# Financial Aid Information 2017-18



Welcome to Mitchell Hamline School of Law!

Law school financial planning requires careful consideration, useful information and realistic advice. We are committed to helping you understand and plan for your law school investment. Mitchell Hamline School of Law Financial Aid information is available on the financial aid page of the MHSL website: www.mitchellhamline.edu/financial-aid

Contact us to discuss your plans! MHSL Financial Aid Office: 651-290-6403, finaid@mitchellhamline.edu

# **CONSIDER YOUR FINANCIAL AID OPTIONS**

Graduate aid is loan based. Federal or private loans pay for tuition, fees and estimated living expenses. Eighty-five percent of spring 2016 graduates borrowed an average of \$100,603 during law school. We welcome your questions, and provide information here and on the MHSL website.

# FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) provides annual access to federal loans and federal work-study and is available at <a href="www.fafsa.ed.gov">www.fafsa.ed.gov</a>. Detailed FAFSA application guidance is on the MHSL Financial Aid Webpage. Our FAFSA school code is G02391. The FAFSA does not obligate you in any way. <a href="mailto:The 2017-18 FAFSA uses 2015">The FAFSA uses 2015</a> income and taxes information.

## **TYPES OF AID**

#### **Scholarships**

Your admission application is considered for MHSL scholarship awards. No added scholarship application is needed. Scholarship offers are included with your admission letter. School awarded scholarships provide tuition credit and cannot exceed the tuition portion of your bill. All students pay the \$413 semester fee. Scholarships for continuing students, when available, are announced through *Student News*. Outside scholarship searches through FastWeb and Scholarships.com are available at no cost.

# Minnesota GI Bill Benefits/ Minnesota Indian Scholarship

Minnesota benefit applications are located on the Minnesota Office of Higher Education website <a href="https://www.ohe.state.mn.us/">https://www.ohe.state.mn.us/</a>. Let us know if you have applied for either MN GI or MN Indian benefits.

#### **Veteran's Educational Benefits**

MHSL Veterans Certifying Official Nick Anderson (contact information is below) is available to help you plan the most effective use of your VA benefits. Depending on the benefits, funds are either sent directly to you or to the school to be applied to your student account. The web location Vets.gov provides forms and advice.

MHSL participates in the VA Yellow Ribbon program.

## Third Party Payments- Employer benefits, outside scholarships and Americorps.

Let us know if you are expecting outside scholarships or benefits. The Student Finance Office <a href="mailto:student.account@mitchellhamline.edu">student.account@mitchellhamline.edu</a> assists with paperwork for third party tuition payment, outside scholarship checks or employer reimbursement. Americorps funding is processed through the Financial Aid Office based on your electronic authorization through the Americorps website.

## Work-Study

Federal work-study requires a valid FAFSA application. Work-study is not automatically included in a financial aid offer, but can be offered on request. Request forms and program FAQs are located on Messages tab of the Financial Aid Portal. Both on-campus and off-campus jobs are available. First year students often work in the library and in administrative positions in campus offices.

#### **Federal and Private loan Information**

Federal loan terms are located on the studentloans.gov web location. Private (non-federal) loan terms are lender specific. You may borrow loans in any amount up to the total budget. You may borrow loans and also use the MHSL payment plan for any remaining tuition and fee balance. We process loans throughout the school year. Contact us if you have questions.

#### Federal loans

A Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) (<a href="www.fafsa.ed.gov">www.fafsa.ed.gov</a>) is required for access to the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program. Graduate students can access both federal loan programs:

Direct Unsubsidized loan for up to \$20,500 annually (interest rate is 6%, 1.066% loan fee).

Direct Grad PLUS loan, limit is the difference between total budget and all other aid (interest rate 7%, 4.264% loan fee). Credit qualification required

Loan program details are available on the federal student loan website, www.studentloans.gov. Our FAFSA ID is G02391

# Non-federal private loans

We work with all lenders. FASTCHOICE, a private, non-federal, loan program comparison tool is available on the MHSL Financial Aid Office webpage under Non-Federal loans. Private, non-federal loans are school certified and disbursed in each semester through your MHSL Student Account. Refunds are issued on the same dates as federal loans.

#### AMOUNT OF AID

We offer financial aid to meet the annual budget which includes tuition and fees, \$42,816 full time, or \$31,172 part time, plus estimated nine-month expenses of \$19,450. Estimated expenses include housing, books, transportation and loan fees. The total annual budget for full-time enrollment is \$62,266, and for part-time enrollment is \$50,622. The sum of all scholarships, aid, and loans cannot be more than the total annual financial aid budget. Tuition, fees and estimated expenses are posted on the MHSL website.

Increases to the total budget can be made on an individual basis based on documented expenses. Typical adjustments include a computer purchase, individual monthly health insurance premiums, and dependent care expenses. See the Messages tab in the Financial Aid Portal for request forms and instructions.

## TUITION PAYMENT AND CREDIT BALANCE REFUNDS

Student account balances can be viewed and paid through the Student Account web location. Payments can be made by credit card, cash, check or electronic funds transfer. Each semester's financial aid is credited to student accounts by the semester due date. Refunds from loan amounts not needed to pay tuition and fees are issued from the Finance/Student Account office. eRefunds are available. Enrollment in eRefunds is through the CashNet Portal on the Student Account website.

#### STUDENT FINANCE CONTACT INFORMATION

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:30-4:30pm

location: Room 276 in the LEC building (down the hall, past the library)

website: http://mitchellhamline.edu/student-finances/

email: student.account@mitchellhamline.edu

phone: 651-290-6312 fax: 651-290-8657

#### FINANCIAL AID OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION:

Patty Harris, Director, Financial Aid Office

Nick Anderson, M.Ed. Assistant Director and Veterans Certifying Official Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 8:30am -6:30pm Friday, 8:30-5pm

location: room 120 (across from Student Services/Registrar)

website: www.mitchellhamline.edu/financial-aid

email: finaid@mitchellhamline.edu

phone: 651-290-6403 fax: 651-290-8657