate financial aid eligibility at Ameritech based on family finances. The Net Price Calculator is the best source of early financial aid information for college planning.

**Parent contribution:** Determination of parents' ability to pay for college in the current academic year.

**Registrar:** The college administrator whose office manages enrollment, class registration, and academic standing.

**Repayment plan:** The amount of monthly payments and total repayment period for a loan. The Standard Repayment Plan consists of equal monthly payments over a period of ten years. Borrowers can switch to another repayment plan that better fits their monthly finances by contacting the loan servicer. There is never a financial penalty for making early loan payments or paying more than the minimum required amount.

**Room and board:** The expected cost of student housing (room) and food (board).

**Scholarship:** Money awarded to a student for educational expenses. Scholarships do not need to be repaid. At Ameritech, outside scholarships replace other forms of financial aid, first replacing loans and need-based campus employment eligibility, then the Ameritech Grant.



**Special circumstances:** Unusual situations affecting a family's finances that were not reported or reflective on the family tax documents. The financial aid office can make a professional judgement based on your circumstance and documentation to increase your aid eligibility or override your dependent status.

**State grant:** Funds awarded by state governments based on residency and financial need.

**Student Aid Report (SAR):** A summary of the information reported on the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

**Tax return transcript:** An official IRS document confirming data from the federal tax return. A tax return transcript is one of two options to satisfy the federal verification requirement (the other option is using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)).

**Unsubsidized loan:** Loan for which interest begins to accrue after the loan funds are received; payments do not need to be made until the student leaves school.

**Verification:** A process, required of approximately 30% of students by Department of Education, through which financial aid officers check the information on a student's financial aid application against the tax information received by the IRS. Verification can be completed either by using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or by requesting a tax return transcript from the IRS. Being selected for verification is essentially random and does not indicate a problem with your taxes or your financial aid application.

# HELPFUL RESOURCES AND LINKS

## **FAFSA®: Apply for Aid**

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form to apply for financial aid for college or grad school.

## **Subsidized/Unsubsidized Master Promissory Note (MPN)**

Is a legal document in which you promise to repay your loan(s) and any accrued interest and fees to the U.S. Department of Education. It also explains the terms and conditions of your loan(s). Unless your school does not allow more than one loan to be made under the same MPN, you can borrow additional Direct Loans on a single MPN for up to 10 years.

## **Entrance Counseling**

If you have not previously received a Direct Loan or Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL), the Federal Government requires you to complete entrance counseling to ensure that you understand the responsibilities and obligations you are assuming. If you are completing entrance counseling to borrow a loan as a graduate or professional student, the entrance counseling will fulfill counseling requirements for Direct Unsubsidized Loans, and Direct PLUS Loans.

## **Exit Counseling**

Provides important information to prepare you to repay your federal student loan(s). If you have received a subsidized, unsubsidized or PLUS loan under the Direct Loan Program or the FFEL Program, you must complete exit counseling each time you drop below half-time enrollment, graduate or leave school.

## **Financial Awareness Counseling**

Provides tools and information to help you understand your financial aid and assist you in managing your finances.

## **National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS)**

NSLDS is the U.S. Department of Education's (ED's) central database for student aid. NSLDS receives data from schools, guaranty agencies, the Direct Loan program, and other Department of ED programs. NSLDS Student Access provides a centralized, integrated view of Title IV loans and grants so that recipients of Title IV Aid can access and inquire about their Title IV loans and/or grant data.

# HOW DO I APPLY FOR AID?

## WHERE DO I START?

- Sign up for an FSA ID at [fsaid.ed.gov](https://fsaid.ed.gov)** The FSA ID serves as your digital signature for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and login information for Federal Student Aid websites. Students can apply for an FSA ID anytime and it is recommended to have one before completing the FAFSA. If you are a dependent student, your parent will also need to create an FSA ID
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**
- Create a login at Ameritech's Financial Aid Portal**  
<https://auth.globalfas.com/ssite/2270/>
- Submit Required Documents**
- Accept your Estimated Financing Plan**
- Complete your Direct Loan Entrance Counseling, if applying for a Federal Loan**
  - The Federal Government requires you to complete entrance counseling to ensure that you understand the responsibilities and obligations you are assuming.
  - The goal of entrance counseling is to help you understand what it means to take out a federal student loan. During entrance counseling, you will learn about the following:
    - What a Direct Loan is and how the loan process works
    - Managing your education expenses
    - Other financial resources to consider helping pay for your education
    - Your rights and responsibilities as a borrower
- Complete an Annual Loan Acknowledgement, if applying for a Federal Loan**
  - If this is your first time accepting a federal student loan, you are acknowledging that you understand your responsibility to repay your loan.
  - If you have existing federal student loans, you are acknowledging that you understand how much you owe and how much more you can borrow.
- Complete Master Promissory Notes (MPN), if necessary.**

The MPN is a legally binding agreement between you and us and contains the terms and conditions of your loans.

  - Direct Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loan eMPN
  - Grad PLUS Loan eMPN
  - Parent PLUS Loan eMPN
- Apply for any additional funding options to cover any unmet need**

Private Loans <https://choice.fastproducts.org/FastChoice/home/2270800/1>
- Accept your Financial Aid Award Letter**



## **FINANCIAL AID OFFICE**

Ameritech College of Healthcare

12257 Business Park Drive #100, Draper UT 84020

Hours: Monday - Friday • 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

(385) 297-8935

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