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 Click on Financial Aid Offer Tab
Scroll Down on the Financial Aid Offer Tab to Reach Accept/ Decline/ Modify Options for Self-Help Aid

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Loans</th>
<th>Fall 2023</th>
<th>Spring 2024</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Take Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal Direct Loan - Uns...</td>
<td>$2750</td>
<td>$2750</td>
<td>$5500</td>
<td>Select</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Select
- Accept
- Decline
- Modify
If you select “Modify” you may type in a lesser amount than the amount listed. This amount will be split equally over the semesters listed. Click “Ok” to submit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fall 2023</th>
<th>Spring 2024</th>
<th>Offered Amount</th>
<th>Modified Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal Direct Loan - Unsub</td>
<td>$2750</td>
<td>$2750</td>
<td>$5500</td>
<td>$5500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Image of modified loan amount form]
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 2023-24 Change-in-Aid Request will become available via OSFA's Secure Portal in early July. To access instructions on how to complete a Change-in-Aid Request, please visit our homepage: [https://osfa.uga.edu/](https://osfa.uga.edu/)
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
104 Caldwell Hall
Athens, GA 30602

Phone: 706-542-6147
Fax: 706-542-8217
Website: https://osfa.uga.edu/
Email: osfa@uga.edu
Office Hours: MON-FRI 8AM-5PM (except university holidays)

In-person: In an effort to better serve our students, OSFA is currently accepting appointments for student inquiries. Visit https://osfa.uga.edu/about/contact-us/ to schedule a meeting by phone, in-person, or via Zoom. We encourage students to call our office if immediate assistance is needed.

We have also opened a satellite office for the Orientation season at the Tate Student Center. We will be housed in room 318 in the Student Care and Outreach suite and are open Monday – Friday, 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM for walk-in advising.