



2nd Degree Accelerated Nursing Program

Understanding the Financial Aid Process for the 2025-2026 Academic Year

Congratulations on your decision to start a career in Nursing, Wildcat! We are excited to have you as part of Nova Nation and are here to support you in developing your financing plan for the 2nd Degree Accelerated Nursing Program.

Students who wish to apply for federal financial assistance for the 2025-2026 academic year must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at: <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>.

*NOTE: Some students may be selected by the Department of Education to provide additional documentation. Please monitor your student portal and e-mail as you will be notified by our office if additional documentation is needed.

All FAFSA information will be reviewed in the order it was received.

Important Notes When Applying for Financial Aid:

- Please do not complete the 2025-2026 CSS Profile, as this form is not a part of the financial aid process for the 2nd Degree Accelerated Nursing Program.
- To accurately file the 2025-2026 FAFSA in accordance with the Education Plans for the 2nd Degree Accelerated Nursing Program, please be certain to answer the following questions as such:
 - Question: At the beginning of the 2025-2026 school year, will you be working on a master's or doctorate program (such as an M.A., MBA, M.D.M.J.D., Ph.D., Ed.D., graduate certificate, etc.)?
 - Answer: **No**
 - Question: When the student begins the 2025-2026 school year, what will their college grade level be?
 - Answer: **Sophomore**

Federal Direct Loan Eligibility

- Students in the 2nd Degree Accelerated Nursing Programs are eligible for the [Federal Direct Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loans](https://studentaid.gov).
 - The amount of loan funding students are eligible to receive is based upon their grade level (all 2nd Degree Accelerated Nursing Program students are reviewed for Sophomore-level loans based upon their transfer credit evaluations) and their dependency status (based upon their FAFSA information, which determines whether the student also needs to include their parent's tax information).
 - After your first semester, students normally have their grade level increased to Junior-level standing, and you will receive an e-mail notification for your second semester to verify the amount of additional Federal Direct Loan funding you may qualify to receive.

After your Federal Direct Loan Eligibility has been determined, students will need to accept these loans by completing the following steps via the <https://studentaid.gov> website:

- Federal Direct Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loan Entrance Counseling
- Federal Direct Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loan Master Promissory Note



Villanova University uses a Borrower-Based Academic Year for the 2nd Degree Accelerated Nursing Program so that students can maximize their Federal Direct Loan borrowing. Students who start the 2025-2026 academic year in the Summer 2025 semester can use a Borrower-Based Academic Year to award an initial annual federal loan limit between Summer 2025/Fall 2026, and a second annual federal loan limit between Spring 2026/Summer 2026. The student has the option, as shown on the next page, of receiving 100% of their annual federal loan limit in Spring 2026, or splitting the federal loan limit in Spring 2026 and Summer 2026. Students who choose to split the federal loan will need to complete a new FAFSA for the 2026-2027 academic year. Students are contacted in November regarding Spring eligibility, after spring registration has commenced.

Federal Direct Loan eligibility per semester for Dependent Students

Option 1:

	Summer 2025	Fall 2025	Spring 2026	Summer 2026
Subsidized	2750	2750	5500	0
Unsubsidized	1000	1000	2000	0

OR

Option 2:*

	Summer 2025	Fall 2025	Spring 2026	Summer 2026
Subsidized	2750	2750	2750	2750
Unsubsidized	1000	1000	1000	1000

Federal Direct Loan eligibility per semester for Independent Students

Option 1:

	Summer 2025	Fall 2025	Spring 2026	Summer 2026
Subsidized	2750	2750	5500	0
Unsubsidized	3500	3500	7000	0

OR

Option 2:*

	Summer 2025	Fall 2025	Spring 2026	Summer 2026
Subsidized	2750	2750	2750	2750
Unsubsidized	3500	3500	3500	3500

[^]Amounts listed assume that students have not reached their aggregate Federal Direct Loan borrowing limits of \$31,000 for Dependent students and \$57,500 for Independent students.

*Students using Option 2 will be required to complete the 2026-2027 FAFSA application to receive their loan funding for the summer 2026 semester, as these loans are a part of the 2026-2027 academic year.

An origination fee is applied to Federal Direct Loans by the Federal Loan Servicer prior to disbursement. Fees are subject to change every year. Currently the origination fee for the Federal Direct Loans is **1.057%**.



PLANNING AHEAD:

Since the BSN Flex Track program begins in the fall semester, the Borrower-Based Academic Year should be available to students in the 2026-2027 academic year.

ALTERNATE FINANCING:

Students in the 2nd Degree Accelerated Nursing Programs often need to utilize another form of funding beyond the Federal Direct Loans to meet both their direct and indirect costs during the year. Please see below for some useful resources to helping a student in meeting the “gap” of expenses that other sources of aid do not cover.

Private Educational Loan

Students may apply for private educational loan from a bank or lending institution. These loans may be in the student's name, or in the parent's name depending upon the guidelines of your lender. A student may choose any lender that offers a private educational loan. ELM Select is an external webpage a student can link to from the [Office of Financial Assistance website](#) where a student can review and compare Villanova University's Preferred Lender Information. This list is not exhaustive, and students may use any lender they wish. However, ELM Select is a helpful page to identify what aspects of the loan are most beneficial to them.

Once approved for a private educational loan, the Office of Financial Assistance will review the loan for school certification. This process includes confirming enrollment in the BSN-Express program, verifying the eligibility of the type of loan requested, and confirming that the borrowing amount requested fits into the academic year's cost of attendance.

Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan

A Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan is a loan that parents of Dependent Students can apply for via the <https://studentaid.gov> website. This loan will be in the parent's name to reduce the overall loan debt incurred by the student. If the parent of a Dependent student is denied for the PLUS Loan, the student may be eligible for additional Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan funds.

Monthly Payment Plans

The Bursar's Office offers [monthly payment arrangements](#) each semester that students may use in conjunction with their financial aid to assist with the expenses that appear on their v-bill (the electronic billing statement issued by the Bursar's Office verifying your charges billed by the University). There are a few options for payment plans, with varying deadlines. Please visit the [Bursar's Office website](#) to stay aware of these deadlines.