**Now** that you have submitted your tuition deposit, you're ready to take the next exciting steps - registering for class and deciding where you will live while attending PLU! This brochure will walk you through the steps to accept your aid offer and how to finalize your award. Throughout, you'll find many links to websites with additional information. We also invite you to call the Office of Student Financial Services at 253-535-7161 or email us at sfs@plu.edu if you have any questions.

### **SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS**

Scholarships and grants are "gift assistance", funds that you do not need to repay. Grants are generally need-based, while most scholarships are awarded for acadmeic merit or artistic talent. Most scholarships require you to maintain a minimum GPA for renewal. All scholarlships and grants not preceded with "Federal" or "State" are PLU funded awards.

All scholaships and grants on your aid offer were either pre-accepted or will be automatically updated to that status for you (Federal Pell Grant)

Take note of the steps you need to complete to ensure that these awards can be disbursed (paid) onto your student accounts. For more information please visit: plu.edu/scholarships.

## **WORK STUDY**

An opportunity to earn a paycheck, working part-time (maximum of 19-20 hrs/wk) at

an on or off campus job during the academic year, including summer.

### STUDENT LOANS

The Federal Direct Loan is a low - interest, long - term loan that allows you to finance your education over an extended period of time. Interest rate is fixed and locked in every July 1, based on the 10-year Treasury Bill rate + 2.05%. Repayment begins six months after graduation or when you drop below half time enrollment. An origination fee of 1.059% is deducted from the loan prior to disbursement\* Annual loan maximums are:

- --\$5,500 for first year students
- --\$6,500 for second year students
- --\$7,500 for third and fourth year students.

For more information , please visit *plu.edu/loans* 

\*Subject to change Oct. 1, 2020





The PLU Pledge is a **loan repayment assistance program**, a safety net for incoming, first-year PLU students for the 2020-21 academic year. If, after graduation, a student is earning less than \$45,000 per year, we will help repay their student (**AND** parent PLUS) loans.

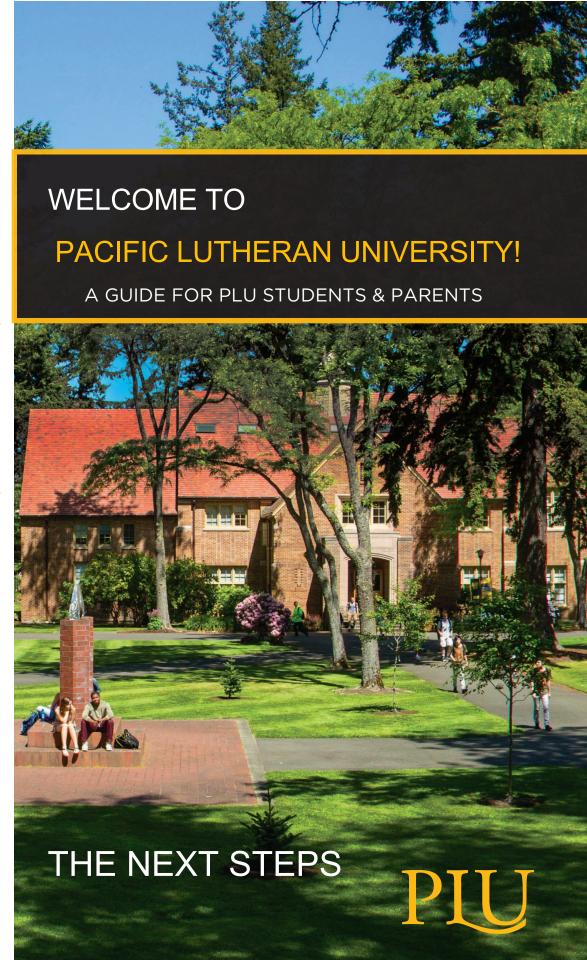
For further information and details about this program, please visit plu.edu/plupledge.



#### OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES

12180 Park Avenue South | Tacoma, WA 98447

253-535-7161 phone | 253-535-8406 fax sfs@plu.edu | plu.edu/student-financial-services



# ACCEPTING YOUR FINANCIAL AID OFFER & PREPARING FOR FALL



### **ACCEPTING YOUR AID OFFER**

We have pre-accepted all of the scholarships and grants on your award offer. You have the option to accept or decline the student loans and work study award. To accept or decline:

- 1. Go to *banweb.plu.edu* and click on Banner Self-Service.
- 2. Click on Access Banner Self Service by using my PLU ePass if you've already created an ePass. If not, click on "Newly Admitted students may claim an ePass by clicking here." After creating your ePass,
- 3. Select Financial Aid Services.
- 4. Select Award.
- 5. Select Award by Aid Year.
- 6. Select Financial Aid Year 2020-21.
- 7. Select Submit.
- 8. You will be prompted to make a decision on the loans and work study that have been offered. You may select Accept, Decline, or Undecided. Select Submit Decision or, if you wish to accept the entire offer in the original form, simply select Accept Full Amount All Awards. Once you have selected Submit Decision or Accept Full Amount All Awards, the screen will show the current status of your award.
- 9. The **Federal Pell Grant** cannot be accepted online. Student Financial Services will accept this fund once we have confirmed your eligibility with the U.S. Department of Education.
- 10. For financial aid policies and procedures, please see our 2020-21 Financial Aid Handbook at our homepage under Documents.

### FINALIZING YOUR AWARD

- 1. If opting to borrow the Direct Loan, you must first:
- A. Go to Banner Self Service and accept the loan(s) you wish to borrow, B. Go to studentaid.gov and complete:
- 1. Master Promissory Note (MPN)
- 2. Entrance Counseling session

Please Note: The U.S. Department of Education deducts a loan origination fee of 1.059%\* from the student loan proceeds prior to disbursement. If parents are choosing to borrow the Federal Parent PLUS Loan, they too, must complete the MPN (after July 1). The Parent PLUS Loan origination fee\* is 4.236%. A completed MPN and Entrance Counseling will not appear as satisfied in your Banner Self Service until sometime in July.

- 2. If you have been awarded the **WA** College Grant, you must complete the Student Directive for State Aid (plu.edu/student-financial-services/ documents) before it will disburse.
- 3. If you have been selected for the Verification Process, go to your Banner Self Service account and download the appropriate Verification Worksheet. Provide the IRS tax information via the IRS Data Retrieval Tool link on the online FAFSA application. If unable to use the Data Retrieval Tool, submit a Tax Return Transcript (irs.gov/ individuals/get-transcript). If neither option is available, you may submit a signed copy of the original 2018 IRS tax return(s) submitted to the IRS. Your award is not final and all needbased aid funds will not disburse until verification has been completed!

- 4. Federal or State Work Study is an opportunity to work on or off campus in a part-time job. Work Study will NOT reduce the amount you owe PLU, as jobs are not guaranteed and any earnings are paid directly to the student, to be spent at their own discretion. **Note:** Paychecks for on campus employment can be auto-deposited into your checking account if you provide your banking information to our Business Office.
- 5. Billing will begin on a semester basis as charges are incurred for the term. If your financial aid is less than your semester charges, you have several payment options, which are described on our website under the "Payments"
- 6. The fall semester bill will be mailed in late July, with a due date of August 25. Billing statements thereafter will be e-Bills. When setting up your Banner Self Service profile, be sure to include the email addresses of those persons (e.g. parents) who should receive your billing statements.



\* Subject to change after Oct. 1, 2020

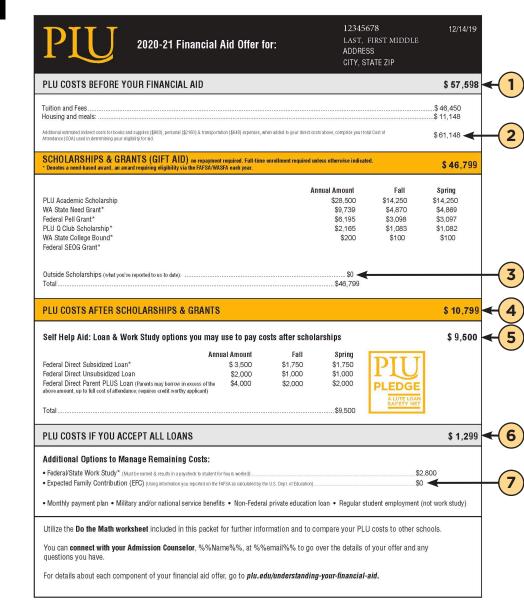
For your convenience, this document is posted on our Student Financial Services website (plu.edu/student-financial-services) under

"Documents". URLs listed in this document are embedded links within the online document.

# **NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION**

- 1. The Center for Student Success (CSS) will contact you to set up a registration appointment for your fall semester classes during New Student Registration (NSR). Take the math placement exam at least 2 weeks prior to NSR (required for some majors), as well as the language placement evaluation if planning to continue a language at PLU.
- 2. To be eligible to register for classes:
  - \*Complete the 2020-21 Financial **Agreement** Form on Banner Self Service after your 18th birthday. If your 18th birthday will occur after NSR, your parent will need to complete the Parent/Legal Guardian Financial Agreement as you will still be a minor. After turning 18 years of age, you or your parent can contact the Business Office to amend the Student Financial Agreement, releasing your parent from financial responsibility regarding your obligation to PLU.
  - \*Complete the Meningococcal Acknowledgement Form on your Banner Self Service account.
  - \* Submit the Medical History and Consent for Treatment Form to the PLU Health Center
- 3. Cost Estimate Conversations: Your NSR schedule will include time to sit with a Student Financial Services Specialist to review your anticipated expenses and financial aid resources for fall semester. the academic year, and discuss payment plans and financing options. Remember. if selected for the Verification Process, your award is not final until verification has been completed. If completed after NSR and your award changes, our cost estimate at NSR may not be accurate. Complete the verification before NSR so we can provide the most accurate cost estimate possible.
- 4. You can begin looking for on- or offcampus jobs on the Student **Employment** website at Career Connections after May 31, 2020. You must bring government-issued picture ID and complete the Federal I-9 form at PLU before you can begin working on campus. For more information go to: plu.edu/studentemployment.

### UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOUR FINANCIAL AID OFFER MEANS



- 1. You will be billed this amount by PLU, approximately half this amount each semester. On campus housing rate is the standard meal plan, double occupancy. Additional course fees may apply.
- 2. Total cost of attendance, including "indirect costs".
- 3. Let us know about any outside scholarships you've been awarded at outsideschp@plu.edu
- 4. Net cost due to PLU after scholarships and grants have been disbursed (paid onto your account)
- 5. Student loans are available to help you with costs not covered by scholarships and grants.
- 6. This is your remaining "bottom line" after loans (but before any loan fees are deducted or course fees added). You can use your work study award to help pay down this amount as you receive pay checks for hours worked, or increase the Federal Parent PLUS Loan amount if you are a dependent student. A negative amount (-\$XXX.XX) means you are entitled to a refund check for this
- 7. FAFSA generated Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

Note: A 10 or 12 month payment plan is available; application is made at: www.plu.afford.edu