



## Financial Aid Information for MA in Social Impact Leadership Students

### Financial Aid Award Process

MA in Social Impact Leadership (MA-SIL) students may fund their education through a combination of sources including need and merit-based grants and scholarships from the U-M School of Social Work (SSW), federal awards (Direct Unsubsidized Loan & Work-Study), private loans, and personal funding. Review the information below for details on how funding is awarded to incoming students.

Feel free to review federal funding (loans and work-study) eligibility at [studentaid.gov/understand-aid/eligibility/requirements](https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/eligibility/requirements)

### On Campus Full-Time MA in Social Impact Leadership Program

#### **Need and Merit-Based Grants and Scholarships**

Admitted students who have submitted a SSW financial aid application will receive an award letter via email including the need and/or merit-based grants and scholarships awarded to them from the SSW for both terms of expected enrollment.

Students with demonstrated need will be eligible for grant and scholarship aid (amount to be determined based on application) for two terms of expected enrollment. Students must inform the School if they are eligible for tuition assistance or reimbursement by a governmental or private entity, which may reduce SSW financial aid awards.

View MA-SIL Tuition & Student Budget info at [sww.umich.edu/academic-programs/ma-social-impact-leadership/tuition](https://sww.umich.edu/academic-programs/ma-social-impact-leadership/tuition).

**Please note: Both need and merit-based aid is available and awarded to students when they enter the MA-SIL program. In order to be eligible for need-based grants and scholarships, students are required to complete the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#).**

#### **Federal Direct Loans & Work-Study**

- The University of Michigan Office of Financial Aid (OFA) will review submitted [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#) applications for eligible students who have been admitted to the School of Social Work. Note that the 2026-2027 FAFSA will be available on or before December 1, 2025 and covers Fall 2026 and Winter 2027. OFA will send Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans (maximum: \$10,250/term) & Work-Study (typically between \$1,500-\$3,000/term) awards to students (via email) for the Fall 2026 and Winter 2027 terms.
- There are lifetime borrowing limits for Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans. Students should contact the Office of Financial Aid to inquire about these limits: [financial.aid@umich.edu](mailto:financial.aid@umich.edu) or 734/763-6600.
- Please note: International students, students with DACA status, and undocumented students are not eligible to apply for Federal Direct Loans or Work-Study. Feel free to review eligibility requirements at [studentaid.gov/understand-aid/eligibility/requirements](https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/eligibility/requirements)

### Total MA in Social Impact Leadership Program Cost

Please view tuition and fee along with estimated student budgets for all curriculum schedules at [sww.umich.edu/academic-programs/ma-social-impact-leadership/tuition](https://sww.umich.edu/academic-programs/ma-social-impact-leadership/tuition).

## Financial Aid Disbursement and Tuition Payment

At the beginning of each term, a student's account is billed for tuition and fees (see MA-SIL program cost section). This is reflected in Wolverine Access under Campus Finances. Soon after tuition and fees are charged, all grant, scholarship, and loan aid for a term is applied to the student account toward tuition and fee charges. If the grant, scholarship and loan aid is higher than the tuition and fees charged, the student will receive a reimbursement by check or direct deposit. These funds can be used for student budget items including books, room and board, car expenses, etc. If the grant, scholarship, and loan aid does not cover the total amount of tuition and fees charged, students will have an outstanding bill that must be paid at the beginning of the semester by the stated due date or according to any approved University payment plan. **To set up direct deposit, the student should go to Wolverine Access, Student Business and then Payroll and Compensation.** Students must ensure that they have a current and valid address in Wolverine Access.

**Students are responsible for monitoring their student account and being aware of any balance due. Students should be aware that sometimes balances are added to accounts following a refund of funds. If a financial aid refund is received, it is the student's responsibility to be aware of their student account balance and consider using funds received to pay toward the student account balance, if necessary.**

## Additional Funding Opportunities

### Graduate Student Instructor/Graduate Student Staff Assistant Positions

Some students in the MA-SIL program may pursue Graduate Student Instructor (GSI) or Graduate Student Staff Assistant (GSSA) positions throughout their time in the MA-SIL program. These positions often provide a full tuition waiver, health insurance, and a monthly stipend in any term a student holds one of these positions. GSI or GSSA positions are typically only available outside of the School of Social Work and students can search for open positions at [careers.umich.edu](https://careers.umich.edu).

### School of Social Work Scholarship Re-Review

If students are concerned about their financial aid package, they may apply to for consideration of additional School of Social Work grant and scholarship aid. A student may submit the SSW Re-review Application after receiving their SSW grant and scholarship award letter, and Federal Direct Loan and Work-Study award. To inquire about this application, contact the Office of Student Services and Enrollment Management at [ssw.finaid@umich.edu](mailto:ssw.finaid@umich.edu) or 734-936-0961.

### Child Care Subsidy

The University of Michigan offers the Child Care Subsidy to students to assist with the cost of childcare of their young, dependent children. For more information regarding eligibility, please visit [finaid.umich.edu/types-aid/child-care-subsidy](https://finaid.umich.edu/types-aid/child-care-subsidy)

## U-M Tuition Payment Plan and Tuition Insurance

Go to [Student Financial Services](#) for information about your U-M account, eBill, installment payment plans, and FAQs related to payment and student accounts ([finops.umich.edu/student](https://finops.umich.edu/student)).

Please note the payment plan is not available for Spring/Summer term (although not necessarily applicable to MA-SIL students, since there is no enrollment in Spring/Summer).

The University of Michigan now offers Tuition Refund Insurance to protect against financial loss in case you must withdraw from the university due to illness or injury (physical or mental health). Please find more information at [uhs.umich.edu/tuition-insurance](https://uhs.umich.edu/tuition-insurance).

## Financial Planning

Cerise Carrington, Financial Aid Assistant Director; Sierra Gorton, Admissions, Recruitment, and Financial Aid Officer; and Marisa Tucker, Financial Aid Officer, are available to assist MA-SIL students with budgeting and financial planning while in the MA-SIL program. Call 734-936-0961 or email [oss.appt.schedule@umich.edu](mailto:oss.appt.schedule@umich.edu) to schedule an appointment.

The Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) has developed [GradSense](https://gradsense.org), a unique online education platform that provides students with financial information about a range of topics including the value of pursuing an advanced degree, paying for your education, estimating cost of living, and preparing a budget for your time in graduate school. Through interactive visualization tools and engaging infographics, students are invited to better understand a variety of issues related to borrowing and spending, potential future earnings, and money management. Visit Grad Sense at [gradsense.org](https://gradsense.org)

## Contacts

### **School of Social Work Funding, Financial Planning, or General Questions?**

SSW Office of Student Services and Enrollment Management  
(734) 936-0961 | [ssw.finaid@umich.edu](mailto:ssw.finaid@umich.edu) | 1748 SSWB

### **Federal Loan or Work-Study Questions?**

U-M Office of Financial Aid  
(734)763-6600 | [financial.aid@umich.edu](mailto:financial.aid@umich.edu) | 2500 Student Activities Bldg.

### **Health Insurance Plans for Students Questions?**

University Health & Counseling  
(734) 764-5182 | [campusinsurance@umich.edu](mailto:campusinsurance@umich.edu)  
Website: [uhc.umich.edu/insurance](https://uhc.umich.edu/insurance)