

Student Account Changes

What are the changes?

Beginning Fall 2018, payment for Tuition, Housing, and Meal Plan charges is due before the semester begins. The amount due will consist of all charges, minus any pending student aid. For Fall, the due date is August 1st. (Spring charges will be due January 1st.) Students may choose to pay in full or enroll in a payment plan. Students planning to live in a residence hall will be unable to move in until they pay in full or enroll in a payment plan. Additionally, class schedules will be subject to cancellation for students who have not paid in full or enrolled in a payment plan. Once a schedule is cancelled, the student must rebuild their schedule and will not be guaranteed a seat in their preferred classes. Students enrolling on or after August 1st (Fall) or January 1st (Spring) are not exempt from the upfront payment requirement and should pay in full or enroll in a payment plan.

Why are these changes happening? These changes are being made in an effort to encourage responsible financial management and reduce student debt.

Who do these changes apply to? These changes apply to ALL students EXCEPT (a) Graduate Assistants. GAs will be exempt from the upfront payment requirement because most, if not all, of their tuition is covered by their assistantship and (b) First semester international students. These individuals will be required to make an initial payment prior to arriving in the U.S. to begin their education at MSU.

How do I know what amount to pay? Log into your myState portal at my.msstate.edu and click "Make a Payment" in the Financials section of the Main page. You should pay your CURRENT balance or enroll in a payment plan to ensure your schedule is not cancelled.

What if I am eligible to receive scholarships, loans and/or grants? Scholarships, loans and grants will be taken into consideration as long as the student and student's family has completed all appropriate paperwork and processes by established deadlines. Students hoping to qualify for financial aid should submit their FAFSA and all supporting documentation to the Financial Aid Office before April 1. Students receiving funding from civic clubs, corporate sponsorships, non-resident PACT programs, etc. should notify the Sponsored Student Office of expected award amounts; these funding agencies should submit payment directly to the Sponsored Student Office.

How will I know if my schedule is subject to cancellation? You will receive one or more emails directly to your @msstate email address notifying you that your schedule is subject to cancellation. If you receive this email, please either pay your account in full or enroll in a payment plan ASAP. If you receive this email and believe it is an error, please call our office to ensure your schedule is not inadvertently cancelled.

What happens if my schedule gets cancelled? If your schedule is cancelled, you must re-enroll by creating a new schedule. After creating the new schedule, you must pay in full or enroll in a payment plan. If you fail to do so, your schedule will be subject to cancellation a second time.

How does the payment plan work? The cost to enroll in the payment plan each semester is \$50. The plan will split the total amount due into four payments. Students enroll in the plan after logging into the QuikPAY® system in their myState account. You will provide credit card or bank account information when enrolling in the plan to allow payments to be automatically charged or drafted on the established due dates.

What happens if I incur additional charges (parking tickets, lab printing fees, Health Center charges, etc.) or if I receive a scholarship or other aid after I enroll in the plan? The payment plan will recalculate the amount due and notify you of the new amount in advance of the payment date. You can pay any new charges before the recalculation takes place, or let them be rolled into the payment plan and paid out over the remaining pay periods.

What happens if I miss a Payment Plan payment? If there are insufficient funds in your bank account we will re-attempt the payment once. Nelnet Business Solutions will assess a \$30 non sufficient funds fee to each returned payment. If two consecutive monthly payments are missed, MSU reserves the right to remove you from the Payment Plan. Any payments made on the Payment Plan before or after we terminate your plan will be applied to your student account. If you miss a payment during the semester, your schedule will not be cancelled, but your account will be placed on hold, you will begin to incur service fees, and you will be unable to register for subsequent terms until the account is paid in full.

When are the payment plan due dates? Fall payments will be due August 1st, September 1st, October 1st, and November 1st. Spring payments will be due January 1st, February 1st, March 1st, and April 1st.

Can I enroll in a payment plan for the summer? Payment plans are available for the fall and spring semesters. Summer charges are not eligible for this plan and must be paid on the 1st of the month your first class begins.

Who can I contact if I need more information?

Call 662-325-2071 or email studentaccounts@msstate.edu for more information.