

Costs and Financial Aid



Graduate School

Office of Financial Aid
Bethel University
3900 Bethel Drive
St. Paul, MN 55112-6999
651.638.6241
800.255.8706, ext. 6241
fax: 651.635.1491
email: finaid@bethel.edu

bethel.edu/finaid

BETHEL
UNIVERSITY

Bethel: A Better Value

What makes Bethel a better value for adult learners? As rankings consistently show, our faculty and programs are among the best you'll find. For example, Bethel was ranked 14th among Midwestern universities in *U.S. News & World Report's* "America's Best Colleges" guide for 2010.

In all our academic disciplines, an education based on a biblical worldview at Bethel will enable you to develop strong communication, interpersonal, research, and organizational skills—abilities highly valued by employers in any sector. At Bethel, you will discover how God has gifted you for service: the key to a fulfilling, adventurous life.

Bethel is also a better value because of its:

- Competitive tuition compared with similar graduate programs in the area.
- Accelerated programs in most fields so you finish in less time.
- Flexible learning models in many programs, including online.
- Tuition reimbursement accepted from employers.

2009–2010 Tuition Prices *(per credit)*

MBA Tuition.....	\$575.00
Masters (general)	\$440.00
MA in Nursing	\$450.00
MA in Education	\$425.00
Ed.D.	\$520.00

Tuition and fees can be found at bethel.edu/finaid/gs/costs.

Tuition rates for 2010–2011 will be available in late spring.

Qualifying for Financial Aid

Who may apply for financial aid?

Every degree-seeking student can apply and potentially receive financial aid.

Do I need to be enrolled full time to receive financial aid?

No. Students must be enrolled for 3 or more credits to receive financial aid. For financial aid purposes:

- Full time status is 6 or more credits
- Half time status is 3–5 credits
- Less than half time is 1–2 credits

When will I receive my financial aid award offer from Bethel?

Applicants must be formally admitted and must have submitted all necessary financial aid paperwork in order for a financial aid package to be calculated. Financial aid packages are calculated beginning in May for the following year. Once you have set up your Bethel community account, you will also be able to log onto Blink (blink.bethel.edu) to check the status of your financial aid.

How to Apply for Financial Aid

1. Apply for admission to Bethel University Graduate School.
2. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), available online at fafsa.ed.gov (use Bethel's federal school code: 002338).
3. Complete the Bethel University Application for Federal Aid, available at bethel.edu/finaid/gs.

Gift Aid

MN GI BILL

Amount: Full-time students may be eligible to receive up to \$1,000 per term, and part-time students can receive up to \$500 per term.

Eligibility: Provides financial assistance to Minnesota veterans and service members who served on or after September 11, 2001.

Comments: Must complete the online application available at bethel.edu/finaid/mn-gi-bill and notify the financial aid office at finaid@bethel.edu that the online application has been submitted.

VETERAN'S BENEFITS

Amount: Varies by student.

Eligibility: Varies.

Comments: For more detailed information visit bethel.edu/finaid/gs/grants.

TEACH GRANT

Amount: Up to \$4,000 per year.

Eligibility: Students who plan on being a full-time, highly qualified teacher in a high-need field, in a school serving low-income students.

Comments: Apply using FAFSA. Students must complete an Agreement to Serve and entrance counseling each year they receive a TEACH Grant. Visit bethel.edu/finaid/teach for a TEACH Fact Sheet, FAQ, and to complete the Agreement to Serve and entrance counseling. Aggregate limit: \$8,000.

MN INDIAN SCHOLARSHIP

Amount: Up to \$6,000.

Eligibility: Minnesota residents who are of one-fourth or more Indian ancestry and demonstrate financial need. Apply early, as funds are limited.

Comments: To apply, complete the FAFSA and visit bethel.edu/finaid/gs/grants to complete the online application. For more detailed information, call the Minnesota Office of Higher Education at 651.642.0675.

CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Amount: Up to \$1,500 per year.

Eligibility: Students must maintain a minimum enrollment of 6 credits per semester, and be employed with a Bethel University Corporate Partner.

Comments: For additional information and an application, visit bethel.edu/finaid/gs/types.

Loans

DIRECT STAFFORD LOAN

Amount: Up to \$20,500, of which no more than \$8,500 can be subsidized.

Eligibility: Students must be enrolled for 3 or more credits per semester. Students who demonstrate financial need are eligible for a Subsidized Federal Stafford Loan for which the federal government pays the interest until students enter repayment (6 months after graduation or dropping below half time). Students who do not qualify for the interest subsidy may borrow an Unsubsidized Federal Stafford

Loan for which the government does not pay the interest (i.e., the borrower is responsible for the interest while in school and through the grace period). The interest rate for the Stafford Loan is 6.8%.

Comments: See bethel.edu/finaid/gs/loans/stafford for additional information.

DIRECT PLUS LOAN

Amount: Cost of attendance minus other aid.

Eligibility: Graduate or professional students who need to borrow more than the maximum subsidized and unsubsidized loan amounts. Students must be enrolled at least half time (3 credits or more) per semester. A credit check will be conducted and students must not have an adverse credit history (unless the student can get the loan endorsed by someone who does not have an adverse credit history). The interest rate for the PLUS loan is 7.9%.

Comments: Must complete FAFSA, PLUS Master Promissory Note, and loan entrance counseling.

PRIVATE STUDENT LOANS

Amount: Cost of attendance minus other aid.

Features: Variable interest rates. Repayment generally begins after student graduates. Student is responsible for interest while enrolled. Fees and interest rates vary depending on lenders and credit check. Co-signer required by some lenders.

Comments: To apply for a private loan, visit bethel.edu/finaid/gs/loans/private.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who determines the financial aid I am offered?

The Office of Financial Aid tailors a financial aid package based upon the FAFSA application results.

2. Do I need to re-apply for financial aid every year I am in school?

Yes. Federal regulations require students to complete a FAFSA every year to determine Direct Stafford Loan eligibility. The earliest date a student can complete the 2010–2011 FAFSA is January 1, 2010.

3. Will my student educational loans be a heavy burden when I graduate?

Given the lifelong value of your education compared with other purchases, loans are a reasonable way to finance your education provided you don't borrow more than you can afford to repay. To help determine your loan payments visit bethel.edu/finaid/gs/loans/counsel.

4. Can I research my own sources of financial aid?

Yes. Begin your search on Bethel's website: bethel.edu/finaid/gs/links and inquire with your employer.

5. What is a Direct Stafford loan?

Bethel University participates in the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program. This means students will receive their loans directly through the U.S. Department of Education. For additional Direct Stafford loan information visit bethel.edu/finaid/gs/loans/stafford.

6. Is Bethel University an approved veteran's benefit institution?

Yes. Contact bethel.edu/finaid/gs/grants for additional information on veteran's benefits.

Payment of Tuition and Fees

Tuition is charged on a per-credit basis and is billed to the student account once the student has been registered for courses. Full payment is due at the beginning of each course. A statement of account will be printed and mailed to the student each month. A finance charge of 1 percent per month is assessed on any charge more than 30 days old. Students may view and pay on their account online through Blink (blink.bethel.edu) Student Services tab > My Bethel Account channel > select term > click Online Payment at bottom of page).

Payment Options

PERSONAL FUNDS

- Online by E-Check: Authorize a one-time payment or automatic withdrawal from your checking or savings account.
- Online by Credit Card: MasterCard, American Express, or Discover are accepted with a non-refundable convenience fee of 2.75% with a \$3 minimum. (VISA is not accepted.)
- In Person: Pay by cash, check, or money order at the Banking Window or Business Office, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m., M–F.
- By Mail: Mail your check to Business Office, Bethel University, 3900 Bethel Drive, St. Paul, MN 55112. Please include your student ID number in the memo portion of the check.
- Student account questions should be directed to the Business Office: 651.638.6208 or business-office@bethel.edu.

The Mission of Bethel University

Boldly informed and motivated by the Christian faith, Bethel University educates and energizes men and women for excellence in leadership, scholarship, and service. We prepare graduates to serve in strategic capacities to renew minds, live out biblical truth, transform culture, and advance the gospel.

Questions?

Need a conversation in person, or help with the application process? Contact the Office of Financial Aid at Bethel: 651.638.6241 (toll-free 800.255.8706, ext. 6241) or email finaid@bethel.edu.

