



**Samuel Merritt
University**

Financial Aid Guide

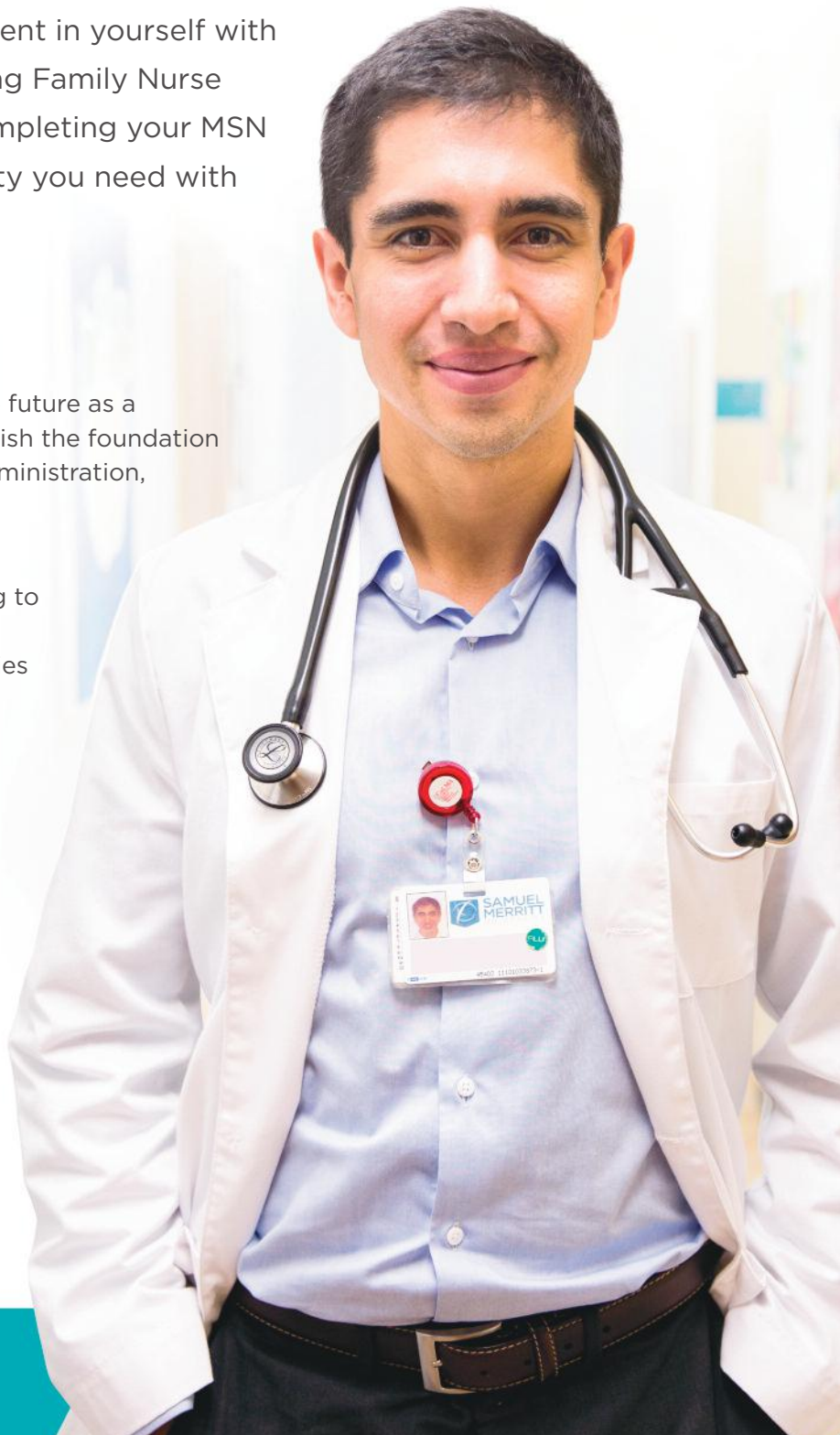


Welcome to Samuel Merritt University

You are making an important investment in yourself with our online Master of Science in Nursing Family Nurse Practitioner Program (MSN FNP). Completing your MSN FNP with us provides you the flexibility you need with the quality education you deserve.

WE WILL HELP YOU TO:

- **Advance your professional career**
Our program prepares for your immediate future as a primary care nurse practitioner and establish the foundation for roles in nursing leadership, hospital administration, policy, and more.
- **Enhance your personal development**
Grow and mature as an individual by rising to the challenges of advanced studies while expanding your scope of practice to families and communities.
- **Improve your patients' well-being**
The knowledge you gain will make you a better nurse by providing you with the expertise to impact the lives of your patients and the families you work with.
- **Help the communities you serve**
Become an active force in improving public health by bringing primary care to underserved neighborhoods and populations.



How to Apply for Financial Aid

We believe in the value of our program and that tuition costs should not deter you from starting your future. Samuel Merritt University strives to meet the needs of each student. The Financial Aid Office has facilitated the proper amount of financial aid for tuition, fees and expenses for more than 98% of our students. We can help you and give you peace-of-mind as you begin your journey with us.

FOLLOW THESE STEPS TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID:

1. Create a Federal Student Aid ID

Go to <https://fsaid.ed.gov/npas/index.htm> and create your FSA ID. You will need this throughout the process.

2. Complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Go to www.fafsa.ed.gov or call the U.S. Department of Education at **1-800-433-3243**

Be sure to have your personal and financial information on hand.

Samuel Merritt University's school code is **00701200**

A few weeks after completing your FAFSA you will receive a Financial Aid Packet from Samuel Merritt University.

3. Complete All Online Requirements from the Financial Aid Portal Within Two Weeks

The Financial Aid Portal will include your award offer and document requests. The award letter details your Academic Year Budget and Financial Awards. You must accept the financial aid offer and complete all required documents on time to process your financial aid award in a timely manner.

4. Complete the Entrance Loan Counseling Requirement

Go to www.studentloans.gov and log-in with your FSA ID. You will learn valuable information about your student loan and it will help you understand the Direct Loan program. Once you have completed the Entrance Loan Counseling, Samuel Merritt University' will be informed that you have met this requirement.

5. Complete the Master Promissory Note

Go to www.studentloans.gov and complete the Direct Unsubsidized Stafford AND Graduate Plus Master Promissory Notes. If you are applying for both Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan and a Graduate Plus Loan, then you will need to complete two separate Master Promissory Notes.



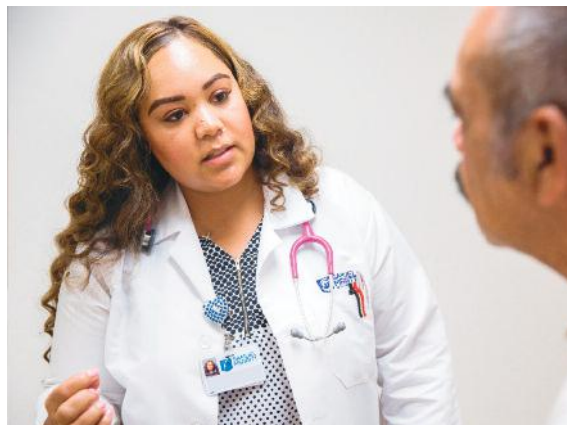
How Much Should You Borrow?

The loan amount you borrow should be determined by how much you need to help pay for school in relation to what you can afford to pay back. **Borrow only what you need** for tuition, fees, books, or other school related expenses.

Make sure that you understand the terms of the loan:

- Interest rate on the loan, when interest starts to accrue, and how much it adds to your loan cost
- Repayment schedules of each loan and how much you will pay each month
- Loan fees that add to the cost of the loan

Below are the estimated costs for the online MSN FNP. The estimates do not include the cost of books, loan fees and accrued loan interest. Be sure to speak to a financial aid advisor and have them answer any questions that you may have.



Item	Cost
Application Fee	\$75, non-refundable
Tuition Deposit Fee	\$350, applied to tuition
Tuition	\$70,756 for the entire 49-unit program (\$1,444 per semester unit)
Student Body Association	\$100, total for two years (\$50 annually)
Graduation Fee	\$160 (one time, final semester only)
TOTAL	\$71,441

This cost analysis assumes a traditional, full-time track and does not take into account any annual tuition and fee increases, which become effective every fall. The rate of annual tuition increase assessed by the University in the last five years ranged from 3 percent to 5 percent. The average annual tuition increase assessed in the last five years is 3.90 percent.

The Federal Government places lifetime cap of \$138,500 on the amount of student aid you can borrow. To find out how much federal aid you have received over the course of your lifetime, visit: www.nslds.ed.gov

Understanding Loan Types

The two types of federal loans available, Direct Unsubsidized Loans and Graduate PLUS Loans.

Direct Unsubsidized Loans:

- Up to \$20,500 per academic year for tuition, fees, and materials
- Interest begins to accrue immediately
- 5.28% fixed interest rate
- 6-month deferment period after graduation

Direct Graduate PLUS Loans:

- The maximum PLUS loan amount you can borrow is the cost of attendance minus any other financial assistance received
- Interest begins to accrue immediately
- 6.28% fixed interest rate
- 6-month deferment period after graduation

Interest rates and loan fees may adjust annually and are subject to change.

Learn more at: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/loans/subsidized-unsubsidized>



Other Sources of Financial Aid

You'll want to explore other potential resources to fund your education. These include a blend of private and public funding programs.

Options to consider include, but are not limited to:

- Samuel Merritt University's Financial Aid Office at **510-879-9200**
- The U.S. Department of Labor's FREE scholarship search tool at **www.careeronestop.org/toolkit/training/find-scholarships.aspx**
- Federal government aid and other resources: **<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types#aid-from-the-federal-government>**
- State agencies: **www2.ed.gov/about/contacts/state/index.html**
- Foundations, religious or community organizations, local businesses, or civic groups
- Community or professional scholarships: **www.scholarships4students.com**
- The American Association of Colleges of Nursing at **www.aacn.nche.edu**
- Your employer's tuition assistance program (if applicable)
- Private student loan companies or banks

Continuing Samuel Merritt University students who have completed a bachelor's degree with us may qualify for internal scholarships. Contact us for more information.

Questions?

Contact the Financial Aid Office at: **510-879-9200** or e-mail **finaid@samuelmerritt.edu**

