

## **Office of Financial Aid**

**Student Loan Process for Federal Direct Loans** 

# Step 1Complete FAFSA Applicationfafsa.govStep 2Complete your financial aid file

Check for any outstanding requirements and review your folder status on Uconnect.

- 1. Sign in to UCONNECT at uconnect.tamiu.edu. Your username is your University e-mail account (everything before the @ and your e-mail password.
- 2. Select "Financial Aid (\$)".
- 3. Review the 'Financial Aid Requirements" channel and complete or submit any outstanding requirements.

#### Step 3 Accept Loan Award Online

Students who wish to borrow a direct loan must first accept the award via Uconnect in order for us to begin the loan process.

- 1. Sign in to UCONNECT at uconnect.tamiu.edu and select "Financial Aid (\$)".
- 2. Click on the "Financial Aid Awards" link.
- 3. You will be directed to the "Accept Award Offer" tab. Select "Accept" or "Decline" from the drop down menu next to the loan award. You may also accept a partial amount by entering the amount in the box.
- 4. Click on "Submit Decision".

### Step 4In- person Entrance Counseling\*Not required at this moment due to the<br/>COVID outbreak.

 It is mandatory for all students who wish to borrow a Federal Direct Loan to attend an <u>in-person</u> Entrance Counseling Session. <u>Note: this is waived for students pursuing an on-line degree</u>. For session information, please visit our website under Calendar: <u>http://www.tamiu.edu/finaid/events.shtml</u> to review the date, time and location.

#### Step 5 My Direct Loan

The Department of Education's direct loan website requires students to complete entrance counseling and the MPN (Master Promissory Note) online before the loan application can be processed.

- 1. Go to studentaid.gov and Sign In using your FAFSA FSAID.
- 2. Click on "Complete Loan Entrance Counseling". You will receive confirmation when you have successfully completed the entrance exam.
- 3. Complete MPN. You can click on "Complete a Loan Agreement (Master Promissory Note)" when you receive your entrance counseling confirmation or you can go back to the main menu and click on "Complete a Loan Agreement (Master Promissory Note)".

Once you have accepted your loan award, completed entrance counseling requirements, and the Master Promissory Note, the U.S. Department of Education can process your loan request.

Please refer to your account on Uconnect for disbursement dates.