



The European Graduate School Financial Aid Manual 2015 – 2016

For participation in the U.S. Federal Direct Loan Program

To benefit from The EGS's participation in the U.S. Federal Direct Loan Program, carefully read the information provided in this document.

These instructions pertain to The EGS academic year 2015–2016, which runs from September 1, 2015, to August 31, 2016.

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Overview

This document answers the following questions:

1. Are you eligible for Financial Aid under the Direct Loan Program at The EGS?
2. What type of aid can you receive, if you are an eligible student?
3. What forms or papers do you have to sign to get a loan?
4. How much aid can you get, if you are an eligible student?
5. If you are awarded financial aid, where, when, and how will you receive your money?
6. What happens if you do not repay your Federal Direct Loan?
7. How do you apply step-by-step for a loan?

1. Are you eligible for Financial Aid under the Direct Loan Program?

To be eligible for a U.S. Federal Direct Loan from The EGS, you need to fulfill all the following requirements:

- Hold a bachelor's degree (or an equivalent post-secondary or graduate degree).
- Be a U.S. citizen, a U.S. national, or a permanent resident of the United States, or be able to present evidence from the Immigration and Naturalization Service that you are in the U.S. for other than a temporary purpose and with the intention of becoming a citizen or permanent resident.
- Have been admitted to study for the MA or Ph.D. degree at The EGS, either in the Division of Arts, Health & Society (AHS) or in the Division of Philosophy, Art & Critical Thought (PACT), or already be enrolled as an MA or Ph.D. candidate either in the AHS division or in the PACT division at The EGS for the academic year 2015-16.



2. What type of aid can you receive, if you are an eligible student?

As an EGS student, you can receive a Federal Direct Loan to cover the cost of tuition for attending The EGS, as well as school-related expenses, including travel, lodging, and books. Your loan will be an:

Unsubsidized Loan – you pay the interest or defer interest until you graduate or are no longer enrolled.

Payment of interest begins six (6) months after you graduate or after you become enrolled on a less than half-time basis.

Note:

According to the U.S. Budget Control Act 2012, all graduate student loans beginning after July 1, 2012, are no longer eligible for subsidization. This means that as of July 1, 2012, all new Federal Direct Loans will be unsubsidized loans.

3. What forms or papers do you have to sign to get a loan?

You will need to sign several documents for your loan. Some will be provided online or sent by postal mail; others will be provided to you when you arrive for your classes.

These are the forms you can expect to sign:

- 2015-2016 FAFSA (online)
- Master Promissory Note (MPN) for 2015-2016 (online)
- A statement of Education Purpose (at The EGS)
- A Certification Statement on Refunds and Default (at The EGS)
- An Anti-Drug Abuse Act Certification (at The EGS)
- A Statement of Updated Information (at The EGS)

4. How much aid can you get, if you are an eligible student?

Each year, you are eligible to borrow the amount of the cost of attendance (COA). You may borrow money for only one (1) year at a time.

Please see the maximum amounts below:

If you are a student of the PACT division at The EGS, your maximum amounts are (in USD):

- First year (MA, Ph.D.): \$18,000
- Second year (MA, Ph.D.): \$18,000
- Third year / First year supervision (MA, Ph.D.): \$8,700
- Fourth year / Second year supervision (Ph.D. only): \$8,700
- Fifth year (Ph.D. only): \$8,700
- (A fifth-year supervision fee will be charged to students who choose to take out a loan in that year.)

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If you are a student of the AHS division at The EGS, your maximum amounts are (in USD):

- First year MA: \$15,500
- Second year MA: \$15,500
- Third year MA: \$14,200
- First year CAGS for Ph.D.: \$16,300
- Second year CAGS for Ph.D.: \$16,300
- Third or fourth year Ph.D.: \$8,500
- First year, second year or third year MA students who take two course modules over two periods of Summer School can individually apply for an increase in the loan amount up to a maximum of \$20,000.

Note:

In years past, it was possible to borrow more than these amounts. This is no longer the case. Due to new government regulations, you may not borrow more than the above yearly amounts.

5. If you are awarded a loan, where, when, and how will you receive your money?

- Your loan will be sent first to the Office of The EGS Chief Loan Officer in the U.S. (Mark Daniel Cohen).
- The Chief Loan Officer will deduct from the loan amount the appropriate funds to pay EGS tuition, fees, and the down payment for lodging. The remaining loan amount will be sent to the address on your loan application form.
- The turn-around time, after all paperwork is completed, is approximately one month – so apply now!
- Please note that the government deducts a fee of approximately one percent from your loan.

6. What happens if you do not repay your Federal Direct Loan?

If you do not repay your Federal Direct Loan according to the terms disclosed on your promissory note, you may eventually be in default on the loan. Consequences may include:

- An adverse effect to your credit rating and possibly a limit on your ability to borrow for a car, home or credit card.
- A requirement to pay the entire amount of the loan, including interest, immediately.
- A withholding of your wages to pay your debt.
- Inability to get additional federal or state financial aid, including student loans.
- Withholding of your federal and state tax refunds.

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7. How do you apply step-by-step for a loan?

The steps A) to F) must be taken in the following order:

- A) You must be sure you are a U.S. citizen, a U.S. national, or a permanent resident of the United States, or are able to present evidence from the Immigration and Naturalization Service that you are in the U.S. for other than a temporary purpose and with the intention of becoming a citizen or permanent resident.
- B) You have a written statement from the EGS Admissions Director or the Dean of your division that you have been admitted to study for a MA degree or a Ph.D. degree at The EGS.

For the Division of Philosophy, Art & Critical Thought: begin the admissions process by completing the PACT online application form [<http://www.egs.edu/department/philosophy-art-critical-thought/admissions>]. After you've completed the application and submitted all pertinent documentation materials, you will be contacted by the PACT Admissions Director, who will provide you with confirmation of your admission.

For the Division of Arts Health & Society: begin the admissions process by contacting the following Program Directors or Admission Counselors for an initial interview:

- MA in Expressive Arts Therapy or Coaching and Consulting:
Prof. Margo Fuchs Knill, Email: margo.fuchs@egs.edu
- MA in Expressive Arts Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding:
Prof. Melinda Ashley Meyer, Email: melinda.meyer@nkvt.unirand.no
- CAGS and Ph.D. in Expressive Arts:
Prof. Stephen Levine, Email: slevine.egs.edu@gmail.com

If you are encouraged to apply for admission, go to <http://expressivearts.egs.edu/application-and-registration>, where you will find the appropriate application form to be sent to the Admissions Office, which will send you a confirmation of admission.

Please mention in your application that you plan to apply for a DLP loan – the payment of your application fee of USD 350 will be postponed until you receive your loan.

- C) You register at The EGS – for coursework, Thesis or Dissertation Supervision (PACT), or Dissertation Work (AHS) – for the academic year 2015-2016 at administration@egs.edu.

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D) You go online and fill out the 2015-2016 FAFSA at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov> and the 2015-2016 Master Promissory Note (MPN) at <http://www.studentloans.gov> and submit them.

Hints:

- When filling out the FAFSA, select the 2015-2016 form (the academic year at The EGS runs from September 1, 2015 – August 31, 2016).
- Be sure to have your tax returns with you when you fill out the FAFSA; it's a quick process if you do.
- You will need to enter the EGS federal school code G35183.
- After completing the FAFSA, you must either print it out, sign it, and send it in, or sign your FAFSA electronically with an FSA ID. You can apply for an FSA ID at: <https://fsaid.ed.gov/npas/index.htm>.

E) You apply for the loan:

- After completing your FAFSA, go to <http://studentloans.gov> for the Direct Loan application process.
- Be sure to complete a Master Promissory Note for 2015-2016.
- The website should provide any answers you still need.
- For technical or other difficulties with the site, please complete the form in the Contact Us section at: <https://studentloans.gov/myDirectLoan/contactUs.action>.

Hints:

- For detailed information about the Direct Loan Program (in which the U.S. Department of Education is the mandatory lender), go to: <http://www2.ed.gov/offices/OSFAP/DirectLoan/student.html>.
- If you have never applied for a student loan at The EGS before, you will need to complete the site's "Entrance Counseling." Otherwise, you may proceed to sign the Master Promissory Note. (Even if you have completed a Master Promissory Note in the past for The EGS, you must complete a new one for the new school year.)

Notes:

- You will receive half of your loan in approximately one month's time (from when it is processed) and half of your loan in late April, at roughly the mid-point of the academic year.
- Please note that The EGS does not participate in the PLUS Loan program. Please do not submit an application for a PLUS Loan.

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F) You get in touch with the EGS Financial Aid Administrator and the Chief Loan Officer.

After completing steps A through E, you must contact Tiffany Coe, The EGS Financial Aid Administrator, at financial.aid@egs.edu, and Mark Daniel Cohen, The EGS Chief Loan Officer, at mark.cohen@egs.edu, to convey the amount you wish to borrow. (You may copy both in the same email.)

In order to obtain clearance for your loan, you must send proof to financial.aid@egs.edu that you have been admitted to the degree program of your choice, and that you have registered for study at The EGS for the academic year 2015-2016.

For PACT division:

Send in the email received from the Admissions Director that confirms your admission and registration.

For AHS division:

Send in the email received from administration@egs.edu that confirms your admission and registration.

Hints:

- To reiterate, loans generally take about a month to process – at which point, the funds will go first to the EGS Chief Loan Officer (Mark Daniel Cohen), who will deduct your tuition and send the remainder to you.
- Government timelines prevent you from being able to get your loan money instantly, so please be patient.
- Seven days prior to the first disbursement date of the loan, the Department of Education will mail you a statement that notifies you, the borrower, of the terms, conditions, and responsibilities related to the loan, e.g., total amount and anticipated disbursement dates. If you so choose (via a checkbox on www.studentloans.gov), this disclosure is also made available for online downloading seven days prior to the disbursement date.

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Summary / Checklist

- A) you must be a U.S. citizen or resident
- B) you have a written statement of admission
- C) you register: administration@egs.edu
- D) you go online and fill out your FAFSA and MPN
- E) you apply for the loan: www.studentloans.gov
- F) you get in touch with Tiffany Coe: financial.aid@egs.edu
- G) you get in touch with Mark Daniel Cohen: mark.cohen@egs.edu
- H) you are patient, a virtue
- I) you get your money, you get to study

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If you have further questions:

- For issues related to disbursement/returning unneeded loan funds/delivery of loans, contact: Mark Daniel Cohen, The EGS Chief Loan Officer, Email: mark.cohen@egs.edu
- For issues related to your loan application, contact: Tiffany Coe, The EGS Financial Aid Administrator, Email: financial.aid@egs.edu
- For issues related to tuition payment, receipts, loan deferment paperwork, or coursework inquiries, contact:
PACT division: Mark Daniel Cohen, Email: mark.cohen@egs.edu, or
Sarah Brigid Hannis, Email: admissions@egs.edu
AHS division: The EGS Administration Office Leuk-Stadt,
Email: administration@egs.edu
- For issues related to lodging/hotel reservations in Saas-Fee, Switzerland, and/or Valletta, Malta, please see our website for further information and contact details:
<http://egs.edu/department/philosophy-art-critical-thought#residency>