Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Students
Frequently Asked Questions About Financial Aid

Students enrolled in the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program pay a set tuition fee.

The Financial Aid and Scholarship Department identifies eligible students. Typically, students are awarded after census (20th day of Instruction) in the Fall/Spring terms for the academic year, once fund availability is determined.

Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) students are required to enroll in 12 or more units for fall and spring term and the unit of enrollment is locked after the 20th day of Instruction (census).

All eligible PT Doctoral students are awarded with a Doctoral grant for the academic year. Aid coordination applies and students cannot have an over-award of financial aid funds when awarded this grant. This is a manual process. The Financial Aid Office will manually adjust awards for the students that are in an over-award situation. This means that loans (Direct and Private) will be reduced.

Information about the DPT Grant

Who qualifies for the Doctoral Grant?
The DPT Doctoral grant is available to doctoral students in the DPT program based on first come first serve, students meeting specific eligibility criteria and based on the availability of funds.

**Here’s the eligibility criteria:**
- CA Resident
- Enrolled half-time or greater
- Expected Family Contribution (EFC) no more than 60% of financial aid cost of attendance
- Student must meet financial aid Satisfactory Academic Progress requirements- 3.0 GPA
- The grant is designated to cover tuition only and no other charges such as campus fees/housing, etc.
- Award amount will vary from year to year and is subject to fund availability and applicant pool.
- Students with a sponsorship/fee waiver designated for tuition/fee payment may not have eligibility for the Doctoral Grant (students can have partial Doctoral Grant if the sponsorship/fee waiver doesn’t cover all of the doctoral fees).

When do I apply for the DPT Grant?
Apply for the DPT grant as soon as possible, remember it is based on first come first serve. Submit your FAFSA every year. Apply by the priority deadline for 2019-20 aid starting October 1, 2018 - March 2, 2019. You must complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at www.fafsa.gov or, if you do not have a social security number, go to www.csac.ca.gov and complete a California Dream Act Application. Be sure your current e-mail address is listed on your FAFSA or CA Dream Act application.
When are DPT students awarded financial aid?
When doctoral students are initially awarded, they are only awarded Direct Unsubsidized Federal Student loans. If they need funding beyond the offered unsubsidized loan, they can look into and request a Federal Graduate PLUS loan. The request form and loan information about Federal PLUS loan is on the financial aid website http://www.csun.edu/financialaid/loans. If later, the student is eligible for the Doctoral Grant, then if needed, the financial aid office will reduce the loan and award the grant.

When will the DPT grant be awarded?
DPT students are awarded the grant in late fall semester or mid spring semester, once the FA office knows exactly how much funding they have available and what the eligible student pool looks like.

Is financial aid available for the summer?
Yes, limited grants and loans are available for the summer, however students must pay their fees out of pocket when they register. Summer is a trailer so students will be awarded based on their aid 2018-19 application. All students must meet SAP for 2018-19 and 2019-20. Summer grants and loans are based on what remaining funds a student have left after fall and spring disbursements.

If I am married will my spouse’s income be included on the FAFSA?
Yes, if you are married at the time you complete your FAFSA, you must include your spouse’s income information.

Could a student take out loans, receive grants and receive FA during the semester?
Yes, as long as they are within the cost of attendance (COA). 2019-2020 COA = $18,360. Your aid cannot exceed your cost of attendance. Students attending graduate school can borrow up to $20,500 per year in Direct Unsubsidized Loans. The aggregate (cumulative) loan limit is $138,500, including undergraduate loans.

If a student did not apply for FA in the fall or spring, can they apply in the summer?
Yes, a student can apply for financial aid up until June 30, 2019. However, the student must have attended one term at CSUN to be considered for aid in the summer. If the student was awarded the Doctoral Grant during the academic year they will be considered for the Doctoral Grant in the summer as long as they are enrolled at least half time.

If a student is receiving FA, but has not received it by the time they register for classes, should they still register or wait and register when they get the FA?
You can register but you are responsible for paying your tuition out of pocket. Once your financial aid is awarded, allow it to reimburse you. If you are eligible for summer financial aid, it will be awarded during the summer term.