



“Financial aid” is the broad term that refers to money that students can use to pay for college. There are several kinds of financial aid, with the most common being grants, scholarships, and loans. This resource will help you become familiar with these terms and other foundational concepts to support you in making informed choices about financial aid and seeking more information when necessary.

THE LANDSCAPE

WHAT? DEFINING KEY TERMS

Financial Aid: This broad term refers to money and resources that students can use to pay for college. There are several kinds of financial aid, with the most common being grants, scholarships, and loans.

FAFSA: The Free Application for Federal Student Aid is an application U.S. citizens and legal residents can complete to determine their eligibility for federal student aid and other programs to help pay for college. The FAFSA is always free to complete. It can be completed at [FAFSA.gov](https://fafsa.gov) or on paper.

FAFSA Submission Summary: A summary of the information you provided on your FAFSA, including your Student Aid Index (SAI) and estimated federal aid eligibility. You may receive this summary through your college coordinator or by mail. This document is very important! You should review your FAFSA submission summary for accuracy, consult with your program coordinator, and save it for your records. The submission summary is not the actual award you are being offered – it is just an estimate.

Financial Aid Offer Letter: A letter from your college listing the specific financial aid amounts and types of aid that you are being offered for one year. Amounts may change if you take fewer courses.

HOW? THE PROCESS

At the broadest level, you can think of the financial aid process as three stages: applying for the aid, accepting the aid, and using the aid. The next section will help break this process down into manageable steps. You may want to consult additional resources mentioned in the text for even more information.

Additional terms in **blue** throughout this resource can be found in the *Navigating Forward Glossary*.

WHO? KEY PLAYERS

The Department of Education's Federal Student Aid Office: The federal office that is responsible for overseeing **Federal Student Aid (FSA)** programs, like grants and loans. They are the ones processing FAFSA applications and giving your college information to use to calculate your financial aid award.

Your college's financial aid office: The office at your school that is responsible for calculating and communicating your financial offers and awards to you. This is who you will work with if you are selected for **verification** (more on that later). They will also communicate any requirements you need to meet to stay eligible for your aid. If you have questions about your FAFSA, financial aid award, financial aid options, or **account balance**, this is the best place to turn.

You, the financial aid applicant: During the financial aid application process, you will be required to provide personal information about your finances and identity by completing several forms and providing various records. The financial aid process can feel overwhelming, but you play an important role in the process, so don't be afraid to ask questions, request information, and be involved!





TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID

SCHOLARSHIPS

- A form of free or gift aid, which does not need to be paid back.
- There are several kinds, including merit-based scholarships, which are awarded based on achievement, and need-based scholarships, which are awarded based on demonstrated financial need.
- Scholarships are available for specific programs, populations, or talents, and many are awarded through competitive applications.
- Scholarships can come from colleges, governments, companies, foundations, nonprofits, or individuals. They can range in size from small to covering the entire cost of attendance.

GRANTS

- Grants are a form of free aid or gift aid, which doesn't need to be repaid. (*The only exception could be if you do not successfully complete a course, you may end up needing to repay the college. This is not the same as a loan debt.)
- Grants, funded by state and federal governments, are taxpayer benefits awarded based on financial need, such as the Federal Pell Grant.
- You will need to complete the FAFSA for federal and some state financial aid, including grants.
- Most grants are not expected to cover the entire cost of attendance for many college programs, and there are typically limits for how long a student can continue to use a certain grant.



FEDERAL WORK-STUDY

- Work-Study is a federal program that provides part-time employment for eligible students with financial need. To receive this type of aid, you will have to be determined to be eligible, and then be hired in a work-study-eligible job.
- Work-Study is partially paid for by the federal government and partially funded by the college.
- This form of financial aid is beneficial for helping students cover the costs of school outside of tuition and fees, like living expenses and course materials.
- Incarcerated students can apply for Work-Study by first completing the FAFSA. If eligible, the next step is securing an approved job.

STUDENT LOANS

- Loans are a form of financial aid that are **not** free and will need to be paid back, with interest, which is a fee added to borrowed money.
- Defaulted student loans will hurt your credit score and could lead to garnished wages, or other financial challenges.
- Complete the FAFSA to apply for federal student loans, which you can accept or turn down.
- Incarcerated students aren't eligible for federal student loans.
- Public loans, issued by the federal government, usually have better terms than private loans from banks or lenders, which are often more expensive and less flexible. Some colleges, especially **for-profit**, offer institutional loans—private loans managed by the school.





WHAT SHOULD I ASK?

Key questions you may want to ask your program about financial aid:

1. How are the tuition and fees of this program paid for?
2. Is tuition for this program being waived or are students receiving financial aid to cover the cost of attendance?
3. Is this program an approved **PEP** and are students eligible to apply for Pell Grants?
4. Do I need to complete the FAFSA for this program, and how will students get more information about how and when to do that?
5. If a student is not approved to receive a Pell Grant, will they still be allowed to enroll in this program?
6. Are there other scholarships or grants that students in this program may be eligible for?
7. Will students in this program be expected to pay any remaining balances after all financial aid is received?

Use this space to write down a few questions you have for the financial aid office at your college or things you hope to gain a better understanding of from this resource.

Use this space to write down **new questions** that pop up for you as you work through this resource.





A CLOSER LOOK AT THE FINANCIAL AID PROCESS

This section may help you understand what to generally expect from the financial aid process, although the journey can be full of unexpected twists and turns. The following pages will elaborate on these six steps:

1. Complete and submit the **FAFSA**
2. Complete scholarship and state aid applications
3. Review your FAFSA **submission summary**
4. Review your **financial aid offer** letter
5. Use the aid
6. Make plans for any unmet costs

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STEP ONE:

IMPORTANT NOTE

If you are part of a college cohort or **prison education program**, your school may want everyone in your program to complete the FAFSA together at a specific time, so check with someone from your college before you complete the FAFSA on your own.

Complete and Submit the FAFSA

- The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (**FAFSA**) is a free federal form released by the Department of Education each year, which colleges use to determine your financial aid eligibility.
- U.S. citizens and legal residents can complete the FAFSA to determine their eligibility for **Federal Student Aid** like the **Pell Grant**, federal loans, and **Federal Work-Study**.
- You can complete it even if you aren't eligible for federal aid. The FSA website encourages:

"Even if you are ineligible for federal student aid, you should complete the FAFSA form, because most schools and states use FAFSA information to award nonfederal aid, and you might be able to get some of those funds."

- The FAFSA can be completed online (FAFSA.gov) and there is also a paper version for incarcerated students, which can be completed and mailed. Completing the form should always be free.
- Putting accurate and complete information in your FAFSA is absolutely essential for it to be processed successfully. This includes getting your full legal name spelling and your mailing address exactly correct. Enter your name exactly as it appears on your Social Security card. (Sometimes this spelling may be different than the spelling used by the prison system; that is ok).
- The information you provide on the FAFSA is used to calculate your **Student Aid Index (SAI)**, which measures your financial need and is used to determine your eligibility for federal student aid.
- You are eligible to complete the FAFSA if you:
 - Are enrolling in college and need to pay for college
 - Have a valid Social Security Number
 - Give consent to have your federal tax information transferred directly from the IRS to the **FSA**





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STEP TWO:

Complete Scholarship and State Aid Applications

- Most states use data from the FAFSA to evaluate eligibility for state-based financial aid, but many states have an **additional** application they require as well. Some state aid applications are very simple to complete – only asking a handful of questions. Ask your college or a counselor about the state financial aid application process where you live. For more information about state financial aid, see the **State Financial Aid** section in this resource.
- Some colleges also have their own financial aid application that you must fill out in addition to completing the FAFSA. Ask about your school's financial aid application requirements.
- Some scholarships require their own application, an essay, scores from a certain **standardized test** (like the ACT or SAT), letters of recommendation, or other documentation. If you are submitting any writing samples for an application, identify a mentor or fellow student that can give you feedback on your writing and help you revise and strengthen your essay or answers.
- You may need supporting documentation to prove your eligibility for some aid programs. If possible, try to work with an **academic advisor** or another representative from your college to make sure you can access copies of any supporting documents you may need.

Talk to one of your college advisors and use this space to write down any state aid you are familiar with and its requirements, as well as any scholarships you want to request more information about:

KEY TERMS

Contributors: If you are under the age of 24 or you are married and not separated from your spouse, you may also need to provide information and signature from a parent or spouse. Learn more in the resource **FAFSA Overview**.

LEARN MORE

For more information about federal student aid eligibility and what to do if you are not eligible, check out the resources **Pell Grant Overview** and **Options Beyond the Pell Grant**.

Last Revised: 2/10/2025





STEP THREE:

FAFSA

Submission Summary

July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

Federal Student Aid

An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

Use this form to review and correct information on your 2024–25 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form. Or correct your FAFSA information online at fafsa.gov.John William Smith Jr.
742 Evergreen Terrace
Springfield, OH 55555-5555
USApril 05, 2024
Data Release Number (DRN): 9755
Student Aid Index (SAI): 000000*CDear John William Smith Jr.,
Your FAFSA Submission Summary shows the information you submitted on your 2024–25 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form, which was received on 04/01/2024 and processed on 04/05/2024. You can use this summary to check your application

FAFSA Submission Su

Review Your FAFSA Submission Summary

- The FAFSA submission summary is an official document from the **FSA** that shows a summary of the information you provided on your FAFSA, an estimate of your award eligibility, and comments sharing any corrections or next steps you need to take.
- As an incarcerated student, you may receive this summary through your financial aid office, by mail to the address you put on your FAFSA, or in your online studentaid.gov account (if you filed electronically).
- Read over your summary document carefully because it will allow you to correct mistakes and instruct you on how to make necessary changes. Make sure to review the following key pieces of information:
 - Is your contact information at the top correct?
 - Is the data that the Federal Student Aid Office entered from your paper application correct? Make sure that all of the boxes you completed on the original application are filled out correctly and completely on the summary. If blank spots have appeared where you originally had information, you may need to make corrections.
 - Has your application been flagged for verification? About 30% of students are selected at random for a process called **verification**, which will be noted on the submission summary (or you may also hear from someone at your college's financial aid office). When applicants are selected for verification, they must provide supporting documents confirming certain financial or household information. If selected, your college will provide you with information on how to complete the verification process.
 - Are you eligible for the **Pell Grant**? Be aware that this is an estimate; it's not an official offer.
 - What is your **Student Aid Index (SAI)**? This is a number ranging from -1500 and 999,999. The lower your number, the more aid you will be eligible to receive. If your SAI is zero or a negative number, you may be eligible for the maximum Pell Grant, depending on the number of courses you take.
 - What comments are shared and what next steps are you being instructed to complete? Comments may require you to start a correction or send additional documentation to the school you plan to attend. Other comments may be informational and do not require any further action.
 - Does your submission summary report any errors or request changes?

IMPORTANT NOTE

If you have FAFSA corrections to make, you should seek assistance from a financial aid officer or representative from your program **before** you attempt to make these changes and **before** mailing back your corrected form.

Last Revised: 2/10/2025





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STEP FOUR:

Review Your Aid Offer

- Your college should provide you with a **financial aid offer** letter that outlines the cost of your education and the different financial aid types and amounts that are being offered to you.
- Your aid offer letter shows what you are eligible for, but you do not have to accept all of the aid that is offered. You have the ability to decline if you choose. This is especially important if you have been offered student loans because you don't have to accept them, or you may choose to accept a smaller amount.
- Some possible reasons to decline financial aid may include:
 - You are concerned about your Pell **Lifetime Eligibility Used** and using up all of your Pell Grant before you can complete specific programs or degrees on the outside. Learn more about this in the resource **Pell Grant Overview**.
 - Loans, which are different from grants and scholarships, will cause you to owe debt, so you will want to review these offers carefully and try to talk with a financial aid officer about whether it makes sense for you to take on debt in order to go to college. See **Types of Financial Aid** below for more information.
 - You may choose to accept some loans but not the full amount offered because, to reduce your debt, you only want to borrow as much as you really need.
 - You may want to save certain options for later if you plan to enroll in **undergraduate** programs in the future and don't want to use up those resources now. For example, a GI Bill may cover extra expenses like housing and the cost of living if you wait to use it post-release. Your advisor can help you weigh these choices and options.
 - If you are eligible for work-study, but you decide you don't want to get an eligible job, you wouldn't be obligated to use it.
- If your college doesn't send you a financial aid offer letter, you can check with your program advisor or representative to ask for their assistance getting a document that shows how your college program is being paid for.

IMPORTANT NOTE**"100% Financial Aid" Offer Letter:**

Make sure that you read any financial aid offer letters carefully before accepting your award. You may be told that 100% of your costs are covered by financial aid, but some of that aid may be in the form of **loans** that need to be repaid. Proprietary (**for-profit**) colleges and universities may offer private loans that could seem like scholarships. Pay attention to your award letter and remember that not all financial aid is free.

For students who are not incarcerated, loans can be a helpful option to help cover the cost of school, but only if that decision is being made with all of the information and a plan for repayment. If you are considering student loans, get information from your financial aid office and any financial aid counselors that are available in your area. Some communities have financial empowerment centers for residents to get free help with financial planning and decision-making. Don't be afraid to ask for help and more information before making any big financial commitment.





STEP FIVE:

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Use Your Aid

Your college will receive your financial aid funds directly and will apply the payments to your student bill.

- Most financial aid transactions will happen directly between the college and the funder.
- A **disbursement** is the payment of federal student aid funds (or money) by the college to a student's college account. Your college will likely issue disbursements at least twice during each aid year.
- After all of your financial aid has been applied to your bill, sometimes your account may have extra funds left over. This is called a **credit balance**, and students who are not incarcerated can use these funds to pay for **indirect costs**, like purchasing textbooks or paying for the cost of living. These funds may come to students in the form of a check (sometimes referred to as a “refund check”) or can sometimes be used to make purchases at the school.
- The Federal Department of Education currently prohibits using **Pell Grant** dollars to create credit balances for incarcerated students. This means Pell Grants can be used to pay for the direct costs of college, but if there are any extra Pell dollars in an incarcerated student's account, the college must return those funds to the Department of Education instead of issuing a check to the student.

IMPORTANT NOTE

Many of the financial aid policies related to incarcerated students are new, and mistakes can happen. If you ever receive a “refund” check from your school while you are incarcerated, it could actually be a mistake, which unfortunately could cause problems for you down the line. If a school sends you money that it shouldn't have, this is sometimes called an “overpayment,” and the school **can** require you to return the money. If you aren't able to pay them back (because you cashed the check already), you would owe a debt to the school, which could actually prevent you from registering for classes.

While you are incarcerated, it is possible that a check from your school could be for legitimate reasons, like winning a competition or earning a scholarship that doesn't need to be returned, but if you were not expecting a payment, it is in your best interest to inquire before using the check. Don't let someone else's mistake be costly for you!

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STEP SIX:

Identify and Make Plans for Any Unmet Costs

- After all of your financial aid has been applied to your bill, if you have a remaining debt, you may need to speak with your school to arrange a plan for those unmet costs. Your college may be able to cover them through private scholarships or other funding sources. If you're ever in this situation, talk to someone at your school before you assume you have run out of options.
- If you have taken out student loans, be sure to read the loan terms and update all of your contact information, so you can stay on top of repayment when it is due.





FEDERAL STUDENT AID

ARE INCARCERATED STUDENTS ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID?

If you are an incarcerated college student, you have limited eligibility for **federal student aid**.

As of **July 1, 2023**, if you're confined or incarcerated in a federal or state facility, the following applies to you:

- You may be eligible for a Federal **Pell Grant** if you are enrolled in an **approved prison education program**. Learn more about this in the resources **Pell Grant Overview** and **FAFSA Overview**.
- You can get **Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)** and **Federal Work-Study (FWS)**, if you qualify.
- You are not eligible for **federal student loans**.

AM I ELIGIBLE FOR WORK-STUDY?

Your FAFSA **Submission Summary** and your **financial aid award** letter will let you know if you are eligible for a financial aid program called Federal Work-Study, which is also explained in the section **Types of Financial Aid** above.

Here is what you need to know about Federal Work-Study generally:

- The Federal Work-Study Program gives you an opportunity to gain valuable work experience while attending college, career school, or trade school. And unlike a federal student loan, you don't have to pay this money back.
- You must submit the FAFSA (which may ask you if you want to be considered for Work-Study)
- If you qualify for Work-Study, a job is not guaranteed.
- You would receive your Work-Study funds through a regular paycheck.
- Work-Study jobs are part time.
- You must keep your grades up to stay eligible.

Here is what you need to know about Federal Work-Study in Prison:

- It is possible for incarcerated students to qualify if they are hired in an eligible job.
- The logistical difficulties of being hired in a qualifying Work-Study job while incarcerated may prevent you from benefiting from this program on the inside.
- Check with your correctional facility's principal or your program coordinator from your college to find out if your facility would be able to accommodate a qualifying job.

IMPORTANT NOTE

The information here is determined by federal laws and policies, which can change! You may need to ask your college for more up-to-date information.





STATE FINANCIAL AID

In addition to federal aid, many states have **merit-based** (qualification is based on achievement) and **need-based** (qualification is based on financial need) aid programs. Your state may also have financial aid programs for individuals going into certain professions, seeking certain kinds of training, or belonging to certain groups.

> **For example:** Eight states (AR, FL, GA, KY, NM, SC, TN, and WV) have a merit-based scholarship program that is funded by money from the state lottery, and the majority of these states require students to have achieved a minimum GPA of 3.0 in high school in addition to reaching a certain score on the ACT standardized test.

In March of 2024, the Education Commission of the States, a non-profit educational policy organization, conducted a study about the availability of state aid for college for students who are currently or formerly incarcerated. They identified 98 state financial aid programs across all 50 states. Within those 98 programs, 65 of them did not restrict aid based on a person's status as incarcerated, nor based on prior felony convictions. The availability of state aid for incarcerated students will vary by state and also will vary from one scholarship or grant program to the next.

> **For example:** Michigan has two state aid programs, the Michigan Competitive Scholarship, which (at the time of this publication) cannot be awarded to someone who is incarcerated, and the Tuition Incentive Program, which can be awarded to an incarcerated student.

This information, and a more detailed state-by-state comparison of state aid, can be found in a March 2024 report entitled "State Financial Aid Barriers for Students Impacted by the Justice System," which was written by the Education Commission of the States. If you have access to the internet, you can find this resource at <https://www.ecs.org/50-state-comparison-state-financial-aid-barriers-for-students-impacted-by-the-justice-system-2024/>.

Check with a representative from your college to make sure you are aware of any state grants or scholarships that might be available to you. If you don't have a contact at the college yet, try asking a family member or other trusted person to call the college's financial aid office to learn more about what options you may have.

KEY TAKEAWAYS ABOUT STATE AID:

- Applicants will often need to complete the **FAFSA** in order to apply for state aid, though many states also use additional forms to evaluate a student's financial need.
- Aid may be merit-based, need-based, a combination of both, or based on a special interest or circumstance.
- State law and policy will govern whether incarcerated students are eligible, so ask what the eligibility criteria are for the aid programs in your state.





STUDENT LOANS

Though you are not eligible for federal loans while you are incarcerated, you may consider using student loans if you take college courses after you are released. The following chart breaks down the very basic differences between three types of student loans. We strongly encourage you to continue to do your own independent research and speak with an advisor or advocate before you take on any debt.

TYPE OF LOAN	DEFINITION	ADVANTAGES (COMPARED TO OTHER LOANS)	DISADVANTAGES (COMPARED TO OTHER LOANS)
Direct, subsidized loan	A need-based loan from the federal government; the “subsidized” part means that interest does not accumulate on the loan while a student is in school.	You should always accept this type of loan before any other type of loan. Interest doesn't start to build until after you finish school. They also have lower interest rates than private loans, and interest rates will not change over time (they're fixed). These loans are the most likely kind to be eligible for government forgiveness or payment assistance programs in the future, which may help you reduce or delay monthly payments based on your income or other factors.	Eligibility is limited and based on financial need. The borrowing limits can be lower and may not cover the full cost of tuition and fees. Sometimes your Financial Aid Offer will include some subsidized loans for a small portion of your Cost of Attendance, and unsubsidized loans for the remainder. With public loans, if you are in default (not paying your loans back when they are due), the federal government can garnish wages or seize tax refunds.
Direct, unsubsidized loan	A need-based loan from the federal government; the “unsubsidized” part means that interest starts accumulating on the loan immediately, as soon as the loan is issued.	Typically these loans have lower interest rates than private loans, and those interest rates are fixed (they won't change or go up). These loans are more likely than private loans to be eligible for government forgiveness or repayment assistance programs.	The borrowing limits may be lower than with some private loans. With public loans, if you are in default (not paying your loans back when they are due), the federal government can garnish wages or seize tax refunds.
Private loan	A loan, typically funded by private banks or credit unions; interest starts accumulating as soon as loan is awarded. Private loans could also be offered by the school if you are enrolling in a proprietary (for-profit) college or university. Be aware that loans from your school are not free.	This type of loan may have higher limits, meaning you may be able to borrow more than with public loans. Although this may be an advantage if you aren't eligible for federal loans or have extra educational expenses, it is important never to borrow more than you need -- especially with high interest private loans.	Interest rates can be higher and can increase over the course of your repayment window, so your debt can grow by a lot very quickly. Private loans are not eligible for many government forgiveness or payment programs to assist borrowers. There may be fewer options to delay or adjust payment in the future.

IMPORTANT NOTE

If you have student loans that are currently in **default**, this will impact your eligibility to receive financial aid in the future. Being in bad standing with old loans can be overwhelming, but you have options! Your first priority will be to get out of default, and this doesn't necessarily require paying the entire loan, or even making a large payment. You may be able to rehabilitate or consolidate your loans at no cost. This process can be initiated online, by phone, or by mail. If you aren't sure about your loan status, ask your college program to help you explore your options with **Fresh Start**, **loan rehabilitation**, or **loan consolidation**.





SAMPLE FINANCIAL AID OFFER LETTER:

This sample financial aid offer letter was developed by an organization called NASFAA (National Association of Student Financial Aid and Administrators), which is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing essential professional development, information, and services to financial aid administrators, and advocating for public policies that increase student access to and success in postsecondary education.

This letter is just a sample; the format your college uses for outlining student financial aid offers might look different. For more information about how to interpret your financial aid award letter, ask your point of contact at your college.

Estimated Annual Cost of Attendance (COA) 2024-2025 Award Year

Costs Payable to the University		Other Estimated Costs	
Tuition	\$15,915	Books & Supplies	\$820
Activity & Tech Fee	\$1,615	Transportation	\$1,735
Housing	\$6,510	Miscellaneous Expenses	\$921
Food	\$4,000		
Total Costs	\$28,040	Total Costs	\$3,476
Total Estimated Cost of Attendance		\$31,516	

Scholarships and Grants (refer to renewal eligibility on your student portal)

Aid Type	Fall 2024	Spring 2025	Annual
Federal Pell Grant	\$3,248	\$3,248	\$6,495
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant	\$300	\$300	\$600
State Grant	\$450	\$450	\$900
Merit Based Scholarship	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$11,000
Institutional Scholarship	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$3,000
Total Scholarships & Grants	\$10,998	\$10,998	\$21,995

Your estimated net price (cost of attendance less scholarships and grants):
This is based on your zero (0) Student Aid Index (SAI) and anticipated full-time
(12+ credits, preferably 15 credits) enrollment.

\$9,521

Loans (Self-Help Aid)

Aid Type	Fall 2024	Spring 2025	Annual
Federal Direct Subsidized Loan	\$1,750	\$1,750	\$3,500
Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000
Total Aid Offered	\$2,750	\$2,750	\$5,500

*Federal loans are funds that can be applied toward your cost of attendance and must be repaid. You must accept or decline your loan eligibility by logging into your student portal.

Estimated outstanding costs not covered by scholarships,
grants and loans.

\$4,021

Other Self-help Options

Aid Type	Fall 2024	Spring 2025	Annual
Federal Work-Study*	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$3,000

* Federal work-study funds are contingent upon finding employment. Earnings are paid out bi-weekly.

Other Financing Options

Outside Scholarships
Scholarships available from many sources including high schools, places of worship, civic groups, and parents' organizations. We recommend that you check with your high school guidance counselor, the reference section of your library, and organizations in your hometown. Receipt of outside scholarships could affect your eligibility for certain aid types.

Payment Plan
Sample University offers a 3-Pay tuition payment plan for those students who need to spread their tuition and fees across the semester.
Private Student Loan
Contingent upon application approval from a bank, credit union, non-profit

or state-based education finance organizations or online lender.

Federal Parent PLUS Loan
Contingent upon parent application approval. Parent must not have adverse credit history. Must be repaid by parent. For more information on these additional funding options please visit:

www.nancialaid.edu

Next Steps

- Accept or Decline all aid offered in the finances section of your student portal.
- Provide required documents for verification if applicable.
- Check important financial aid deadlines listed on your student portal.

Sample University is committed to helping you navigate the financial aid process. Please contact our helpful, experienced staff in the Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships for help understanding your Financial Aid Offer.
We look forward to serving you at Sample University and wish you the best in your academic endeavors. Please visit www.sample.edu/admitted for other important next steps.

Sample letter sourced from NASFAA: https://www.nasfaa.org/uploads/documents/dependent_aid_offer_model.pdf

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