



INVESTING IN YOUR FUTURE

Congratulations on your decision to pursue a Direct Entry Master of Science in Nursing degree with North Park University. You are making an investment in your future that will benefit you and the nursing profession.

Our commitment to you:

Through our DEMSN program, the School of Nursing at North Park University is committed to preparing health care professionals for lives of significance and service by providing an exceptional educational experience in a positive, encouraging and caring environment.

The benefits of attending North Park University:

- Small class sizes and personalized attention
- Expert instruction with faculty dedicated to your success
- Numerous high-quality clinical affiliations

We understand that financial aid may seem complicated, but this guide will give you a starting point and an overview of:

- What to do before applying for financial aid
- Applying for financial aid
- Setting up a payment plan
- Understanding the cost of your degree
- Financial aid options and resources

Please keep in mind that this guide is not meant to be comprehensive financial advice and that financial aid regulations, restrictions and availability are subject to change. If you have questions, please call the Financial Aid Office at 773-244-4492.



WHAT TO DO BEFORE APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID

1. Determine how much money you will need for your education.

Ask yourself how much money you have to cover your current obligations and then determine how much more you will need to fund your education. Do you have savings or investments that can defray the direct and indirect costs of your education?

Though you may be eligible for more financial aid funding than you actually need, we cannot stress enough: Only apply for the amount you need to help fund your education. Financial aid should not be used for anything other than your education.

2. Confirm your acceptance.

Before you begin the financial aid application process, contact your Enrollment Representative to apply for admission to the DEMSN program. You may apply for financial aid while waiting for acceptance, but you must be accepted before financial aid can be awarded.

3. Be aware of deadlines

Whether you are applying for loans from North Park or for outside grants, scholarships or loans, be aware of application deadlines, qualification requirements and disbursement timing.

4. Explore your financial aid options.

For the DEMSN program, North Park only offers student loans. You may also want to explore grants and scholarships from private and nonprofit institutions. Taking the time to discover funding options may save you money in the long run.

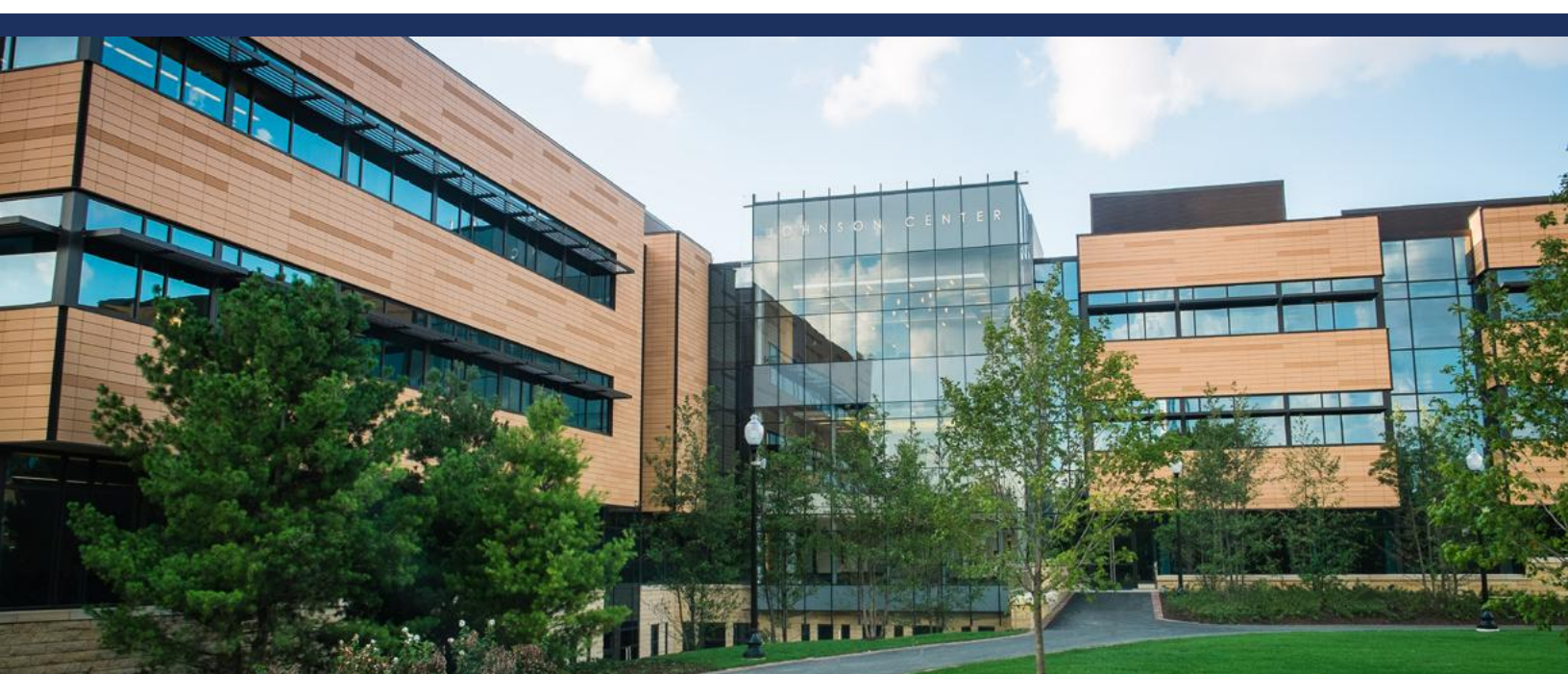


5. Obtain more financial aid information.

Visit northpark.edu/admissions-aid/financial-aid/ with valuable and detailed information about the financial aid process, answers to frequently asked questions, financial aid forms, financial aid links and more.

6. Do your career homework.

Be realistic about how much money you will earn with an MSN. Research annual salaries in the markets in which you expect to work and at the institutions where you may gain employment. Knowing your expected salary and total monthly obligations can help you estimate your ability to make monthly payments. Loans involve interest accruals, and the costs of your loan can increase significantly based on how fast you are able to pay back your loan(s). This is important to consider as loan payments may affect you financially for years.





APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID

Now that you have gained an understanding of your educational costs, obtained more information, and explored your funding options, you are ready to apply for financial aid. Here are your next steps:

1. Acquire a Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID)

Fill out the information requested at studentaid.gov, and you will receive an FSA Identification Number that you will need for your financial aid documents.

2. File your FAFSA.

Each student is encouraged to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid at studentaid.gov. The information will be used to determine your financial aid eligibility. North Park needs this information on file, along with any other documents required for verification of the FAFSA, if applicable.

North Park's school code for FAFSA is 001735.

Contact the FAFSA helpline at 1-800-433-3243 if you need assistance.





UNDERSTANDING THE COST OF YOUR DEGREE

You will likely fund your DEMSN primarily with financial aid, which can assist with the cost of tuition, fees, books, etc. The purpose of financial aid is to fund your education. You should only apply for the amount of aid you need to help with your educational costs. Costs below are based on 2023-2024 rates.

Application Fee: \$75 (NursingCAS)

Castlebranch fee: \$164

Total Program Tuition: \$62,780 (73-credit program at \$860 per credit hour)

Tuition Deposit: \$200 (credited to first non-refundable semester tuition)

DEMSN Supply Fee: \$300 (One time only, non-refundable)

Books: \$1,500 (Estimate)

Add ATI and Technology Fees: \$3,800

Estimated Total: \$68,619

Please keep in mind that these are estimated costs. There may be other fees and costs associated with your education, including loan fees and interest, expenses for transportation, relocation, housing, childcare, graduation fees, incidentals, etc. Tuition and fee rates are subject to change at the start of each new academic year. Interest rates and other costs are also subject to change.

FINANCIAL OPTIONS AND RESOURCES

Federal Direct Loans are the most common type of educational loans, and they are funded by the federal government. Federal Direct Loans typically offer lower interest rates than private loans. Graduate students are eligible for Direct Unsubsidized Loans.



Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans

- No requirement for financial need
- School determines the amount you may borrow based school cost and other aid you may receive; the maximum annual amount is \$20,500.
- Interest accrues as soon as the loan is issued.
- You may choose whether to pay interest while in school, but the interest will accrue during that time.
- You must be enrolled at least half time, which is defined as at least three credits per semester.
- There is a six-month grace period before repayment begins.

Each student should review his or her borrowing history and current loan statuses at studentaid.gov. Students should be aware of their cumulative loan debt and take appropriate actions to avoid default.

Aggregate Loan Limits: Students taking out a Federal Direct Student Loan are subject to maximum allowable loan limits. The maximum Aggregate Loan Limit restricts the amount of Federal Direct Loans that may be borrowed over a student's college career.

Aggregate Loan Limits – Federal Direct Loans

Graduate and Professional Students \$138,500 *This includes undergraduate loans.

Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loans are credit-based loans that graduate or professional students can use to help pay for college or career school. Apply for the Graduate PLUS loan at <https://studentaid.gov/plus-app/grad/landing>. Graduate PLUS loans can be used in addition to Direct Unsubsidized Loans. For more information about Graduate PLUS loans visit <https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types/loans/plus/grad>. For more information about Federal Direct Loans, visit studentaid.gov or contact the Financial Aid Office at 773-244-4492.



Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loans

- The U.S. Department of Education is the lender.
- A credit check is required, and borrowers who have an adverse credit history must meet additional requirements to qualify.
- The maximum loan amount is the cost of attendance (determined by the school) minus any other financial aid received.
- An origination fee of approximately 4.2 % is deducted from each disbursement by the U.S. Department of Education.

Private Education Loans may be obtained from national or local banks, credit unions, state agencies or academic institutions, and they are often used to supplement federal loans.

Military and Veteran Benefits

Students who qualify for benefits should contact the VA to determine eligibility and then submit their certificate of eligibility to the Financial Aid Office.

- Veterans Affairs education benefits, including
- Post-9/11 GI Bill: va.gov/education
- North Park University is approved for the Post-9/11 Yellow Ribbon program
- School Certifying Official: studentaccounts@northpark.edu

Payment Plan Information

Payment plans are available upon a student's request. For more information, contact Student Administrative Services at studentaccounts@northpark.edu.



External Scholarships

A variety of scholarships are available through external sources. Research on scholarships for nurses and graduate studies will reveal numerous options that could help fund your education. You may also find information about grants and scholarships here:

- HRSA scholarship: nhsc.hrsa.gov/scholarships
- CollegeScholarships.org: collegescholarships.org
- Sallie Mae scholarships: salliemae.com/student-loans/graduateschoolinformation/graduate-school-scholarships
- GreatCollegeDeals.net: greatcollegedeals.net/scholarships/nursing-scholarships
- Scholarships.com: scholarships.com/financial-aid/collegescholarships/scholarships-by-major/nursing-scholarships
- Scholarship search engine: fastweb.com
- U.S. Department of Labor's FREE scholarship search tool: careeronestop.org/toolkit/training/find-scholarships.aspx



Your Nursing Career
STARTS HERE

Visit msn.northpark.edu or call 773-232-4613