



The University of Mississippi

Office of Financial Aid

University, MS 38677

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Policy Name: Student Acceptance of Awards

Purpose: This document contains the Office of Financial Aid's current policies and procedures regarding student acceptance of financial aid awards and their associated terms and conditions.

Disclaimer: This policy is subject to change, without notice, in order to comply with administrative and regulatory requirements.

Definitions and Terms:

HELP – Higher Education Legislative Plan
MESG – Mississippi Eminent Scholars Grant
MTAG – Mississippi Tuition Assistance Grant
MyOleMiss – University of Mississippi's student portal
NSLDS – National Student Loan Database System
OFA – Office of Financial Aid
UM – University of Mississippi

Students must accept their award packages before aid can be disbursed. This requirement is for all students regardless of the type of award being offered. It must be done at least annually.

To complete this requirement, students access the OFA web page located at the following link <https://finaid.olemiss.edu/> and click on *Check Award Status in MyOleMiss*. From there, they will log on to MyOleMiss and select the appropriate academic year and time period. (Summer financial aid awards are accepted separately from Fall/Spring.)

The online aid package is displayed by term. With most awards, students have the option to accept or decline them individually. With loans, they can choose to decline, accept or reduce the amounts (NOTE: declining or reducing aid is only permitted if disbursement for that term has not already occurred).

By confirming his/her award, the student also agrees to the “Financial Aid Policies and Conditions of Award”, including an understanding that UM will use email as the official means of communication. Students may rescind this authorization at any time by notifying the OFA in writing. Cancellations of this authorization are not retroactive. Students who prefer to conduct business using paper documents should contact the OFA in writing to make other arrangements.

Among other items, the following topics are also included in the “Financial Aid Policies and Conditions of Award”: Satisfactory Academic Progress, unofficial withdrawals, prior year balances, NSLDS notification, fee-specific aid restrictions, estimated aid explanations, refund/repayment rules, the attendance verification policy (“Go to Class”), and delivery of funds.

This authorization also collects the student’s affirmation under penalty of perjury that, if required by law, they are registered for Selective Service. This statement is required for receipt of any state aid (including MTAG, MESSG, and HELP grants, as well as institutional scholarships that are funded by State of Mississippi appropriations to UM.)

In addition, electronic confirmation authorizes UM to apply proceeds from his/her financial aid in excess of allowable charges for tuition, fees, books, room, and board to other charges in his/her bursar account balance. These charges may include but are not limited to pharmacy fees, prior year balances up to two hundred dollars, and late charges.