

Important Financial Aid Information – spring 2021

Spring 2021 Financial Aid Policies per President Crawford's 11/6/2020 announcement:

1. Full-time spring 2021 undergraduate tuition will be reduced to the amount charged in spring 2020 (a reduction of \$1,025) with a comparable reduction for graduate students. (This is the same reduction offered in fall 2020.)
2. The full value of merit awards will be distributed despite the reduction in spring 2021 tuition.
3. In accordance with federal guidelines, need-based awards (grants, work-study awards, and loans) must be recalculated related to the lower cost of attendance.
4. More information about work study is forthcoming.
5. Students may take up to 5.0 total academic or activity credits in spring 2021 without incurring a course overload charge (a savings of up to \$5,070).
6. Students may attend part time in the spring and receive financial aid: students enrolling in 2.0 – 2.9 units will receive 50% of their merit awards and a portion of their need-based Puget Sound grants.

Other important information:

1. Should students who were enrolled half time in fall 2020 or spring 2021 require a final semester of half time enrollment in order to fulfill graduation requirements, they will retain eligibility for half of their merit scholarship for that semester.
2. We are expecting students to return to on-campus housing for spring 21. Students can appeal their spring 21 housing contract through Residence Life if they no longer plan to live on campus. The appeal process runs from 11/9/20 through 5:00pm on 12/1/20. Those who do not live on campus will not be charged for room and board (an average total of \$3,615 for room and \$3,125 for meals). For those who will reside on campus, standard room rate of \$3,615 will apply regardless of room assignment. Click [here](#) for the Residential Living Policies, Rates & Refunds page and [here](#) for 2021 Meal Plan & Rates.
3. To accommodate any necessary adjustments to billing and financial aid packages for spring semester, we will be delaying spring 2021 billing for undergraduates from January 4th until January 14th. Graduate students will still be billed on January 4th. Spring semester payment deadline for all registered students will be extended to January 28th. These adjustments to billing and payment deadlines do not impact the regular published [tuition adjustments](#) calendar for enrollment changes as found in the [Academic Calendar](#).
4. The spring 2021 calendar includes a modified spring break. Classes will begin Jan. 19 and final exams will end May. 14. Modified spring break dates: Feb 18-19, March 29-30, and April 14.

Student Financial Services – Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the spring 2021 tuition charge?
 - a. Undergraduate Full Time (3.00-5.00 academic units) - \$25,735
 - b. Undergraduate Less than Full Time (below 3.00 academic units) - \$6,760 per credit
 - c. Undergraduate More than Full Time (above 5.00 academic units) - \$6,760 per credit
 - d. Graduate Masters of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) - \$3,757 per unit
 - e. Graduate Master of Education in Counseling (M.Ed.) - \$4,064 per unit
 - f. Graduate Master of Science in OT/DrOT - \$6,503 per unit
 - g. Doctor of PT - \$4,877 per unit

2. What is the spring 2021 institutional Room Charge that you will see reflected on your bill?
 - a. Living on campus – \$3,615
 - b. All students living on campus will be charged the standard room rate of \$3,615 and premium rates will not apply for spring 2021.

3. Are meal plans available for spring 2021?
 - a. Yes, meal plans are available for students living on and off campus
 - b. [Meal plan pricing](#) remains the same.

4. What are the State/Federal Work Study Updates?
 - a. In accordance with federal guidelines, need-based awards like work study must be recalculated related to the lower cost of attendance.
 - b. Further details related to State/Federal Work Study is forthcoming.

5. When will my financial aid and bill be updated for spring 2021?
 - a. Undergraduate student financial aid will be updated by 5:00PM on Wednesday, January 13th and a finalized bill will be generated on Thursday, January 14th.
 - b. Graduate student financial aid will be updated by Monday, January 4th and a finalized bill will be generated by end of day on Monday, January 4th.

6. When is our bill due?
 - a. The tuition due date has been extended to January 28th.

7. Why is my spring bill more than it was in the fall?
 - a. First year students paid the \$500 advanced tuition deposit which applied to fall billing only.
 - b. Some students received a Loggers Together Scholarship for fall to cover lost FWS/SWS award (\$1,440 - \$1,500) total impact on bill.
 - c. A move to campus for Spring 21 will increase spring bill by approximately \$6,740 to cover Standard Room and Meal Plan C (medium meal plan) charges.

8. I'm an undergraduate student, how do I get my refund?
 - a. Once your financial aid has been disbursed to your account, you may request a refund by emailing sfs@pugetsound.edu. Issuing refunds begins after the start of class and processing time can take 7-10 business days.

9. What if I need additional financial aid?
 - a. Options for additional financial aid can include applying for a private loan, outside scholarships, Federal Plus loan, or filing a [Special Circumstance Request](#) with our office. Graduate students can also contact Student Financial Services for a Cost of Living/Attendance Adjustment Form.

10. What are the implications for taking a Leave of Absence?
 - a. Federal Loans (subsidized, unsubsidized, parent PLUS, grad PLUS)
 - i. If you have borrowed Federal Loans in the past, your loans may go into repayment during your time away from classes. Since the last day of enrollment for fall 20 is December 18, a student will likely enter repayment in mid-June.
 - ii. Keep up with federal Covid-19 emergency relief measures (currently set to expire December 31, 2020) [here](#).
 - iii. Check out [Loan Simulator](#) to see how much payments might be.
 - iv. Loans go back into in-school deferment once you are enrolled at least half time (2 units)
 - v. If you use up your grace period during an LOA, you won't be left with a grace period after graduation and your loans will become due within a month of graduation (check with your [loan servicer](#) for more details). Any new loans you receive after your LOA would still offer a 6 month grace period.
 - b. Private Loans
 - i. Check with your lender but it likely has a 6 month grace period.
 - c. Puget Sound Merit Scholarships, Puget Sound Grant funds, and Puget Sound Scholarship funds are available for up to 10 semesters. Named scholarships are available for 8 semesters. A semester of eligibility is counted if any portion of the award is used. If you take an LOA and no scholarship/grant is disbursed, then it does not count toward the 10 semesters.
 - d. If a student makes the decision to take a leave, they can email academicadvising@pugetsound.edu to initiate the leave of absence process.

11. Room and Board Refunds:
 - a. Fall 2020 room and board refunds for students who move off campus at Thanksgiving are being applied first to any fall 20 balance due then toward spring 21 bill.
 - b. If you take a Leave of Absence for spring 2021, and you are due a fall 20 room and board refund for moving off campus at Thanksgiving, your credit will be refunded to you.

12. I am a student-athlete; can I participate in athletics if I am enrolled part time?
 - a. Please contact your coach. Athletic coaches will be in contact with student-athletes regarding the return to competition status specific to their sport

13. I am returning from an approved Leave of Absence, when will I see my financial aid and receive my bill?
 - a. As long as you are registered for spring 2021 coursework equal to 2 or more units, financial aid should be published and viewable to you on my.pugetsound.edu student portal by 5:00PM on December 4th. Graduate students will be billed January 4th. Undergraduate students will be billed January 14th.

14. Students may enroll in 2.0 units in spring and still receive financial aid*
 - a. Academic merit, music, talent, and non-need based institutional scholarships will be offered at 50%
 - b. Puget Sound need based awards (Puget Sound Grant) will be recalculated based on remaining demonstrated need after scholarships have been applied

- c. If you have Federal Grants, they will be prorated based on enrollment and are not all guaranteed at less than full time
- d. Federal loans require only half time enrollment and will not be adjusted unless affected by the reduction in cost of attendance
- e. Work study for State and Federal – eligibility remains at 2 units of enrollment. Students must be residing in Washington state and have an existing FWS or SWS award to participate in on campus need based work study in spring 2021.
- f. Washington College Grant – eligibility remains at 2 units as long as demonstrated need remains
- g. College Bound Scholarship – eligibility remains at 2 units as long as demonstrated need remains.
- h. Private loans – most private lenders required that borrowers attend at least half time, please double check with your lender

***Enrolling part time can affect your maximum terms of eligibility for institutional and federal aid. Please refer to the [SAP](#) website for more information.**