

Office of Financial Aid

HOW TO RESPOND TO YOUR AID OFFER

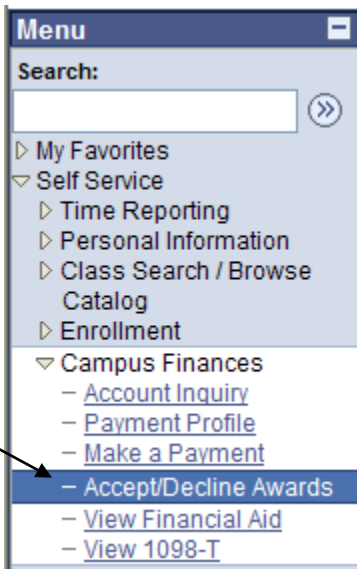
To respond to your 2011-12 academic year aid offer online, **you need to read and fully understand this information sheet.** Failure to do so may cause errors resulting in significant delays in your ability to obtain funding for your education.

The electronic Award Notification lists the financial aid you may be eligible to receive if attending **full-time**. Please note that your aid may be reduced after the registration period if your enrollment has changed and you did not notify our office in advance. The amount of your award is determined by:

- federal methodology, a formula established by Congress which calculates your expected family contribution (EFC) from information you submitted on the FAFSA
- the amount of aid available at the time of awarding; and
- distribution formulas according to federal, state and University guidelines

To obtain your Financial Aid Award Notification electronically you will need to access your BullDog Connection account (www.bulldogconnect.bowiestate.edu). You will need your user ID and password to access your information. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) prohibits the release of this information to anyone but the student. The Office of Financial Aid does not have access to your BullDog user ID and password.

Please follow the navigation listed below.



Financial Aid

Select Aid Year to View

Click the aid year you wish to view

Aid Year	Institution	Aid Year Description
2012	Bowie State University	Financial Aid Year 2011-2012



*This is an example of what your award screen may look like. (The awards listed on your notification will not be identical to the award below.)

Award Package

Financial Aid Year 2011-2012

You are eligible to receive the awards listed below. Please review each award and corresponding message. You may Accept and/or Decline any or all of the awards that are currently available.

If you have accepted a William D. Ford Subsidized or Unsubsidized Direct Loan and you are a first time borrower you are required to complete the Electronic Master Promissory Note (EMPN). The website is www.studentloans.gov. You will need your U.S. Department of Education issued PIN. In addition, all new borrowers must complete an Entrance Counseling Session via the web, www.studentloans.gov.

Bowie State University is committed to helping families meet the costs associated with higher education. However, due to the current economic conditions, we are uncertain of what Federal and State aid will be available. Therefore, please note that Federal and State aid provided to students in their financial aid packages are estimated and subject to funding availability. If funding is reduced or discontinued, we will notify you as soon as possible.

Your acceptance fee must be paid in order to accept and or decline your aid.

Last Updated: 04/08/2011 4:11:32PM Status: New Package

Award	Category	Career	Offered	Accepted	Accept	Decline
Federal Direct Sub Loan 1	Loan	Undergraduate	1,876.00	1,876.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Federal Perkins Loan 1	Loan	Undergraduate	2,000.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Federal College Workstudy	Work/Study	Undergraduate	3,000.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Federal Pell Grant	Grant	Undergraduate	5,550.00	5,550.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BSU Mission Based Schl	Scholarship	Undergraduate	2,000.00	2,000.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MD Educational Assistance	Grant	Undergraduate	3,000.00	3,000.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Federal Suppl Ed Grant	Grant	Undergraduate	1,500.00	1,500.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Total			18,926.00	12,050.00		

Currency used is US Dollar.

[accept all](#) [decline all](#) [clear all](#) [update totals](#)

[SUBMIT](#)

For information about your individual financial aid awards, click on the award name (on the left side) to see a description of the award. Some awards have minimum enrollment requirements or require additional forms to complete. For example:

Award: Federal Direct Sub Loan 1

Category: Loan

Disbursement Date	Description	Award Amount	Fees	Net Amount
09/14/2011	Fall 2011	938.00	4.00	934.00
02/08/2012	Spring 2012	938.00	4.00	934.00

Currency used is US Dollar.

Message

You have been offered a William D. Ford Direct Loan. If you signed a Master Promissory Note (MPN) effective Sept. 1999, you will not receive a new MPN. The Bowie State University Financial Aid Office will require all other students to complete the Electronic Master Promissory Note (EMPN). The website is <http://www.studentloans.gov>. You will need your U.S. Department of Education issued PIN. In addition, all new borrowers must complete an Entrance Counseling session via the web, <http://www.studentloans.gov>. Failure to comply within 10 days will void your award.

Office of Financial Aid

The following steps are necessary to obtain the aid you have been offered. Not all awards will require additional steps.

- **Responding to Gift Aid** - gift aid awards (money you do not have to repay, such as grants, state scholarships, employee tuition waivers, and outside scholarships) are already accepted for you.
- **Responding to Perkins Loan (if offered)** - you will need to complete a Perkins Promissory note and other related documents. Additional information will be sent to you with specific instructions on how to accept this offer.
- **Responding to Direct Stafford Loans** - you will have the option to Accept or Decline Direct Stafford (if offered). The loans offered are the maximum amount you are eligible to borrow, so it is important that you think carefully about your expenses and accept only what is needed. If you choose to reduce your loan offer, check the box in the accept column and indicate the reduced amount in the accepted box. If you are offered both the Direct Subsidized Stafford Loan and the Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan and wish to accept your loan for a smaller amount you MUST reduce the Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan first. A response is required for this category of awards; either "Accept", or "Decline" the amounts of the Direct Stafford Loans.

***If you are a first time borrower at BSU, you must complete a Master Promissory Note and complete an on-line Entrance Interview (www.studentloans.gov).**

- **Responding to Direct Parent PLUS Loans (Dependent Students Only)** - as a parent you have the option to borrow money to assist with paying the bill. If you are interested in accepting this offer, you must complete a separate application. For your convenience, this application can be download from the forms section on our website (www.bowiestate.edu/admissions/financial_aid/faforms/). Please be advised, Direct Parent PLUS loans are credit based and you must be approved for this loan prior to any funds being disbursed.

You must **CLICK** on the Submit button when done, in order for your electronic financial aid notification to be processed.

If you need assistance completing the electronic notification online, please contact the Office of Financial Aid office at (301)860-3540.

