How to Accept/Decline/Modify Your Aid in Athena

Brought to you by:
Office of Student Financial Aid
Does a student have to accept gift aid in Athena?

If a student is awarded gift aid (grants, such as the Federal Pell Grant and/or scholarships, such as the HOPE and Zell Miller Scholarships), those funds are automatically accepted for the student in Athena. No action on the student’s part is required.

What aid may a student accept/decline/modify in Athena?

If a student is awarded self-help aid, a student may accept/decline/modify self-help aid in Athena.
Definition of Self-Help Aid

Self-Help Aid:

Financial aid in the form of **Federal Direct Student loans and/ or Federal Work Study**.

**Federal Direct Student Loans** are used to help pay the remaining net costs after gift aid is deducted. Federal Direct Student Loans must be repaid.

**Federal Work Study** is a limited funds, need-based financial aid program in which eligible students work part-time on-campus while enrolled at the University. Work Study funds **must be earned** and are not applied toward a student’s UGA account balance.
How to Accept/ Decline/ Modify Self-Help Aid in Athena

Login to Athena at athena.uga.edu and click on the Financial Aid tab.
Select Award Year & Then Go to Award Offer Tab
Scroll Down on the Award Offer Tab to Reach Accept/Decline/Modify Options for Self-Help Aid

**Housing Status**
- Off Campus

**Options to Pay Net Cost**

**Loans**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Fall 2021</th>
<th>Spring 2022</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Take Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal Direct Loan - Uns</td>
<td>$10,250.00</td>
<td>$10,250.00</td>
<td>$20,500.00</td>
<td>Select</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fed Dir Grad PLUS Loan</td>
<td>$4,554.00</td>
<td>$4,554.00</td>
<td>$9,108.00</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$14,804.00</td>
<td>$14,804.00</td>
<td>$29,608.00</td>
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</table>

Select options to accept, decline, or modify.
If you select “Modify” you may type in a lesser amount that the amount listed. This amount will be split equally over the semesters listed. Click “Ok” to submit.
What if I am offered Federal Direct Student Loans for two semesters but wish to accept a loan amount for one semester only?

You may submit a **Change-in-Aid Request** via OSFA’s Secure Portal to request a Federal Direct Student loan amount for one semester only. The 2021-22 Change-in-Aid Request will become available on OSFA’s website as of July 2, 2021.

To access instructions on how to complete a Change-in-Aid Request, please visit the QUICKLINKS section of our homepage.
Can I accept Federal Work Study (FWS) for one semester only?

Students must accept FWS for both semesters.
OSFA Contact Information

Address:
The University of Georgia
Office of Student Financial Aid
220 Holmes/Hunter Academic Building
Athens, GA 30602-6114

Phone: 706-542-6147
Fax: 706-542-8217
Website: https://osfa.uga.edu/
Email: osfa@uga.edu

In-person: In an effort to better serve our students, OSFA is currently accepting appointments for student inquiries. Visit https://osfa.uga.edu/ and click on “Contacting OSFA” if you wish to schedule a meeting by phone, in-person, or via Zoom.

We encourage students to call our office if immediate assistance is needed.

Office Hours: MON-FRI 8AM-5PM