Financial Aid 101

Applying for Financial Aid
All US citizens and certain eligible non-citizens (such as permanent residents) can apply for financial aid using the FAFSA. UTSA's federal school code is 010115. Financial aid is typically awarded for fall and spring semesters. To be considered for summer aid, students must submit a Summer Application on ASAP in addition to having a FAFSA on file.

Types of Aid
Graduate (master’s and doctoral) are offered aid in the form of Texas Public Education Grant (TPEG), UTSA Grant, Direct Unsubsidized Stafford loans, Graduate PLUS loans, TEACH grant, and in some cases, stipends and fellowships. Due to legislative changes, effective July 1, 2012, Direct Subsidized Stafford loans are no longer available to graduate students.

Enrollment Requirements
During the fall and spring, graduate students' cost of attendance is based on part-time enrollment (4-8 hours). Those hours must be at the graduate level (5000 or higher) to be eligible for federal financial aid. If your actual enrollment does not match your cost of attendance as listed on your award letter, you will need to submit an Enrollment Change Form for the applicable aid year for us to increase your cost of attendance if you enroll full time (9+ hours).

If you enrolled in a combination of graduate and undergraduate courses, at least 4 hours has to be graduate level courses in order to receive financial aid.* See examples below.

*NOTE: During the summer sessions, graduate students may enroll in a minimum of 3 credit hours for part-time enrollment status.

Example 1: If enrolled in 6 hours of graduate courses and 3 hours of undergraduate course which is a total of 9, you will only be awarded based on the graduate hours enrolled as a part-time graduate student.

Example 2: If enrolled in 3 hours of graduate courses and 3 hours of undergraduate course which is a total of 6, you will not be eligible for financial aid because you are not enrolled in at least 4 hours of graduate level courses. Aid will not disburse unless you enroll in a minimum of 4 graduate level hours.

Students taking classes as prerequisites for enrollment in graduate school, who have been approved by the Graduate Admissions Office as a Special Graduate, may receive Unsubsidized Stafford Loans for one academic year. Undergraduate aggregate limits for the Stafford loan apply in this situation. You must complete the Request for Financial Aid as a Special Graduate form.

Please note that students must be actively seeking a degree or in an approved 2-year teacher's certification program to be eligible for financial aid. Non-degree seeking students do not qualify for aid.

Deadlines
- February 15: Deadline to submit UTSA General Scholarship Application
- March 15: Priority Deadline to submit FAFSA

Notification of Awards
All students are notified of financial aid awards through an email notification sent to the preferred email account as indicated on ASAP. All students may accept or decline financial aid awards online on ASAP.