

MCLA

Student Financial Services Newsletter

SPRING 2025

FINANCIAL AID BOOK ADVANCES

Need money for books? Student Financial Services may be able to help! If you are due back a student refund, you may be eligible to request an advance to purchase books and supplies through the MCLA Bookstore.

Please be advised that the book advance process has changed! You will now receive a purchase order for your requested amount. Book advances may now be issued in any amount.

HOW TO REQUEST A BOOK ADVANCE

1. Verify that you are receiving a refund. (If you aren't sure, check with Student Financial Services!)
2. Price out your books and supplies at the MCLA Bookstore by going in person or visiting bkstr.com/massliberalartsstore.
3. Schedule your book advance appointment at lnk.mcla.edu/bookadvance.
When scheduling the appointment, you will enter in the amount you need for books and supplies.
4. Come to Student Financial Services during your appointment date and time with photo ID. You will need to sign an agreement, and then you will receive an approved purchase order.
5. Visit the MCLA Bookstore with your approved purchase order to purchase your books.

DON'T WAIT - 2025-2026 FAFSA NOW AVAILABLE!

Don't wait to apply for financial aid! **The priority deadline for financial aid is March 1, 2025.** Students may complete their FAFSA after this date, but funds are awarded on a first come, first serve basis.

We are pleased to offer one-on-one FAFSA help appointments! Schedule an appointment with a staff member at lnk.mcla.edu/fafsahelp!



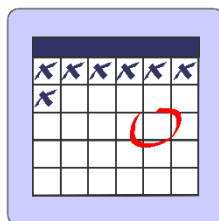
Once you complete your FAFSA, you may check with Student Financial Services to see if we received your information. If we receive your FAFSA but need more information, we will reach out to you!

Students who complete their FAFSA and are registered for Fall 2025 coursework can expect their financial aid offer in mid-to-late May!



SAVE THE DATE!

- Add/drop ends - **Jan. 30**
- Loans disburse - **Feb. 11**
- Priority deadline for FAFSA - **Mar. 1**
- Summer aid app opens - **Mar. 3**
- Returning student scholarships become available - **Mar. 3**
- Grant aid disbursements - **Mar. 12**
- Spring Break - **Mar. 17-21**
- End of "W" period - **Apr. 10**
- Returning student scholarship deadline - **Mar. 31**
- Summer bills are generated - **May 1**
- Summer bills are due - **May 15**



REFUNDS FOR SPRING 2025

If your financial aid or payments exceed your charges, you will be issued a refund. Refunds occur throughout the semester as funds disburse. MCLA will deliver most student refunds electronically through BankMobile Disbursements. **Not enrolled in BankMobile?** It's not too late! Learn more at lnk.mcla.edu/refunds.

Most student refunds will be disbursed in mid-March. Some refunds may disburse before or after, or in partial amounts.

STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT FOR GRADUATING SENIORS

When you graduate or leave MCLA and are a federal student loan borrower, your student loans enter repayment. You will be contacted by the Office of Student Financial Services in April or May about completing online Exit Counseling.

For more loan repayment information, visit lnk.mcla.edu/managedebt.

SUMMER AID OPTIONS

Taking summer classes is a great way to catch up or get ahead! You may qualify for summer financial aid. The application to determine eligibility will be available in early March at MCLA.edu/Aid

WITHDRAWING FROM MCLA?

Are you thinking of withdrawing fully or taking a leave of absence mid-semester? Prorated refunds occur up until the 60% point of the semester. The final date for proration is **3/23/2025**. (Prorations will not occur after this date and this deadline is separate from the course withdrawal deadline.) Our college refund policy is at lnk.mcla.edu/refundpolicy.

Are you withdrawing from only one class? Withdrawing from one class will give you a grade of a 'W' and no refund occurs. Please check with Student Financial Services to see how this may affect your academic progress for financial aid.

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS

The Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Standard is used for continued financial aid eligibility. *Presidential Scholarship recipients must also be making satisfactory academic progress to renew their award.* This standard factors in GPA and credits earned. To learn more about SAP and the requirements, visit lnk.mcla.edu/sap.



RETURNING STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year, MCLA is proud to offer a variety of scholarships to returning students through the MCLA Foundation. There will be a wide range of scholarships for different academic and extracurricular interests.

The scholarship process will be live on March 3 through March 28 at mcla.awardspring.com. All students are encouraged to apply!

OUTSIDE SCHOLARSHIPS RESOURCES

While the MCLA scholarship process will not begin until March 3, it's not too early to start applying for other outside scholarships for next year. Check out a list of scholarships and our scholarship listing database at lnk.mcla.edu/scholarships.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US!

If you have any questions about billing and financial aid, Student Financial Services is here for you! Call us, email us, or just stop by the office. We are here for you every step of the way!

Student Financial Services

Eldridge Hall, Lobby Level
M-F: 8:30 AM – 4:45 PM

FinAid@mcla.edu
StudentAccounts@mcla.edu
413-662-5230
MCLA.edu/Aid
MCLA.edu/StudentAccounts

ANNUAL LOAN BORROWING NOTICES COMING SOON

Each year, we send notices to students who have borrowed loans while at MCLA to notify them of their cumulative balances. **These notices are sent to encourage financial literacy.** You don't need to necessarily do anything with it, but we send them so you are mindful of your borrowing. Loan borrowing notices will be sent to students in March.

