

January, 2024

TO: ALL NEW STUDENTS

Congratulations on your admission to the Master of Science Program in Occupational Therapy!

You can find our *Financial Aid Handbook*, and all the forms and links you'll need to complete your financial aid application on our <u>website</u>. You will also be able to see the estimated cost of attendance there. Please note, our website application instructions and Student Budgets have not yet been updated for the 2024-25 year. We will notify you once they have been updated. We expect our update to be ready in February.

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 2 weeks after your offer of admission. Most application materials will be completed online. If you submit anything directly to our office, please be sure that <u>Your Name</u>, <u>OTMS '26</u>, appears on all materials.

Once you receive a separate email from our Office with instructions on how to access <u>NetPartner</u>, please complete the Aid Type Request Form on-line via as soon as possible.

In the meantime, you should complete the <u>FAFSA</u>. You will be using 2022 tax year information. Your (and your spouse's) consent and approval is needed to retrieve and disclose federal tax information (FTI). With your consent and approval, FAFSA can obtain tax return information automatically from the IRS which will help you complete the form. If you do not provide consent and approval, you will not be eligible for federal student aid, including Federal Direct Loans and Federal Work Study. You must provide consent and approval even if you did not file a U.S. federal tax return or any tax return at all. If you have already completed your *FAFSA*, and Columbia University Title IV Code 002707 was not one of the schools you originally listed, please go online and add us.

If you are also applying for school need-based funds, also complete the <u>CSS Profile Application</u> no later than 2 weeks after your offer of admission, as it is difficult to give even a "guestimate" of your financial aid package without having your data loaded to our system. You will also need to provide 2022 tax documents, which can be uploaded via IDOC.

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 our <u>office</u>. Please indicate in your email that you will be a first year OT student, by putting <u>OTMS '26</u> after your name.

Please pay special attention to the June 1st deadline for the "<u>Interschool Scholarships"</u>. It is listed on our <u>website</u> under your application instructions. If you believe you are eligible for any of these scholarships, email us as soon as possible, explaining how you qualify.

OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID & PLANNING
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY VAGELOS COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF DENTAL MEDICINE

We realize the importance of financial aid in planning your education. Become an educated consumer and take the initiative to learn all that you can about your options, given your personal financial situation. Do not hesitate to <u>contact us</u> if you need further information.

Sincerely,

Ellen Spilker, Executive Director

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