

# 2019-20 Graduate Financial Aid Next Steps

## Please read and keep for future reference.

### 1. REVIEW YOUR AWARD OFFER AND KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS

If you have any questions regarding the types, amounts or conditions of your aid package, contact the Financial Aid Office. If at any time your financial aid package changes, you will be notified by mail or your La Roche email.

### 2. COMPLETE THE BALANCE CALCULATION WORKSHEET AND KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS

The Balance Calculation Worksheet has “estimated” direct costs. Use the Balance Calculation Worksheet to help anticipate how much you may still owe on your bill.

### 3. COMPLETE FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN ENTRANCE COUNSELING

All new borrowers need to complete on-line Entrance Counseling. Go to [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov) and complete Entrance Counseling. Log in using your social security number, your date of birth and your FSA ID.

### 4. COMPLETE A FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN MASTER PROMISSORY NOTE (MPN)

Your maximum loan eligibility for a Federal Direct Loan is listed on your award offer. If you want to decline or reduce this amount, you need to complete, sign, date and return the Reply Form enclosed in this packet. ALL first-time loan borrowers need to complete a Federal Direct Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN). Go to [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov) and log in using your social security number, your date of birth and your FSA ID. This signed MPN is valid for ten years.

### 5. COMPLETE, SIGN, DATE AND RETURN REPLY FORM ONLY IF YOU NEED TO MAKE A CHANGE

Included with your Award Letter is a Reply Form. *Do not complete a Reply Form until you have reviewed your Award Letter. All aid listed is assumed to be accepted by the student.* Complete the Reply Form to indicate if you want to decline, or in some cases, reduce your aid. Also indicate other aid you expect to receive that is not listed on your Award Letter. IF YOU NEED TO MAKE CHANGES TO YOUR AWARDS, return the Reply Form before the start of the semester to ensure your request is processed in a timely fashion.

**Still Have a Balance Due?** If you cannot pay your balance in full, you can use one or more of the following options (Payment Plan, GradPLUS Loan, or Private Loan) to help you pay the balance owed on your bill. ***If you decide to apply for a loan, be sure to request enough funding to cover both the fall and spring semesters.***

#### SIGN UP FOR PAYMENT PLAN

A monthly payment plan can be used to pay your entire amount owed or as a supplement to the loans and other resources to make a quality education at La Roche University affordable. Follow the instructions that will come with your student account statement or contact the **Student Accounts Office at 412-536-1030** to obtain further information on the payment plan option.

#### APPLY FOR THE FEDERAL GRADPLUS LOAN

The GradPLUS Loan is a federal loan for credit-worthy graduate students. Students may borrow up to the cost of education minus any other aid the student is receiving. Students should go to [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov) and log in using your social security number, your date of birth and your FSA ID. If your credit is approved, you must also sign a Federal GradPLUS Master Promissory Note (MPN) **AND** complete GradPLUS Entrance Counseling.

#### APPLY FOR A PRIVATE EDUCATION LOAN

Private Education Loans are non-federal loans to be used for educational expenses. The student borrower must be credit-worthy as defined by the individual lender or apply for the loan with a credit-worthy co-signer. Students may borrow up to the cost of education minus any other aid the student is receiving. For more information about La Roche University's most common lenders and to apply for a private loan on this list, go to [www.laroche.edu](http://www.laroche.edu) and click on Financial Aid > Types of Aid > Loans > Private. Students are not required to use a lender on this list and are free to choose any lender they desire.