

FINANCIAL AID

FINANCING OPTIONS 2016-2017

Tuition Payment Plan

Union College offers a monthly tuition payment plan administered through Higher One. The payment plan allows for payment of all fees in up to 10 monthly installments rather than one lump sum each term. The payment plan is convenient, the application process is simple, and the plan is interest-free. There is a small application fee. Payment options include check or electronic debit from your checking or savings account.

For more information, call 1-800-635-0120 or visit <https://tuitionpaymentplan.com/union>.

Federal Direct Loan Program

Regardless of financial aid eligibility, all students are eligible to participate in the Federal Direct Student Loan Program. Federal Direct Student Loans provide up to \$5,500 for the freshman year and allow for deferment of the payment of the principal until six months after the student graduates or drops below half-time enrollment.

Subsidized Direct Loan is a need-based loan program. Both principal and interest are deferred while the student is enrolled at least half-time.

Unsubsidized Direct Loan – Applicants who do not qualify for all or part of the need-based subsidized Direct Loan may borrow the unsubsidized Direct Loan. The federal government does not make the interest payments on the unsubsidized loan. Students may choose to make interest payments on the loan or allow the interest to accrue.

The current interest rate for Direct Loans is 4.29%, with an origination fee of 1.068%. The 2016-17 fixed interest rate and origination fee will be determined before July 1, 2016. Eligibility for these loans is determined through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.ed.gov. The Financial Aid Office notifies applicants the specific amounts for which they qualify from both the subsidized and unsubsidized loan programs.

Federal Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students (PLUS)

A Federal PLUS Loan is a fixed-rate loan that enables parents of dependent students to borrow for their child's education. The current interest rate is 6.84% with an origination fee of 4.272%. The 2016-17 fixed interest rate and origination fee will be determined before July 1, 2016. Families are required to complete the FAFSA in order to borrow the PLUS Loan. The parent borrower must be a U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen. A credit check is performed, so the parent must have a satisfactory credit history. The annual loan maximum is the total cost of attendance less offered financial aid.

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Private Student and Parent Loans

Private education loans are available for both students and parents in addition to any federal loans a student may be receiving. The annual loan maximum is the total cost of attendance less offered financial aid. Most lenders require students to apply with a credit worthy co-signer. Union College will work with a family's chosen lender to meet their specific borrowing needs. Basic information regarding private loans is available on our website along with a link to an external site that offers more detailed lender information.

Once a student has applied and been approved for a loan, our office will complete the required certification process and notify the lender of the amount for which the student is eligible. After this process is complete, loan proceeds are transferred electronically to Union College and posted to the student's account once the term has begun.

Additional information regarding the 2016-17 application process for Federal and Private Loans will be available on our website in June. Please visit www.union.edu/financialaid for updates. We recommend that you do not begin the application process until after June 1. Our office begins certifying 2016-17 loans on July 1.