Commonwealth University- Bloomsburg

Medical Imaging and

Medical Laboratory Science Clinical Programming

Financial Aid

As a Commonwealth University - Bloomsburg clinical student attending a host school, **you are required to understand, inquire about costs and make payment directly to the host school (your clinical site).**

While Commonwealth University - Bloomsburg will process your financial aid, we will **NOT** pay the host school on your behalf.

If you would like to receive financial aid to assist with payment, you will need to:

- File a FAFSA ASAP and continue to list Commonwealth University - Bloomsburg as your school choice.
    - **EXCEPTION**: *If you are attending Drexel, Thomas Jefferson, SUNY Upstate Medical, Pennsylvania College of Technology or the RT program at Reading you will receive financial aid through **the clinical site** and must list their school code on your FAFSA.*

- Continue to monitor your university email and Student Information System for the duration of your clinical program to see if you have been selected for verification or need to update your expected graduation date. These items will delay your aid!

- PLEASE FREQUENTLY CHECK YOUR UNIVERSITY EMAIL WHILE IN CLINICAL!!!

Clinical Sites with Special Details:

Misericordia – Students last semester typically ends in March. There will be NO spring disbursement of financial aid available for that year.

York – Students are not eligible for financial aid during the last summer semester.

Geisinger – Students are billed for tuition and fees through Bloomsburg University.

Consortium/Contractual Agreements:

Commonwealth University - Bloomsburg Financial Aid Office, will for most schools, enter in to a Consortium/Contractual Agreement with the other school.

This is student and site (host school – your clinical site) specific and handled by the Financial Aid Office.

Our office cannot disburse aid until the signed agreement is received and must be updated each year. This provides us with tuition, fees, books and supplies for the entire enrollment period of your program. We will adjust your tuition, fees and books based upon the data we receive back from this agreement.

Registration – Confirmation of Attendance: (Student Task)

- o This must be completed at the beginning of each semester even while you are in clinical available on your Student Information System.
- o Failure to register will result in your federal financial aid not being disbursed.

Verification: (Potential Student Task)

- Verification is a process where we are required to collect tax and other data to confirm that the information entered is correct on the FAFSA.
- Student can be selected for verification by the federal processor/government.
- If selected, students must provide the signed documentation that is being asked for by our office in to our secure portal before student financial aid can be finalized.
- Student will be notified through their University email and on the Student Information System.
- If selected for Verification, submit your required items in to our secure portal as soon as possible to the financial aid office. Failure to complete this will result in not receiving your financial aid.

Disbursements (Your Aid):

- Financial aid disbursements will continue to occur on the regular Commonwealth University schedule which is the after the drop/add period (2nd week of the semester).
- ***IMPORTANT!! There are no early disbursements possible so plan accordingly.***
- Financial aid is disbursed once a week, normally on Wednesday's. It will take 3-5 days for refunds to show with your banking institution.
- If you do not have a balance at Commonwealth University, a refund check will be generated.
- If interested, set up a bank account for direct deposit.
- It is **YOUR** responsibility to pay the clinical site and communicate with the site regarding payment.

Withdraws:

- If you need to withdraw from your clinical program, please contact your clinical site and Commonwealth University - Bloomsburg ASAP.
- Aid may need to be adjusted based on the date of the withdraw.

Other Costs – Cost of Attendance Appeal: (Potential Student Task)

If you require additional aid to pay for clinical related expenses, a separate Cost of Attendance Appeal must be submitted along with required documentation. This is completed via the commonwealthu.studentforms.com secure portal. Please be advised that based upon when you submit these items, processing time may take up to 2 weeks. Also note, there will be items that are not covered.

Review the form completely before submitting items to our office. Incomplete or lack of documentation will result in a delay of your request.

Commonwealth University - Bloomsburg Financial Aid Office has a student budget already in place that includes costs associated with your tuition, housing, food, fees, transportation and personal expenses. An appeal will be considered only if the ACTUAL costs exceed the already budgeted Cost of Attendance. Documentation must be provided to substantiate your request and estimates are not permitted.

Below is the budget for PA Resident Off Campus Students per semester:

Example Spring 24

Tuition:	$3,858*
Housing:	$3,319
Food:	$1,989
Books:	$ 600*
Fees:	$1,633*
Transportation:	$ 730
Personal expenses:	$1,000

Already adjusted based on host school data from Consortium Agreement.

Key points to remember:

- Monthly living expense **_EXCLUDES_**: Internet/Cable, cell phone bills, security deposit, car insurance, car expenses, credit card debt, books/supplies, groceries, student loans, job search expenses, parking fees/tickets.
- While a certain dollar amount of a loan may have already been approved from a lender, **_that does not mean a student is eligible or will receive that full loan amount._**
- Cost of Attendance Appeals have both Fall and Spring deadlines for submission.
- Check your University email and Student Information System frequently for updates.

It is extremely important to frequently check your email as we may need some help from you regarding your school consortium agreement, graduation date or other tasks that need to be completed for aid.

I have read and understand the information in this manual as it relates to financial aid policies and funding.

_____   _____

Name   **Date**