

Welcome to Mitchell Hamline School of Law!

2018-19 Financial Aid Information

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. Visit our financial aid page on the MHSL website: www.mitchellhamline.edu/financial-aid Contact us to discuss your plans! MHSL Financial Aid Office: 651-290-6403, finaid@mitchellhamline.edu

We welcome walk-in visits and provide thorough e-mail responses.

CONSIDER YOUR FINANCIAL AID OPTIONS

Graduate financial aid is loan based. Federal or private loans pay for tuition, fees and estimated living expenses. Eighty-five percent of spring 2017 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 – FAFSA SCHOOL CODE IS G02391

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO FILE A FAFSA!

You can complete a 2018-19 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to get access to federal loans and federal work-study anytime throughout the school year. The web location is www.fafsa.ed.gov. The application uses 2016 tax information. Only work-study eligibility is based on need. Federal student loans for graduate students are not need based. The FAFSA does not obligate you in any way.

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 <https://www.ohe.state.mn.us/>. 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. We are a VA Yellow Ribbon program participant.

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

Notify the Student Account office student.account@mitchellhamline.edu if you expect 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 www.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) (www.fafsa.ed.gov) 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 6.595%, 1.066% loan fee).

Direct Grad PLUS loan, limit is the difference between total budget and all other aid (interest rate 7.595%, 4.264% loan fee). Credit qualification is required.

A Grad PLUS loan application can be completed in advance of school processing. Visit the federal student loan website, www.studentloans.gov for loan details and to apply for the Grad PLUS Loan

- **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. The total school budget and other aid you are receiving limits loan amounts. Refunds are issued on the same dates as federal loans.

AMOUNT OF AID

Financial aid offers meet total budgets, which include tuition and fees, plus \$19,450 in expenses.

- full-time tuition and fees total \$44,286. The full-time budget including the expense budget is \$63,736
- part-time tuition and fees total \$32,226. The part-time budget including the expense budget is \$51,676

Estimated expenses include housing, books, transportation and loan fees. 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, and in the MHSL Financial Aid Portal. You may accept all or some loan portions at any point throughout the school year. Loans you decline can be re-offered for your acceptance. Disbursed loans pay student account balances first. Loan amounts not needed to pay Student Account balances are refunded on Fridays of the week processing is completed.

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

FALL TUITION DUE DATES

- Hybrid program students: August 20th
- All other students, September 4th

Arrange payment plans for unpaid balances in the Student Account office: student.account@mitchellhamline.edu

FALL FINANCIAL AID REFUND DISBURSEMENT AND REFUND ADVANCES

- Hybrid student financial aid refund date: August 17th
- All other students financial aid refund date: September 4th
- Loan processing begins in July

A \$1000 advance from your fall refund will be available BY REQUEST in July: details and a request form will be emailed, and available on the MHSL Portal.

Before requesting the advance, make sure loan requirements are complete for each loan you are accepting:

- Each loan's pending status is changed to accept (or decline) in the MHSL Financial Aid Portal
- A valid promissory note for each type of loan you accept is on file with Direct Lending Student Loans (web location <https://studentloans.gov/myDirectLoan/index.action>.)
- Complete the Loan Entrance Counseling session at Direct Lending Student Loans - required of ALL incoming students who are borrowing federal loans through Mitchell Hamline for the first time.

mitchellhamline.edu

Grad PLUS loans require credit approval. You can complete a Grad PLUS Loan application in advance of school processing to get a credit response. Instructions are available in the MHSL Financial Aid Portal. If credit declined, contact Direct Loan Borrower Services at 1.800.557.7394 to explore remedies. Declined loans may be issued with a credit worthy co-signer, or a successful appeal of the credit decline.

TUITION PAYMENT AND CREDIT BALANCE REFUNDS

See your student account balance and make payments 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. Loan amounts not needed to pay tuition and fees are issued as a refund from the Finance/Student Account office. eRefunds are available. Enrollment in eRefunds is through the CashNet Portal on the Student Account website.

STUDENT ACCOUNT/FINANCE CONTACT INFORMATION (Billing, Payment Plans, Refunds,)

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 (Student Loans, Veterans Benefits, Work-study Eligibility)

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 (shared mailbox for fastest answer)
phone: 651-290-6403
fax: 651-290-8657