

## Financial Aid Information for Eating Club Members

Undergraduate Financial Aid  
Princeton University  
220 Morrison Hall, Box 591  
Princeton, New Jersey 08542-0591  
(609) 258-3330 Email: [faoffice@princeton.edu](mailto:faoffice@princeton.edu)

**Policy:** The financial aid budget for all juniors and seniors includes an increased board allowance to help reduce cost considerations when choosing a dining option. In 2017-18, the board allowance for juniors and seniors is \$8,870, \$2,240 more than the cost of the University unlimited meal plan. If you take a University meal plan, join a food co-op, or eat independently, you will generally spend less than the budgeted amount on food. If you join an eating club, this higher board allowance will make it easier to afford a club meal plan.

*Keep in mind that this does not mean that financial aid will pay an eating club directly, nor does it change the way you receive aid funds.*

**If you take a University meal contract:** The charge for the meal plan will be included on your University bill. Since University board contracts cost substantially less than the \$8,870 board allowance, families typically see a savings on their University bill. You may estimate your 2017-18 University bill online at <https://swebapps.princeton.edu/Estimator/estimator.pl>

**If you join an eating club, go independent, or join a food co-op:** There will be no board charge from the University on your student bill. This means that you may owe less to the University than you did in your sophomore year. Because your University bill is likely to be lower, it should be easier for your family to pay an eating club directly, or for you to purchase food elsewhere. Students who qualify for aid credits in excess of \$56,000 may have an aid refund available from their student account to help with their non-University charges, including dining expenses. If you are eligible for a refund, you may request a 'credit release\*' online at [www.princeton.edu/studentaccounts](http://www.princeton.edu/studentaccounts) prior to the start of the fall term.

**If you take a shared club/college meal plan contract:** The effect on your student account will be essentially the same as for any other club member. There will be no charge on your student account for your shared meal plan and your eating club will bill you directly.

We hope this information helps as you think about your choices. We encourage you to visit our Online Bill Estimator at <https://swebapps.princeton.edu/Estimator/estimator.pl> to see how your University bill may be impacted by your dining choice.

\*Detailed 'credit release' instructions can be found on the second page of this publication.

## Using Financial Aid to Pay Your Club

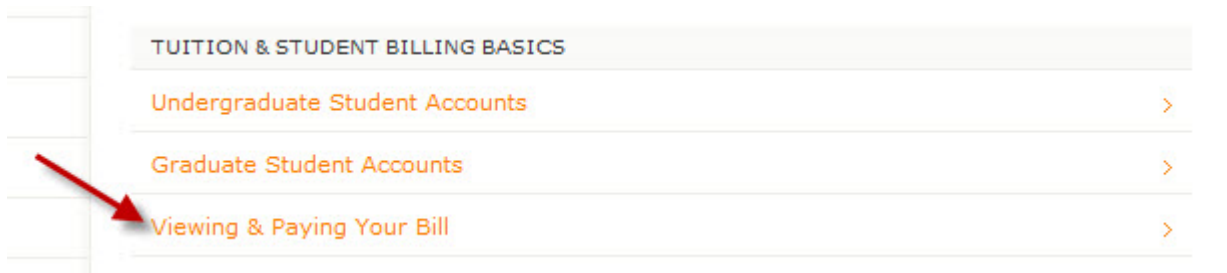
Most students receiving financial aid find that the additional assistance they receive as juniors and seniors reduces the Princeton bill, freeing up family resources to pay an eating club directly.

***In most cases, students on financial aid will pay their club bills directly, just as non-aid families do.***

However, students qualifying for large grants (in excess of \$56,000) may have aid available to help pay their club after the University bill is paid.

To see if you have excess funding available, follow these steps:

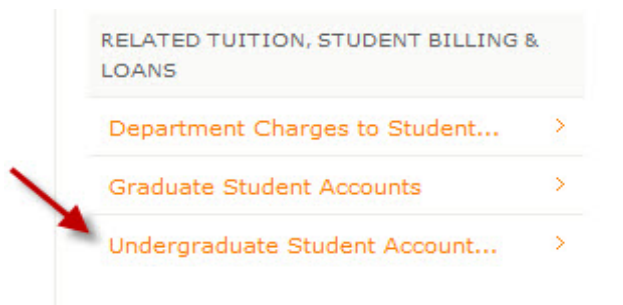
- 1) Visit [www.princeton.edu/studentaccounts](http://www.princeton.edu/studentaccounts). Click on “Viewing and Paying Your Bill.”



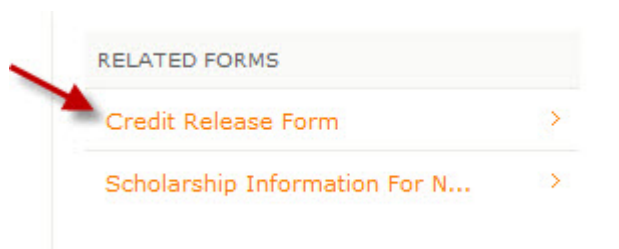
- 2) Login to TigerPay to see if you have a credit balance.

***If you have a credit balance in your student account, you may release the credit to your club as follows:***

- 3) Return to the “Viewing and Paying Your Bill” web page and click “Undergraduate Student Accounts” on the right hand side of the page.



- 4) From the “Undergraduate Student Accounts” page, click “Credit Release Form” on the right hand side of the page.



- 5) The Student Accounts Office will forward payment to your club 7-10 business days after the fall semester begins. You will also receive a confirmation of your credit release submission on the credit release website. You should forward this confirmation to your club business manager to notify them of any pending payment.