



COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER

Office of Student
Financial Planning

*College of Physicians
and Surgeons*

College of Dental Medicine

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February, 2017

TO: ALL INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS IN THE CLASS OF 2021

[www.cumc.columbia.edu/
student/finaid](http://www.cumc.columbia.edu/student/finaid)

Congratulations on your admission to the College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Please read the section, "**International Students Who Do Not Hold a US Permanent Resident Visa**" in our Handbook.

If you will need loans to pay for school, you must show loan approvals before an I-20 Form can be completed. All lenders of "alternative" loans use creditworthiness as one of the criteria for loan approval. You should begin immediately to secure credit-worthy cosigners. Please see the memo about this for further information. Given the challenge of finding creditworthy cosigners for all four years of school, if you are having difficulty finding cosigners, please let us know right away.

You can find our *Handbook* and all the instructions, forms and links you'll need to complete your financial aid application on our website, www.cumc.columbia.edu/student/finaid.

If you will be applying for financial aid please act promptly to complete and submit the required documents as soon as possible but no later than February 28th, or two weeks after our offer of admission, whichever is later. Please be sure that Your Name, MD' 21, appears on all materials you submit directly to our office.

The Aid Type Request Form should be completed and returned directly (fax or email is acceptable) to our office immediately. You should also complete the CSS Profile Application as soon as possible as it is difficult to give even a "guestimate" without the data loaded to our system; You will also need to provide 2015 tax documents. If your parents live overseas, all of the applications/links are available on our website.

Should any of your personal information change after you submit the application materials, or if you have questions or concerns about the application process, please email Ideta Daniel at ild12037@cumc.columbia.edu. Ms. Daniel will be your financial aid officer.

Please pay special attention to the deadline for the "Interschool Scholarships" listed in our *Handbook*. If you believe you are eligible for any of these scholarships, email us as soon as possible, explaining how you qualify.

You should become an educated consumer and take the initiative to learn all that you can about your options, given your personal financial situation. Please realize that the responsibility is primarily yours when it comes to finances. We appreciate the importance of financial aid in planning your medical education. You may find the "Comparing Financial Aid Offers" letter useful. This sheet highlights points to consider when comparing financial aid packages from various medical schools. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need further information.

Sincerely,

Ellen Spilker, Executive Director