Enclosed with your award letter are several important documents to help you understand your awards and the financial aid process. This includes a list of frequently asked questions, definitions of important terms, and information about gift aid and loans. In addition, we have included a worksheet to assist you in determining the amount of Federal Direct Parent Loan or alternative loans you may need to borrow. This worksheet is designed to ensure that you do not borrow more than you need. Many families do not engage in such an exercise; as a result, they often borrow the maximum for which they are entitled when they may not need to borrow this much. The worksheet provided will help you be a better-informed borrower and hopefully minimize your borrowing to only what is truly needed. We strongly encourage you to review all of these documents. In addition, we have created a helpful video which will provide a step-by-step explanation of your financial aid award letter. Please visit www.shu.edu/aidvideo to view this video.

**Estimated Costs**
Your financial aid package is only an estimate; many variables may not be finalized at the time your awards were sent or remain in flux until after classes begin. These items include tuition charges which are based on an estimate of what the tuition will be when you are scheduled to enroll. This occurs because financial aid packages are often awarded prior to board approval of final tuition costs. You can visit www.shu.edu and type tuition and fees into the search bar to find the tuition and fees for the coming year. If the tuition charges change, your aid package and associated cost of attendance budgets will be updated and you can view these on PirateNet. Please also note that the costs listed on your package are based on the assumptions that you will be registered full time for no more than 18 credits as well as the most commonly used charges for meal plans and housing.

After the add/drop period, when we are able to verify your actual enrollment status, meal plan and housing assignment costs will be adjusted to their actual amounts; other items on your award letter will adjust accordingly. Many grant funds listed on your award letter may also be estimates; most notably, federal and state aid are estimated as the state or federal government may not have finalized their award tables for the coming year. This may result in your grants increasing or decreasing. If such changes are made, your package will be updated accordingly and you can view these changes on PirateNet.

**Notice of Potential Changes**
Your award letter lists all of the financial aid awards you can expect to receive this year. These awards are based on the results of your FAFSA; changes to your FAFSA may result in recalculations of your awards. All awards may be subject to change based on receipt of additional information, changes in enrollment status, changes in academic standing, verification, federal, state or institutional budget changes or receipt of any additional scholarships or grants. Need-based grants are not guaranteed; they are reevaluated annually after you file the FAFSA each year. You must also maintain satisfactory academic progress and full-time enrollment to retain your awards. Please review our Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy on our website or in our Catalogue. All revisions and future packages can be accessed using your PirateNet account.

**Verification**
The government selects students for verification every year. The intention is to verify the information you listed on your FAFSA. You must submit all requested documents (along with your verification worksheet, which is located on the Documents and Forms tab of Seton Hall’s Financial Aid website) in a timely manner or you will not be able to receive your financial aid. Please see PirateNet for a list of required documents. We strongly encourage you to use the IRS data retrieval tool. If you need to submit copies of your taxes, we can only accept an IRS tax transcript. Please be sure to send us a copy and retain the original for your records. To request an IRS tax transcript, call 800-908-9946 or go to www.irs.gov and click “Order a Return or Tax Transcript,” then select “IRS Tax Return Transcript.” As a result of verification, your need-based aid may be adjusted. You may be selected by the government for verification at any time. To determine if you are currently selected for verification, please see the upper right-hand corner of your award letter.

**Work Study**
If you are eligible for the federal work-study program, this will be indicated on the front of your award letter. The work-study program allows you to have a job on campus and earn income to assist you in paying for college. You are eligible to earn up to $2,600 per year ($1,300 per semester). This is not a guarantee of employment; you must apply and be hired for a position. Visit jobs.shu.edu and then click on “Student” for a listing of job opportunities. Your earnings from federal work study will be paid to you directly bi-weekly. These earnings are not deducted from your bill. Students who do not qualify for federal work-study may still find jobs on campus and can apply for departmental employment on campus. The benefit of the federal work-study program is that your earnings will not be counted as income when you apply for financial aid in subsequent years.

**Tuition and Fees**
Please be advised that tuition and fees generally increase every year. Increases can range between 3 to 6 percent annually. While the costs increase annually, your scholarships and grants from Seton Hall will not. Need-based aid also does not adjust based on tuition; however, it is reevaluated annually based on the results of your FAFSA.

To keep your awards you MUST remain enrolled as a full-time student and file your FAFSA by January 15 every year.

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**Need help understanding your award letter?**

Watch our video that will provide a step-by-step guide through your awards.

Visit www.shu.edu/aidvideo