Funding Information

FEDERAL STUDENT AID
- Pell grants available to qualified individuals
- Federally subsidized and unsubsidized loans available
- Deferment available while in school

Federal Pell grants, subsidized and unsubsidized loans are available to qualifying applicants by applying through use of the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). Applications may be completed online at www.fafsa.ed.gov, or in paper format (available from the financial aid administrator). School code is 041553. When completing the FAFSA please use the main campus address in Syracuse.

SYRACUSE COOPERATIVE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
- Interest rate based on credit history
- Up to five years for repayment
- Repayment begins immediately
- Cosigner may be required
- Fund up to full tuition
- Loan Approval is not guaranteed

The credit union will accept applications for education loans from OSTM applicants for up to the full amount of tuition. An application is included in this packet. Loan approval is not guaranteed. (Rochester applicants do not have to travel to Syracuse to apply.)

TFC In-School Loan (Payment Plan)
- Interest Rate 6%
- Must be repaid in entirety prior to graduation
- Cosigner is required
- Fund up to 50% tuition (day students), 75% tuition (evening students)
- Loan approval is not guaranteed

Request a TFC In-School Loan application from your financial aid administrator. A pre-payment plan is available, (if desired), to make this loan more affordable. Payments are to be made in equal monthly payments over the length of time the student is in school.

TFC Multi-Year Loan
- Interest Rate based on credit history and length of loan
- Up to five years for repayment
- Cosigner is required
- Loan approval is not guaranteed

Request a TFC loan application from your financial aid administrator. A pre-payment plan is available, (if desired), to make this loan more affordable. Loan approval is not guaranteed.

PERSONAL LOANS THROUGH BANKS OR CREDIT UNIONS
We encourage you to check with your own bank or credit union to see what personal loans may be available to you.

VETERANS AFFAIRS – Benefits Program for US Military Veterans. For information call (800) 827-1000.

VESID: Vocational and Educational Services for Individuals with Disabilities
Partial or full grants are awarded to students with a wide range of physical or learning disabilities. For more information call V.E.S.I.D. at 1-800-782-6164.

SALLIEMAE – to apply go to www.slmfinancial.com

Explore external scholarship opportunities by visiting
http://www.college-scholarships.com/free_scholarship_searches.htm
Completing the FAFSA Form Online

- To be considered for federal financial aid, a student must complete a 2012-2013 FAFSA, online.
- The site to complete the FAFSA is: [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).
- The FAFSA consists of up to 130 questions. The student is required to complete the application process by signing electronically with a PIN number.
- For assistance with completing the online FAFSA please visit [www.studentaid.ed.gov/completefafsa](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov/completefafsa). You may also call 1-800-4-FED-AID for help.
- To ensure that the Onondaga School of Therapeutic Massage receives your FAFSA, add our school code to the end of the form. **OSTM’s school code is 041553.** The same code is used for both Rochester and Syracuse campuses.
- After OSTM receives FAFSA information and has checked the completed form for any errors, a financial aid administrator will then determine the student’s eligibility to receive financial aid.
- OSTM offers Pell Grants, Subsidized Loans and Unsubsidized Loans to qualified applicants. These assist students financially while they are in school.
- The Parent PLUS loan is also offered to qualified parents of dependent students whose Pell and Loans do not cover their entire school costs, and who require further financial assistance during their education.
- The lender of Subsidized, Unsubsidized and Parent PLUS loans is the federal government. The student must repay all loans to the Department of Education.
- After a financial aid administrator has determined the student’s eligibility for financial aid, the student will receive an award letter and a waiver form which will carefully outline the student’s financial aid eligibility.
- The award letter and waiver form are to be signed and returned to OSTM in a timely manner.
- Entrance counseling and signing a Master Promissory Note are not required for Pell Grants. These do not need to be repaid.
- For Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans, students must complete both entrance counseling and a master promissory note. These are completed online with the use of the student’s PIN.
- The following site will assist the student in completing entrance counseling: [https://www.dl.ed.gov/borrower](https://www.dl.ed.gov/borrower).
- The following site will assist the student in completing the master promissory note: [https://dlenote.ed.gov](https://dlenote.ed.gov).
- If the student wishes to accept the loans, but does not sign and return their award letter, complete entrance counseling, or sign the master promissory note, then loans will not fund to the student’s account and they will not receive financial aid.
- If a student is chosen for verification, the student will need to provide copies of their 2011 Federal tax return. If changes are made, it is possible that the student’s award amount may be affected.
- Once all of the necessary financial aid information has been received, the student’s funds will be released and credited to the student’s account.

For help with financial aid, please contact your Financial Aid Administrator:

**Rochester:** Michelle Ames, 585-241-0070, michelle@ostm.edu

**Syracuse:** Denise Beard, 315-424-1159, denise@ostm.edu