

Plan Your Next Steps

STEP 4: Plan

Once your financial aid is disbursed to your Grand Valley student account to cover your tuition, housing and any other institutional charges, you will either have a credit on your account or a balance you will need to pay. If your financial aid is more than your charges, the credit on your account will be refunded during the second week of classes to cover your other educational costs.

If you have a balance owing, the amount you need to pay will be determined once the ebill has been sent. Fall semester ebills are sent in late July detailing your actual charges for the semester and any financial aid that will help cover this cost. The first payment date for the Fall 2009 semester is **August 21**. Winter 2010 semester bills are sent in late November with the first payment date of **December 18**.

As you make plans to cover the cost of attending Grand Valley, keep these things in mind:

Electronic Billing

All registered Grand Valley students will receive an email notification during the last week of July to let them know their electronic bill for the Fall 2009 semester is available for viewing. You may give permission for others such as your parents or sponsors to view your ebill.

Grand Valley Deferment Plan

Grand Valley offers a deferment plan that allows you to make payments over the semester to cover any balance on your student account **after financial aid has been applied**. Your account balance is divided into four monthly payments each semester. To estimate monthly payments, use the enclosed "Calculating Your Expenses" worksheet to determine your Grand Valley charges (tuition, on-campus housing, meal plans). Subtract all financial aid you will receive. There is a **\$40** charge each semester to participate in the Grand Valley Deferment Plan.

How Excess Financial Aid is Refunded

If your financial aid exceeds the cost of Grand Valley charges, financial aid is refunded to you during the **second week of classes**. You have two options to obtain your financial aid refund. You can sign up for direct deposit and have the excess funds deposited into your designated bank account, or your check will be mailed to your permanent address.

Charging Books

If your financial aid exceeds the cost of Grand Valley charges, you are able to charge your books to your student account at the University Bookstore prior to the first week of classes.

For more information about your bill and payment, contact the Student Accounts Office at 616-331-2209. You can also access this information at www.gvsu.edu/studentaccounts.

Planning for Next Year (2010-2011):

You will need to file your FAFSA **each** year in order to determine your future eligibility for financial aid. Grand Valley's priority deadline for filing the FAFSA is March 1, 2010. You can start filing the your FAFSA on January 1, 2010.

GVSU Financial Aid Office

100 Student Services Building

Allendale, MI 49401

www.gvsu.edu/financialaid

Phone: 616-331-3234

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