To receive Financial Aid from Sam Houston, you must complete these steps.

1. Complete the FAFSA online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. You will need a PIN to electronically sign the application. Parental information may also be required.

2. Check the status of your Financial Aid application online through “My Sam” portal at www.shsu.edu.
   - Log into “My Sam”
   - Click on the “My Account” tab
   - View the Financial Aid Requirements section.

3. Once all required items have been received and reviewed for completeness, an award notification E-Mail will be sent to your SHSU E-Mail account.

4. Accept or decline offered aid online through the “My Sam” portal at www.shsu.edu.
   - Log into “My Sam”
   - Click on the “My Account” tab
   - Click on “Financial Aid Awards”
   - Select aid year (Academic Year 20YY-20YY)
   - Be sure to go through each tab before accepting your awards on the “Accept Award Offer” tab.

5. If all requirements are complete, your aid will automatically disburse to your student account approximately 3 to 5 business days prior to classes beginning.

6. Go to BearkatOne.com to setup your refund preference.

---

OneAccount: An FDIC-Insured Checking Account Linked to Your Bearkat OneCard.

The OneAccount is offered to you with no minimum balance requirements and no monthly fee for students. When you deposit funds to the OneAccount, your Bearkat OneCard can be used as a Debit MasterCard®. Your OneAccount gives you the convenience of a widely accepted debit card with the budgeting control of an FDIC-insured checking account.

How do I make a deposit into my OneAccount?

- Direct deposit of your paychecks
- EasyDepositSM check capture through the Higher One app
- “Cash In” with MoneyPak® transfer
- Use the OneAccount’s Send Money feature to quickly and securely receive money from friends and family

Visit BearkatOne.com to learn more about OneAccount’s deposit options.

How can I access the funds in my OneAccount? The two quickest methods of accessing your OneAccount funds are:

- Use one of the Higher One ATMs located on our campuses. Main Campus: Estill Building, Paw Print, Library. The Woodland Center Campus.
- Swipe & Sign! Choose credit instead of debit at any merchant that accepts MasterCard® to avoid transaction fees.

What is a refund preference and what are my options?

A refund preference is the method you choose to receive money owed to you from the University. Refunds can include, but are not limited to: excess Financial Aid money, dropped class refunds, and residence hall deposits.

When you activate your Bearkat OneCard you are presented with two refund options.

Available refund options:

- Same day deposit to a Higher One checking account. Money deposited to the account the same business day funds are released by SHSU to Higher One.

OneAccount

Great mobile features and easy ways to deposit!

- Deposit to another account. Money in two to three business days.

When it comes to deciding how to get your money, just choose the option that best fits your needs.

---

SHSU Refund Process

Activating the Bearkat OneCard will grant you access to the many privileges offered to the students of Sam Houston State University.

The Bearkat OneCard is required for:

- Meal plans
- Bearkat Bucks
- Assigned Residence Hall
- Entrance to athletic events
- University sponsored functions
- Recreational Sports facility
- Kat Klub
- Newton Gresham Library services
- Managing refund preferences
- Student payroll preferences
- University Health Center services
- Bursar’s office
- Sam Center (Student Advising)
- Career Services
- Departmental Identification

---

Managing refund preferences

1 If the account holder is a student, as defined below, or performs a direct deposit of $100.00 or more per month, the $3.95 monthly service fee will not be assessed. A financial aid refund does not qualify as a direct deposit. Students are defined as those who have received a financial aid deposit to their Higher One checking account in the past 6 months or self-identified as a student on their program website.
More Questions? Contact us at

Bearkat OneCard Services
Estill Building, Suite 230
936-294-2273
BearkatOne@shsu.edu

Office hours:
8:00 am-5:00 pm M-F

How do I get a Bearkat OneCard?

- Have your photo taken in the Bearkat OneCard Office. (It is mandatory to present a valid state or government-issued photo ID in order to request a Bearkat OneCard.)
- Have a valid and current address on file with the University.
- Be currently registered for classes.

Once these steps have been completed, your Bearkat OneCard will be mailed to you. Upon receipt, it’s essential to choose your refund preference at BearkatOne.com. Selecting your refund preference also activates your campus ID functionality.

Do I have to activate my card?

Yes, you have to activate your card for ID purposes. You will also use your card to choose your refund preference. You will complete the following steps during activation:

1. Grant yourself access to the privileges offered to the students of Sam Houston State University.
2. Select your refund preference.

In order to receive University services, your ID card must be activated.