Paying for Books

While the Purdue Promise program helps cover expenses up to the estimated Cost of Attendance (listed as “Budget” in myPurdue under the Financial tab), students may have to cover upfront expenses before the Division of Financial Aid (DFA) releases refund checks* to students. Please note that not every student receives a refund. The best way to determine if you will receive a refund is to check your bill for a negative amount. This negative number indicates the amount you can expect to receive. It is possible that you may receive your refund before classes start, but your refund may be delayed because of outside factors. The University cannot release refunds until at least one week before the start of classes.

If you expect to receive a refund, we recommended two options for purchasing books. We don't recommend waiting until after classes start to order books online as you'll increase your chances of falling behind in course readings and assignments while you wait for it to arrive.

OPTION 1: Pay for books out of pocket.

OPTION 2: Take out an emergency loan from the Office of the Dean of Students (ODOS) while you wait for your refund to disperse.

For more information about emergency loans, visit: https://www.purdue.edu/odos/sac/emergency-loans/

* If students take advantage of all aid offered, including loans, they may have a moderate amount of aid in excess of what is owed to the University to help provide money for off-campus housing, books, supplies, or other indirect educational expenses. This is a refund. More information on refunds can be found at http://www.purdue.edu/dfa/refunds.php.