



Bachelor of Science Nursing Students and Financial Aid

Direct Admission Pathway

Entering first-time, first-year students accepted with direct admission into the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program are on a path to graduate within eight semesters/four consecutive years of full-time enrollment at St Thomas. A student may submit a written appeal to their financial aid counselor, via email, for exceptions to standard financial aid policies when considering part-time enrollment, a break in consecutive enrollment or are unable to complete their degree requirements within eight semesters.

General Admission Pathway

Transfer students and Tommies who did not enter the BSN program via the Direct Admission pathway may find a 5th year of undergraduate education at St Thomas is necessary, depending upon the number of terms attended before beginning the three-year nursing curriculum.

To help plan finances for your undergraduate Nursing career at St Thomas, review the year-by-year financial aid process:

All Years

- ❖ The St. Thomas Merit Scholarship offered during the admission process is renewed for years two through four.
- ❖ Submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), if applicable, to apply for any federal, state, university or private grants, scholarships, work-study, or loans. Most financial aid programs are awarded for fall and spring semesters, require full-time enrollment (12 or more credits per semester) and that a student is compliant with the [satisfactory academic progress policy](#).
- ❖ Review any scholarship letters, the financial aid offer notice, and year-specific offer guide for other requirements. Eligibility for financial aid is determined annually based on the regulations and rules for each program, including limitations on the number of terms of eligibility, cumulative limits, etc. Most university scholarships and grants are provided for up to 8 semesters or until graduation, whichever comes first.

- ❖ Submit a St Thomas January term or Summer Session [financial aid application](#), if desired, at the time you register for coursework to apply for loan funding to assist with the costs to attend these optional terms.
- ❖ In late fall/early winter, explore upcoming school year scholarship opportunities and deadlines.

Year 5: Additional items

- ❖ A **Direct Admission Pathway** student or a student offered **General Admission** to the Nursing program during their first year at the University is expected to complete the BSN degree within their first four years of undergraduate study at St Thomas. You may submit a written appeal to your financial aid counselor, via email, to request an exception to receive a 9th or 10th semester of financial aid if you are unable to complete your degree requirements within eight semesters. Include the reasons additional terms are requested and a degree plan prepared in coordination with your advisor.
- ❖ If you were **offered General Admission to the Nursing program during your second year** at St Thomas, your St Thomas Merit Scholarship will be renewed for up to two additional semesters, to provide for the three-year Nursing curriculum. Email your financial aid counselor upon your acceptance into the BSN program requesting an extension to your St Thomas Scholarship and Founders Grant, if offered. Include a degree plan prepared in coordination with your advisor.
- ❖ During your 9th or 10th semester, limits on funding may be reached. A student who transferred in coursework may also be required to submit a [satisfactory academic progress policy Maximum Timeframe appeal](#).
- ❖ Any student **offered General Admission to the Nursing program during their third or fourth year** at St Thomas must be prepared to use their own financial resources to cover tuition and other expenses for the second and/or third years of the three-year Nursing curriculum. Very limited financial aid programs are available to assist with a 6th or 7th year of undergraduate study.

NOTE: The information in this document is the most current and accurate information available but is subject to change at any time. Information assumes the student in this program enters St Thomas as a first-time, first-year student. Please contact your personal financial aid counselor to discuss your circumstances.