



NTC

Financial Assistance Information for American Student Loans

NOTE: NTC will not receive any electronic notification that you have applied for financial aid, so please notify us of your application at enquiries@nazarene.ac.uk. You will need to notify us each academic year, as your application will not be automatically processed for subsequent years of study.

Aid Programs Available

Direct Loans are low-interest loans for students and parents to help pay for the cost of a student's education after high school. The lender is the US Department of Education (the Department) rather than a bank or other financial institution.

Federal Direct Loans may be subsidized or unsubsidized, depending on you and your family's financial aid information provided on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The amount you can borrow will depend on your grade level, your Cost of Attendance, the information you provide on the FAFSA, and other aid you may receive.

Subsidized: for students with demonstrated financial need, as determined by federal regulations. No interest is charged while a student is in school at least half-time, during the grace period and during deferment periods.

Unsubsidized: not based on financial need. Interest is charged during all periods, even during the time a student is in school and during grace and deferment periods.

PLUS: unsubsidized loans for the parents of dependent students and for graduate/professional students. PLUS loans help pay for education expenses up to the cost of attendance, minus all other financial assistance. Interest is charged during all periods. Parent PLUS Loan is in the parent's name and the parent is responsible for repayment of the loan. The loan does require a credit check, but usually only looks at adverse credit, and not a 'credit-scoring'.

You can find more information at studentaid.gov/plus-app.

Yearly Maximum Direct Loan Eligibility

Dependent Undergraduates	Initial Subsidized	Additional Unsubsidized	Combined (maximum) Levels
1st Year	\$3500	\$2000	\$5500
2nd Year	\$4500	\$2000	\$6500
3rd Year and Up	\$5500	\$2000	\$7500
Independent Undergraduates or Dependent Undergrad whose Parent is denied Parent PLUS.			
1st Year	\$3500	\$6000	\$9500
2nd Year	\$4500	\$6000	\$10500
3rd Year and Up	\$5500	\$7000	\$12500
Graduate/Professional			
Each Academic Year (A, B, C...)	\$0	\$20500	\$20500

Interest Rates and Origination Fees

Please follow this link for more information: www.studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/loans/interest-rates

Private Education Loans

Private education loans are administered and funded by private lenders and each has its own specific regulations. Borrowers should contact an individual lender for full terms and conditions.

NOTE: you may qualify for loans or other assistance under Title IV; terms/conditions of Title IV loans may be more favourable than private education loans

6-step Application Process

In order to receive aid from federal student aid programs, you must meet all of the following requirements:

- Have financial need (except for unsubsidized direct loans)
- Have a high school diploma or a General Education Development Certificate (GED) or meet standards approved by the U.S. Department of Education
- Be enrolled as a regular student working toward a degree or certificate in an eligible program
- Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen
- Have a valid Social Security Number
- Make satisfactory academic progress, as determined by the institution
- Sign a statement of educational purpose/certification statement on refunds and default (on the Student Aid Report).
- Sign a statement of updated information, if required (on the SAR).
- Register with the Selective Service, if required

NOTE: Before you start the process, please be aware loan information will be provided to NSLDS

1. Completing the FAFSA

Your first step is to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at studentaid.gov/fafsa-app/ROLES. This process generates your Student Aid Report (SAR). Your SAR is required to determine your eligibility to receive a Federal Loan and also the amount you are eligible to borrow.

- You need to enter your tax information and your spouse's income information for the applicable tax year. If you are an undergraduate dependent student your parent's information is also required.
- You must enter the school name and US Department of Education (DOE) School Code number on your FAFSA.
 - -The DOE School OPE-ID number for Nazarene Theological College is G03770300

2. After You File Your FAFSA Online

The US Department of Education will process your information and generate a SAR. You can review/amend your SAR online once it has been processed.

In order to certify your Federal Loans, NTC must be able to access your SAR. Please contact us and provide the following details:

- Full name
- Your NTC student ID (if you have been issued with one)
- Date of Birth
- How much you wish to borrow

Upon receiving this information, our Financial Aid Team will normally be able to access your SAR electronically and calculate the amount of funds you will be able to borrow.

3. Accepting Your Loan

NTC will notify you of your proposed loan in an "award notification email" that will include the calculated 'cost of attendance', together with specific information about any loan that we plan to disburse under your MPN, and the expected disbursement dates and amounts.

You should evaluate the aid offer carefully. In the case of loans, keep in mind that whatever amount you borrow must be paid back with interest. If your living expenses are not as high as the standard allowance projected by us, you may not have to borrow as much as the amount in the award notification email.

You have the right to decline the loan or to request a lower loan amount.

4. The Master Promissory Note

At this stage you must complete a Master Promissory Note (MPN). You can complete the MPN online at studentaid.gov/mpn/.

The MPN is a legal document in which you promise to repay your loan(s) and any accrued interest and fees to the Department. It also explains the terms and conditions of your loan(s).

Please be aware you will need to complete a new MPN for each year of your studies if you continue to receive Federal Student Aid. Foreign Schools cannot use multi-year MPNs. This applies also to any previous MPNs you may have completed before. They will not be accepted and your loan will be rejected.

NOTE: If you are applying for a Direct PLUS as a graduate/professional student, you will need to complete and sign a PLUS MPN that is separate from the one that you use for your Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans.

5. Entrance Counselling

All applicants must complete entrance counselling before NTC can originate your loan. The counselling session provides information about how to manage your student loans, both during and after college. You can access entrance counselling online at studentaid.gov/entrance-counseling/

6. Additional information

Supporting Documents

In order to obtain a Tier 4 (student) visa for the UK, you may need to demonstrate evidence that you have enough funding in place to pay your course fees and living costs. More information is available at gov.uk/student-visa/money.

NTC can issue a supporting document confirming you will be receiving federal aid. This will provide proof to the UK Visa and Immigration agency of the loan money you are going to receive. As a low risk national you do not need to send evidence of your finances with the application, but may be asked for this later.

Credit Check and Endorser Alternative

When you apply for a Direct PLUS Loan, the Department will check your credit history. To be eligible to receive a PLUS loan, you must not have an adverse credit history. Should you have an adverse credit history, you may still receive a Direct PLUS Loan if you obtain an endorser who does not have an adverse credit history. An endorser is someone who agrees to repay the Direct PLUS Loan if you do not repay the loan.

If you are a parent borrowing on behalf of your dependent student, the endorser may not be the student on whose behalf a parent obtains a Direct PLUS Loan.

Enrolling at NTC - Loan Disbursements

In order to receive aid, you must be enrolled at least half-time and be meeting the requirement of our Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Policy. You must read the SAP Policy.

NTC will disburse your loan money by crediting it to your College account in order to pay tuition fees, accommodation fees and other authorized charges. If the loan disbursement amount exceeds our charges, NTC will pay the remaining balance directly to your UK bank account.

NTC will notify you each time we disburse part of your loan money and will provide information about how to cancel all or part of your disbursement if you find you no longer need it.

Disbursements

Before we can process your aid payments, you need to be fully enrolled on your course. Returning students will receive an email when it is time to enrol again for the next academic year.

Your Course Fee Invoice

After you enrol, you will be sent a course fee invoice for your records. The invoice will be for the full balance of your course fees, and will not show any information about your US funding. If you have already provided confirmation of your funding to the finance office, then we will contact you directly after the first disbursements of your funding have been paid to us.

Allocating Your Federal Direct Loans

Federal Direct loans are paid directly to the university in three disbursements. After each disbursement, we allocate an amount to pay your course fees (and hall fees if you are staying in NTC accommodation).

If your loan disbursement is more than we need for fees, then we will refund any excess funds back to your UK bank account. So we can process a refund, you will need to send the 8-digit account number and 6-digit sort code of your UK account to the finance office. You can find more information about opening a UK bank account from the Finance Office.

If do not have enough loans to cover the full cost of your fees, you will need to make fee payments in line with standard College regulations.

Private Loans

Currently the Smart Option Loan provided by Sallie Mae is the only private loan currently available to American students studying at a foreign school. All students may apply for a private loan (subject to credit history). However, the College encourages any student eligible for a Federal Direct Loan to utilise this type of aid in the first instance.

A comparison of Federal Loans and Private Loans is available via [Federal Student Aid](#).

Sallie Mae loans are paid by cheque in a single disbursement after the start of your course. You will need to come into the College to sign the cheque before we can present it to our bank for payment, so we will contact you once it has arrived. After the cheque has cleared, we allocate the loan to pay off the balance of your fees, and refund any excess funds to your UK bank account.

1. Satisfactory Academic Progress

US Federal regulations (34CFR 668.16, 668.32, 668.34, 446.42) require that all students, who are in receipt of US Federal Student Aid (FSA), must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). Failure to do so can result in the loss of eligibility to receive further funding. It is the responsibility of the institution to monitor SAP and, where necessary, to suspend or withhold eligibility to receive Federal Funding.

1.1 General conditions

This policy outlines a number of specific points which apply to students in receipt of Federal Aid. These statements are made in the context of the College's Assessment Regulations.

Full details of the College's Code of Practice on assessment of students (including rules for progression) are available on the NTC Moodle site, and in the relevant course handbooks.

1.2 What does SAP involve

In order to be eligible to continue to receive Federal Aid, a student must, in general, have achieved a minimum of 40% grade level, which is consistent with the College's requirement for graduation for all students on taught courses.

Students are expected to be in attendance on at least a half-time basis and may not take more than 150% of the normal duration to complete their studies.

Students are required to meet any relevant contact points each term as required.

1.3 Warnings and Probation

Students who fail to maintain SAP will receive a warning and will be placed on probation during the following loan period. Students on probation will receive funding, but they must meet the required academic standards during that semester in order to avoid suspension of eligibility for funding.

A student who fails to maintain SAP, will be deemed ineligible for funding for the following loan period. Students will be notified of probation or suspension by letter and/or email.

1.4 SAP Appeals

A student who loses eligibility for Federal Funding may appeal the decision if they can show that their failure to maintain SAP was due to extenuating circumstances.

NOTE: The SAP policy is separate from academic appeals relating to exam results or test scores. The outcome of a SAP appeal has no bearing on results achieved or grades awarded.

A student may appeal a decision to suspend eligibility for Federal funding if they can demonstrate that their failure to maintain SAP was due to extraordinary circumstances such as (but not limited to) the following:

- Serious illness or injury
- Death of a family member

- Divorce or family difficulties
- Financial difficulties
- Interpersonal problems

Appeals must be submitted in writing, following the NTC Academic appeals process, together with supporting documentation, within ten days of the notification of suspension.

1.5 Reinstatement

If a student's appeal against probation is successful, then the student's good standing will be restored. If a student's appeal against suspension is successful then the student will be placed on probation for the payment period.

A student that has their Federal Aid suspended but continues the course under their own means, and subsequently meets Satisfactory Academic Progress standards, will be entitled to regain a probationary status and apply for loans.

Students that have exceeded the 150% time limit on their programme cannot be reinstated.

2 . What Happens When you Withdraw - Return of Title IV Funds Policy

According to federal law, the Financial Aid Office must recalculate Federal Title IV financial aid eligibility for students who withdraw from all classes, drop out, are dismissed, or take a leave of absence prior to completing more than 60% of a quarter/semester. Federal Title IV financial aid is viewed as 100% earned after that point in time.

Withdrawal date is defined as the actual date the student began the institution's withdrawal process, the student's last date of recorded attendance, or the midpoint of the semester for a student who leaves without notifying the institution. The Federal Title IV programs covered under this policy include Federal Stafford Loans and Federal PLUS Loans (Graduate Student or Parent).

The College is responsible for returning any "unearned" loan funds that have been paid to the college to cover the student's institutional charges received from Title IV loan programmes. If the student owes funds back to the Title IV programmes, NTC will advise the student. Immediate repaying of the unearned loan amount by the student is not required, repayment of the loan to the lender is set by the terms or conditions of the promissory note.

Recalculation is based on the percent of earned aid using the following formula:

- $\text{Percent earned} = \frac{\text{Number of calendar days completed up to and including the withdrawal date}}{\text{total calendar days in the quarter/semester}}$

Federal Title IV financial aid is returned to the federal government (reducing student loan debt) based on the percent of unearned aid using the following formula:

- $\text{Aid to be returned} = (100\% - \text{percent earned}) \times \text{the amount of aid disbursed towards institutional charges}$.

Federal Title IV financial aid is returned in the order mandated by the U.S. Department of Education. Funds must be returned within 45 days after the date of withdrawal determination. Return of funds required by the student for unearned aid is returned (repaid) in accordance to the terms of the loan on the promissory note. The order is as follows, based on aid offered at NTC:

1. Unsubsidized Direct Stafford Loan
2. Subsidized Direct Stafford Loans
3. Direct PLUS (Graduate Student or Parent)

3. Exit Counselling

NTC must ensure that exit counselling is conducted with each Direct Subsidized Loan or Direct Unsubsidized Loan borrower and graduate or professional student Direct PLUS Loan borrower shortly before the student borrower ceases at least half-time study at the university.

4. Managing Your Repayment and Understanding Your Obligations

Managing your student loan debt is an important investment in your future.

Please visit studentaid.gov for information on repayment plans, deferments, and loan consolidation.

Contact Us

Post:

US Financial Aid, Nazarene Theological College, Dene Road, Didsbury. Manchester M20 2GU

Email:

enquiries@nazarene.ac.uk

In Person:

Finance Office, Nazarene Theological College, Dene Road, Didsbury. Manchester M20 2GU

Further resources and links:

- studentaid.gov
- studentaid.gov/h/understand-aid
- studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/filling-out

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Q: Do I need to apply for a visa before I come to the UK, or can I ask for one when I arrive?

A: Please apply for a Tier 4 (General) visa using your CAS before you travel: your visa will then be issued for the length of your course. Your CAS is issued by the Admissions Office when you have met all conditions of your offer.

2. Q: How much money do I need to show, for how long?

A: Please follow the [Home Office guidelines](#).

3. Q: If I receive a Federal Loan, do I need to show my finances too?

A: As a low risk national you do not need to send evidence of your finances with the application, but may be asked for this later. Make sure your US Federal Loan covers the full cost of your tuition and living costs in the UK. If your Federal Loan only covers part of this amount, make sure you can prove you have the outstanding amount available to you as above.

4. Q: Do I need to pay a deposit if I receive a Direct Loan?

A: No, as long as your amount loan covers the deposit.

5. Q: How much should I borrow, what is the estimated cost of living in the UK?

A: NTC will supply you with a 'cost of Attendance' estimate.

6. Q: When will my Direct Loan be originated?

A: Federal Direct Loans are originated in June (September starters) and November (January starters).

7. Q: Will I have enough time to apply for my Tier 4 visa?

A: Average visa processing times in the US are 2-3 weeks. Check current processing times [at this link](#). **NOTE:** We advise you not to make travel arrangements until you have a visa.

8. Q: When will I receive the first disbursement of my loan?

A: 7-10 days after the official start of term one.

9. Q: Will I need to open a UK bank account?

A: Yes, if you borrow more than you owe the university. NTC will disburse your loan money by crediting it to your university account in order to pay tuition fees, accommodation fees and other authorized charges. If the loan disbursement amount exceeds our charges, NTC will pay the remaining balance of the disbursement directly to your UK bank account

10. Q: What is a disbursement date?

A: A disbursement date is when the loan money is transferred to your student fee account. A refund of excess funds (if applicable) is processed within 14 days from that date. **NOTE:** You need to make sure you have enough money to support yourself until you receive your loan.

11. Q: Can I apply for federal loans if I am an Exchange student?

A: Under US Department of Education regulations, loans for Study Abroad students must continue to be processed by the home university, so you should contact the Financial Aid

Office at your home university for further guidance. The Financial Aid Office at your home university will need to liaise with the Exchange and Study Abroad team at NTC for confirmation of the costs of the Study Abroad programme.

12. Q: Can I do research in the US as part of my course and still receive Direct Loans?

A: You would receive funds only for the part of the programme based in the UK. Federal Code of Practice (34 C.F.R. § 600.52) “Does not permit students to enrol in any course offered by the foreign institution in the United States, including research, work, internship, externship, or special studies within the United States, except that independent research done by an individual student in the United States for not more than one academic year is permitted, if it is conducted during the dissertation phase of a doctoral program under the guidance of faculty, and the research can only be performed in a facility in the United States”.

Consumer Disclosures

As part of the William D Ford Federal Direct Loan Program – Standards for Participation – NTC is required to provide the following information:

- Undergraduate and graduate prospectuses are available at nazarene.ac.uk/latest-prospectus.
- The accrediting agencies and governmental bodies that approve, accredit or license NTC are the Quality Assurance Agency for UK Higher Education (qaa.ac.uk) and the Office for Students (officeforstudents.org.uk).
- NTC degrees are validated by The University of Manchester.
- Retention rates of all certificate or degree-seeking, first time, full time undergraduates entering the school are available via the Higher Education Statistics Agency.
- Placement and types of employment obtained by graduates (undergraduate and graduate) of the school’s programmes are available via the Higher Education Statistics Agency.
- Transfer of credit information is available on the VLE, MOODLE, in the Academic handbook.
- Requirements and procedures for official withdrawal from your program are set out within the Relevant Academic Handbook for your course of study.
- Services and facilities for students with disabilities, including intellectual disabilities – information is available via Learning Support.