Explanation of Financial Aid Award Terms

FEDERAL PELL GRANT
An undergraduate federal grant. The U.S. Department of Education determines eligibility. The Expected Family Contribution (EFC) formula is the standard criteria used in determining financial need.

FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY GRANT (SEOG)
A federal grant provided to exceptionally needy undergraduate students.

TENNESSEE STUDENT ASSISTANCE AWARD (TSAW)
Awarded by TSAC on a first-come, first-served basis to needy undergraduate students who are Tennessee residents.

TENNESSEE EDUCATION LOTTERY HOPE SCHOLARSHIP
Awarded to entering freshmen (class of 2017) and returning students who are Tennessee residents and meet eligibility requirements as specified by the Tennessee state legislature. For more details, visit www.tn.gov/collegesaids.

FEDERAL DIRECT SUBSIDIZED STAFFORD LOAN
For undergraduate students with demonstrated financial need, as determined by federal regulations. No interest is charged while a student is in school at least half-time, and during periods of deferment. Repayment begins following a six-month grace period after you graduate, leave school, or cease being enrolled as at least a half-time student. The student must submit a Direct Master Promissory Note (MPN) and complete online entrance counseling. Undergraduate students must be enrolled at least six hours.

FEDERAL DIRECT UNSUBSIDIZED STAFFORD LOAN
Not based on financial need; interest is charged during all periods, even during the time a student is in school and during grace and deferment periods. If you choose not to pay the interest while you are in school and during grace periods and deferment or forbearance periods, your interest will accrue (accumulate) and be capitalized (that is, your interest will be added to the principal amount of your loan). Repayment begins following a six-month grace period after you graduate, leave school, or cease being enrolled as at least a half-time student. The student must submit a Direct Master Promissory Note (MPN) and complete online entrance counseling. Undergraduate students must be enrolled at least six hours. Graduate students must be enrolled at least three hours.

FEDERAL DIRECT PLUS LOANS
Credit-based loans for graduate students. Graduate students must apply for these loans and, if approved, may use the funds to help pay for education expenses up to the cost of attendance minus all other financial assistance. Interest is charged during all periods. Repayment generally begins 60 days after the final disbursement. The loan amount on the award letter is a recommendation.

NOTE: PLUS loan borrowers cannot have an adverse credit history (credit check will be done). Student must complete FAFSA to receive a Direct Parent PLUS Loan.

FEDERAL DIRECT GRADUATE PLUS LOANS
Credit-based loans for graduate students. Graduate students may apply for these loans and, if approved, may use the funds to help pay for education expenses up to the cost of attendance minus all other financial assistance. Interest is charged during all periods. Students must be enrolled at least three hours. If you are applying for a Direct PLUS for the first time as a graduate/professional student, you’ll need to complete and sign a Graduate PLUS MPN that is separate from the one that you use for your Direct Unsubsidized Loans.

NOTE: PLUS loan borrowers cannot have an adverse credit history (credit check will be done).

For more information on loans please refer to the 2017-18 Loan Information and Application Packet.

FEDERAL WORK-STUDY
Provides jobs for students with financial need. Funds are limited. The FWS award amount will not be posted as a credit on a student account. This is an award amount that a student may earn as a monthly paycheck through the FWS program.

INSTITUTIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS
Institutional scholarships are funded by Belmont University. Students must be enrolled full-time (undergraduates: 12 credit hours and graduates: 6 graduate credit hours) in order to receive institutional funds. Scholarships awarded for an undergraduate program of study cannot be applied toward any graduate program.

INSTITUTIONAL DISCOUNTS
Belmont University offers a Church Related Vocation/Service Scholarship, Multi-Student Discount, to qualifying undergraduate students. These discounts require a separate application that must be renewed each year. Please visit www.belmont.edu/sfs and click on Forms to download the appropriate form.

OUTSIDE SCHOLARSHIPS
Scholarships funded by a source other than Belmont University. Please visit www.belmont.edu/sfs and click on Forms to download the Outside Scholarship Report Form, complete, and send to Student Financial Services. Outside scholarships may reduce your financial aid.

Federal, State, and Outside aid will be the first resources applied towards a student’s educational expenses. Institutional, State, and Outside aid resources are not refundable. Federal Pell grants and loans are the only refundable forms of financial aid.

LOOKING FOR ADDITIONAL AID?
Please visit www.belmont.edu/sfs, click on Scholarships and then Outside Scholarship Searches for an extensive listing of outside scholarship opportunities.

CONDITIONS of FINANCIAL AID AWARD

1. This financial aid award has been determined by an evaluation of student reported information on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The financial aid awarded is for the designated award period only.

2. This award is based on full-time enrollment. In order to meet the “full-time” standard, a student must register for at least 12 hours per semester as an undergraduate student, and at least 6 hours per semester as a graduate student. Students must be enrolled full-time for institutional grants to disburse.

3. A student must report in writing to the Office of Student Financial Services any additional assistance that may be received from other sources, including scholarships, loans, assistantships, fellowships, and employer educational benefits. If additional assistance reduces financial need, a student’s financial aid award may be adjusted.

4. A student must notify the Registrar’s office if withdrawing from the University before the end of the academic term. If a student withdraws after acceptance of financial aid funds, the student may be expected to repay a portion of the aid received.

5. If a student’s course load is reduced after the receipt of financial aid funds and before the end of the tuition refund period, the student may be required to repay a portion of the financial aid funds.

6. Funds for the Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, Federal Perkins Loan, Federal Work-Study, Tennessee Education Lottery (HOPE) Scholarship and Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation Grant are provided by the federal and/or state government(s); if the appropriations or allocations to the University are adjusted, an award based on these programs may be reduced or revoked.

7. The Office of Student Financial Services may release information about the amount and type of aid that a student receives to other offices and agencies as needed to administer the financial aid programs. The Office of Student Financial Services may send general information about a student to donors. The Office of Student Financial Services may release information necessary for collection of a student loan in the event repayment obligations are not met.

8. To decline any portion of this award, please contact our office by email at finaid@belmont.edu.

Charles Harper,
Director of Financial Aid
Associate Director of Student Financial Services

Our office has reviewed your application for financial assistance for the 2017-18 academic year. Please review your award letter carefully and retain it for your records. Included is important information regarding financial aid policies, procedures and requirements necessary to maintain and renew your assistance. Please review the cost estimator worksheet on our website for financial planning purposes. Please familiarize yourself with the information to avoid unexpected changes in your financial aid award.

We hope this award will assist you in achieving your educational goals at Belmont University. Please contact our office if you have questions regarding any aspect of your financial aid. We look forward to having you at Belmont for the 2017-18 academic year.

Sincerely,

Charles Harper,
Director of Financial Aid
Associate Director of Student Financial Services
In order to receive federal financial aid, students must be making satisfactory academic progress. We are required to apply standards that are both qualitative and quantitative. These standards will apply for periods of enrollment beginning on or after August 1, 1998.

Eligibility for federal programs will be evaluated as part of the initial application process and again at the end of the spring semester of each academic year. In the evaluation process, all grades of “W” (Withdrawn) and “I” (Incomplete) will be counted as hours attempted but not passed. Repeated courses will count as hours attempted. Entering students are considered to be making satisfactory academic progress.

Students cannot receive aid after attempting 150% of the hours required for completion of their academic program. Hours accepted for transfer credit will reduce this time frame.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS
Qualitative – Students must be accepted for admission and be eligible to enroll for classes. Students must also achieve and maintain a cumulative 2.0 grade point average on all course work attempted including accepted transfer coursework.
Quantitative – Students must average passing 66.67% of all hours attempted.

GRADUATE STUDENTS
Qualitative – Students must be accepted for admission and be eligible to enroll for classes. In addition, students must achieve and maintain a cumulative 3.0 grade point average on all coursework including accepted transfer coursework.
Quantitative – Students must average passing 66.67% of all hours attempted.

PHARMACY STUDENTS
Qualitative – Students must be accepted for admission and be eligible to enroll for classes. Students must also achieve and maintain a cumulative 2.3 grade point average on all coursework attempted including accepted transfer coursework.
Quantitative – Students must average passing 66.67% of all hours attempted.

LAW STUDENTS
Qualitative – Students must be accepted for admission and be eligible to enroll for classes. Students must also achieve and maintain a cumulative 2.5 grade point average on all coursework attempted including accepted transfer coursework.
Quantitative – Students must average passing 66.67% of all hours attempted.

APPEALS
Students failing to meet these standards for satisfactory academic progress may feel that there are mitigating circumstances which contributed to their failure. In such cases, students may choose to appeal for reinstatement of their financial aid eligibility based on these unique circumstances. Students must explain the reasons for not meeting the satisfactory academic progress standards as well as include a plan of action to be reviewed by the committee. An allowable basis for an appeal includes the following:

- Personal illness or injury
- Personal crisis
- Illness or death of a family member
- Original grade was lower than current changed grade
- Second degree, double major, change of major (maximum timeframe only)
- Other unexpected circumstances beyond the control of the student

STEPs TO FILE AN APPEAL
1. Complete the Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal and Academic Action Plan Form
2. Attach a one-page Explanation Statement and relevant supporting documentation
3. Attach a copy of your complete DegreeWorks Audit. Update, review and print your DegreeWorks Audit and/or Degree Works Planner as required
4. If this is not your first SAP appeal, then you must also attach the DegreeWorks Planner signed by your advisor
5. Submit all documents to the Office of Student Financial Services

Appeals must be submitted in writing and should be addressed to:

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS APPEALS COMMITTEE
Office of Student Financial Services
Belmont University
1900 Belmont Boulevard
Nashville, TN 37212

Decisions of the committee are final and will be communicated in writing.

FROM HERE TO ANYWHERE
Office of Student Financial Services • 1900 Belmont Boulevard • Nashville, TN 37212
800.563.6765 or 615.460.6403 • finaid@belmont.edu • BELMONT.EDU

To read Belmont’s non discrimination statement, visit BELMONT.EDU/NONDISCRIMINATION.