

UNDERGRADUATE

Office of Student Financial Aid



The mission of the Office of Student Financial Aid is to help you and your family with the cost of attending the University of Wisconsin-Madison, by offering grants, work-study employment, and loans. Funds for these programs come from the federal government, the State of Wisconsin, and the university. We offer money management and debt counseling and information on other kinds of financial aid, such as scholarships and student employment.

How and When to Apply for Aid

We recommend that you complete your application as early as possible to make sure you are considered for all funds.

All applicants must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), available online at fafsa.ed.gov, as soon as possible after October 1, 2016. Use UW-Madison's school code 003895. UW-Madison's FAFSA priority deadline is December 1, 2016. After we receive your FAFSA we may request other information. The best way to keep track of the status of your financial aid application is to use the Student Center on My UW-Madison at my.wisc.edu. Once in the Student Center, click on the View Financial Aid module, select an aid year, followed by the Application Status link.

Special Students are not eligible for financial aid from our office unless returning to school for teacher certification (EDCS) or taking courses as pre-requisites for admission to a graduate of professional program (UNRS). Under these circumstances, students may qualify for Federal Direct Loans and Federal Work-Study.

Summer Aid: If you wish to apply for summer financial aid, go to My UW-Madison (my.wisc.edu) and click on "Student Center." In the "Finances" section find "View Financial Aid," select aid year 2018, and click on "Summer Application." Try to submit all required 2017-18 FAFSA information as soon as possible, but no later than May 15, 2017. To be eligible for summer financial aid you must be enrolled half-time in a session at least four weeks in length. Types of aid available for summer are usually limited to Federal Work-Study, Federal Direct Loan, Federal Direct PLUS Loan, and Federal Pell Grant. If you choose to accept a Federal Direct Loan during the summer it will affect your loan eligibility amounts for the following fall and spring semesters.

Note: Financial aid is awarded on an annual basis, so you must reapply every year.

Your Email and Address

We send most of our correspondence to students at their wisc.edu email address and/or mailing address. Keep both addresses updated with the university at "My UW-Madison," <https://my.wisc.edu>.

How We Calculate Your Financial Need

The Federal Student Aid program uses a formula to determine a family's contribution from information provided on your FAFSA. Some students may be selected to verify the accuracy of their FAFSA. All the information you provide to us is kept confidential and is used only as necessary to calculate your financial aid.

For financial aid purposes, "need" is defined as the difference between your cost of attendance (as determined by the university) and your Expected Family Contribution (EFC), which is calculated from the information you provided on your FAFSA.

Your Cost of Attendance

Although expenses at the University of Wisconsin–Madison vary from student to student, we base our decisions regarding financial aid on cost of attendance estimates, or “budgets.” We update these budgets yearly. They could be described as “modest, but adequate.” Below are the budgets we are using for an undergraduate for the 2017–18 academic year based on full-time enrollment.

	Wisconsin Resident	Non-Resident	Minnesota Resident
Tuition & Fees	\$10,488	\$34,738	\$13,761
Books & Supplies	1,200	1,200	1,200
Room & Board	10,842	10,842	10,842
Miscellaneous	2,300	2,300	2,300
Travel	760	1,370	1,050
Loan Free	64	64	64
TOTAL:	\$25,654	\$50,514	\$29,217

- Residency for tuition purposes is determined by the residence examiner in the Registrar’s Office.
- Students in certain academic majors have extra course-related allowances.

Your Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

It is a basic assumption of the federal financial aid programs that you and your family bear the main responsibility for paying college expenses. When the federal processor analyzes your FAFSA they calculate your Expected Family Contribution (EFC)—a measure of your family’s financial strength. This includes income, assets and debts, family size, number of children in college, and other factors. The EFC also takes into account your own income and assets.

Note About Independent Status: For financial aid purposes, you can be considered independent only if you meet one of the federal criteria listed below. Even if you are not supported by your parents or claimed as a dependent on your parent’s tax forms, to be eligible for financial aid as an independent or self-supporting student you must:

1. be born before January 1, 1994; or
2. be married; or
3. be working on a master’s or doctorate program (such as an MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, EdD, or graduate certificate, etc.) at the beginning of the 2017–18 school year; or
4. be currently serving active duty in the U.S. armed forces for purposes other than training; or
5. be a veteran of the U.S. armed forces; or
6. have children who will receive more than half of their support from the student between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018; or
7. have dependents (other than the student’s children or spouse) who live with the student and who receive more than half of their support from the student, now and through June 30, 2018; or

8. have been in foster care or a dependant or ward of the court at anytime since the student turned age 13 years, where both parents were deceased; or
9. be an emancipated minor as determined by a court in the student’s state of legal residence as of the date the FAFSA is filed; or
10. be in legal guardianship as determined by a court in the student’s state of legal residence as of the date the FAFSA is filed; or
11. be determined to be an unaccompanied youth who was homeless by the student’s high school or school district liaison at anytime on or after July 1, 2016; or
12. be determined to be an unaccompanied youth who was homeless by the director of an emergency shelter program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on or after July 1, 2016; or
13. be determined to be an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or was self-supporting and at risk of being homeless by the director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program on or after July 1, 2016.

Meeting Your Financial Need

Our office makes every effort to meet your financial need. In many cases there are not enough funds to meet the full need, especially for non-resident students. You may only be eligible for a standard amount of Federal Direct Loan based on your grade level (\$5,500 maximum for freshmen). You may need to rely on private or merit scholarships, Federal Direct PLUS loans, or private loans to supplement your aid package.

Your Financial Aid Award Offer

Students are sent an e-mail at their “wisc.edu” that contains their Financial Aid Award Notice as well as instructions for next steps.

Incoming Students — we will not begin processing your FAFSA until you have been fully ADMITTED to your program.

All Undergraduates — offers of financial aid typically begin going out in February for those with a complete 2017-18 application.

Financial Aid Changes and Appeals

The receipt of scholarships can sometimes impact other financial aid you have been offered. We will always notify you via email if a revision to your award occurs.

If your family’s income or expenses have changed dramatically since submitting the FAFSA, you may appeal.

To appeal, inform us of your special circumstances by sending a written statement explaining your situation in detail with supporting documentation to us (email, fax, or mail). Be sure to include your name and campus ID number. We will notify you as soon as possible of any change resulting from your special circumstances.

Because of funding limits, please be aware that a recalculation of your financial aid eligibility does not guarantee that any additional aid will be offered to you. To ensure fairness and compliance with federal, state, and university regulations there are limits to the circumstances we can consider.

We do not consider or match offers of financial aid from other

Types of Aid

When you apply for financial aid through our office you will be considered for the following types of aid. Some funds are limited, so it is always best to apply as early as possible.

Federal Pell Grant: Amounts up to \$5,920 based on need as determined by the Federal Pell Grant Program.

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG): Based on need (and availability of funds) as determined by our office.

Wisconsin Grant: A state grant program for Wisconsin residents, based on need as determined by the Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board and our office.

University Gift and Trust Funds: Donors make many bequests to the university to assist needy students. These grant funds are given in varying amounts on the basis of financial need as determined by our office.

Federal Perkins Loan: Amounts vary by grade level and need. Interest is 5%, and neither interest nor payments begin until nine months after the student is no longer enrolled at least half-time. Borrowers must sign a promissory note. Based on financial need as determined by our office and on fund availability.

Nursing Student Loan (NSL): A federal loan program for nursing students. Awards range from \$100 to \$2,500 for the first two years, and up to \$4,000 per year in subsequent years, with a cumulative maximum of \$17,000. Interest is 5%, and neither interest nor payments begin until the student is no longer enrolled at least half-time in the School of Nursing.

Federal Work-Study (FWS): This is an employment program where students are awarded the opportunity to earn funds up to \$3,500 per school year based on financial need and fund availability. Students identify positions they are interested in (see Student Employment), apply, and interview for them, and once they begin working they are paid every two weeks. Any on-campus position is automatically work-study eligible. There are a select few government agencies and non-profit organizations that have approved work study positions, please contact our office for more information.

Federal Direct Subsidized Loan: First-time borrowers are required to complete a Master Promissory Note (MPN) and Direct Loan entrance counseling when the loan is accepted. Eligibility is based on financial need as determined by our office. The interest rate will be set on July 1, 2017, and was not available at the time of publication. For loans borrowed between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017, the fixed rate is 3.76%. Each loan has an origination fee currently set at 1.069% of the total amount borrowed – the rate will likely change on October 1 2017. Interest begins to accrue when the student is no longer enrolled at least half time. Repayment begins six months after that.

Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan: This loan is identical to the Direct Subsidized Loan with the following exceptions:

- This loan is not based on financial need.
- Interest accrues on the loan from the date of disbursement; however the borrower has the option of paying the interest monthly, quarterly, or waiting to capitalize the interest (add the interest to the principle balance) at the end of their grace period on the individual loan.

Annual Maximums: All maximum loan amounts below are for 12-month periods beginning with summer and extending through the academic year.

Dependent freshmen	\$5,500 (up to \$3,500 subsidized)
Dependent sophomores	\$6,500 (up to \$4,500 subsidized)
Dependent juniors/seniors	\$7,500 (up to \$5,500 subsidized)
Independent freshmen	\$9,500 (up to \$3,500 subsidized)
Independent sophomores	\$10,500 (up to \$4,500 subsidized)
Independent juniors/seniors	\$12,500 (up to \$5,500 subsidized)

Aggregate Maximum for Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized loans:

- \$31,000 for dependent students (\$23,000 subsidized limit)
- \$57,500 for independent students (\$23,000 subsidized limits)

Scholarships

The university offers a number of scholarships for both incoming freshmen and continuing undergraduates. These scholarships are generally offered in recognition of academic merit and artistic talent. For incoming freshmen, a scholarship is usually awarded based on outstanding high school performance. There is a uniform deadline of February 1 for incoming freshman to apply for scholarships. For returning students, scholarships are usually awarded based on academic record and/or outstanding ability in a particular field, generally without regard to financial need. Most of the schools/colleges and some individual departments within the university award scholarships to students studying within their programs. For more information on available scholarships, go to Scholarships@UW-Madison (scholarships.wisc.edu).

If you would like information about other possible scholarships, there are a number of websites that offer free scholarship information. Two of the best are www.fastweb.com and www.finaid.org. Other sources for non-university scholarships include high school guidance counselors, civic or church groups, labor unions, PTAs, or parents' employers.

Student Employment

Although Federal Work-Study positions are offered to some students as part of their financial aid package, there are many other job opportunities advertised through the UW Student Job Center at 333 East Campus Mall, #9101. Both on- and off-campus job openings are posted daily on the Job Center's website: www.jobcenter.wisc.edu. These jobs are open to all students. In addition, the Memorial Union, University Hospital and Clinics, University Housing, and campus libraries all hire many student employees each semester.

Short-Term Loans

Short-term loans are only given to help in an unanticipated emergency situation. In most cases, you must repay a short term loan within the term that you borrow it. To be considered for a short-term loan, you must be currently enrolled and complete a short-term loan application in an appointment with a financial aid advisor. Due to the limited short-term loan funds available, you should thoroughly check

into alternative resources (parents, friends, local banks), and apply for a university short-term loan only as a last resort.

If you are enrolled in agriculture, pharmacy, human ecology, engineering, education, journalism, or law you must apply for short term loans through your respective school rather than our office.

Advising

Our main reception desk is open from 7:45 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Monday–Friday. Our front desk staff can answer many questions, but in some cases it may be necessary for you to speak to a financial aid advisor.

Make an appointment to see an advisor if you have questions regarding financial aid or need assistance with budgeting, money management, or debt counseling. To schedule appointments, please call our office at 608-262-3060.

Other Types of Assistance

Students may be eligible for some of the following other types of assistance. Application procedures vary for each program.

Federal Direct PLUS Loans (Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students): Loans borrowed by parents of dependent undergraduates that are based on the parent's credit. Parents may borrow up to the student's cost of education minus other financial aid. Parent borrowers can apply online at www.studentloans.gov. The interest rate will be set on July 1, 2017, and was not available at the time of publication. For loans borrowed between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017, the fixed rate is 6.31%. Each loan has an origination fee, currently set at 4.276% of the total amount borrowed. The rate will likely change on October 1, 2017. The PLUS loan can be deferred if the student or the parent borrower is enrolled at least half-time. If a PLUS Loan is denied, the student may be eligible to receive an additional Direct Unsubsidized Loan up to the independent student grade level limit for the academic year.

Private Loans: Loans that are offered through private lenders to provide additional funds. It is recommended that students exhaust federal and state aid before borrowing a private loan. These loans will require a credit check and most will require a co-signer if the borrower has little or no credit history. Private loans may have either a fixed or variable interest rate. Visit www.finaid.wisc.edu to compare and select private loans.

Lawton Undergraduate Minority Retention Grant: Grants of up to about \$3,000 per year, based on financial need, for Wisconsin resident African American, Hispanic, American Indian, Cambodian, Laotian, and Vietnamese sophomores, juniors, and seniors who have grade-point averages of at least 2.0. To apply, contact your school/college minority program coordinator, and follow the procedures described under "How and When to Apply" in this brochure.

Talent Incentive Program Grant: These grants are made possible by the Wisconsin State Legislature. The student must be a Wisconsin resident and certified as eligible by the Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board.

FASTrack (Financial Aid Security Track) Program: This program helps low-income Wisconsin undergraduates pay for college

through a combination of grants, small loans, and work. The program assures we will meet a student's financial need each year for four years. Students are considered for the program based on the family's financial situation (current and past), and on financial need as calculated by our office. Both work and borrowing are controlled to minimize the student's burden. We consider all Wisconsin resident undergraduates who apply for aid through our office for FASTrack—there is no special application. Qualifying students are selected by the our office.

BANNER (Badger Aid for Non-Residents) This is a program designed to help our low-income nonresident students pay for college through grants, loans, and work. The program strives to meet a student's full financial need each year for four years. Students are considered for the program based on the family's financial situation (current and past) and financial need as calculated by our office and funding availability. We consider all non-resident undergraduates who apply for aid through our office for BANNER—there is no special application. Qualifying students are selected by our office.

Veterans: For further information contact the Veteran Services and Military Assistance Center at veterans.wisc.edu or call 608-265-4628 or stop in at 333 East Campus Mall, 10th floor, Suite 10301.

Students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities may be eligible for tuition and book funding through a grant from the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR). Visit their website, www.dwd.state.wi.us/dvr. For information regarding disability-related services and programs on the UW–Madison campus, contact either the DVR office or the McBurney Disability Resource Center, 702 W. Johnson St., Madison, WI 53715, 608-263-2741.

Bureau of Indian Affairs Grant (BIA): Grants are available to full-time students who are also members of a federally recognized Indian tribe. The amount is based on financial need as determined by our office. These grants replace some or all of the loan or work-study portion in a student's aid package. For further information contact us or the respective tribal educational office.

Wisconsin Indian Grant (WIG): Grants are available to students who are both Wisconsin residents and American Indians. The amount is based on financial need as determined by our office. Contact us for more information.

Child-Care Tuition Assistance Program: Students with children may qualify for up to \$1,400 per academic year to assist in paying child-care costs. Eligibility is based on financial need, but unlike many other financial aid programs, all students, including Special students, those enrolled less than half-time, international students, and others, are potentially eligible. Applications are available online at <https://occrf.wisc.edu/cctapinfo.htm>.

Financial Aid Eligibility

In order to receive funds through the Office of Student Financial Aid you must:

- be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States (international students are not eligible for any aid through our office);
- have a valid Social Security number;
- be in compliance with Selective Service registration;
- be admitted to UW–Madison in a degree program (see section on Special students);
- demonstrate financial need as determined by the Office of Student Financial Aid (except for Federal Unsubsidized Stafford, PLUS, and alternative loans);
- maintain satisfactory academic progress as defined by our office and by your academic college or school;
- carry a minimum of 6 credits per semester (half-time). Only the Pell Grant is available for less than half time enrollment;
- meet the eligibility requirements of each of the aid programs you accept;
- not be in default on any educational loan, not show an unwillingness to repay any educational loan, and not owe any refund on a grant or loan;
- have no convictions for the sale or possession of illegal drugs while receiving financial aid (depending on the date of conviction, you may be ineligible for federal student aid); and
- not be delinquent in payments of court-ordered child support and/or maintenance (applies to State of Wisconsin controlled grants).

Student Consumer Information

- Data on student-retention rates are available from the Office of the Registrar, www.registrar.wisc.edu.
- Information on academic programs, faculty, and physical facilities is available in the *Undergraduate Catalog*, **online at** pubs.wisc.edu/ug/index.htm.
- Information regarding university accreditation, such as that by the North Central Association, may be obtained from the Academic Planning and Institutional Research Office in the Office of the Provost, 170 Bascom Hall.
- The university tuition refund policy for withdrawal from classes is available on the “Tuition and Fees” link on the Office of the Registrar’s website (registrar.wisc.edu). Students with financial aid who withdraw will be required to return any tuition refund to the university’s financial aid accounts.
- Students who withdraw from the university may have to repay a portion of their award to the university. The exact amount of repayment will vary depending on when the withdrawal occurs. Any tuition refund to the student will automatically be applied to the amount that must be repaid.

- Criteria used to determine whether a student is maintaining satisfactory academic progress (SAP) are available in the *Student Award Guide* on our website. Essentially, students are allowed to enroll for a maximum of 150% of the number of degree credits needed to complete the program, and must maintain a successful degree credit completion rate of two-thirds of all credits for which they have enrolled. They must also have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0 at the end of each academic year. This applies to all semesters during which the student is enrolled, not just those during which aid is received.
- We recommend students be in contact with the aid office when considering withdrawing from a course or a semester. There can be SAP and repayment ramifications that academic advisors may not be aware of.
- There is a complete listing of our Consumer Information Disclosures at finaid.wisc.edu/818.htm
- Information on the Family Educational and Privacy Act (FERPA) can be found at www.registrar.wisc.edu/ferpa_overview.htm
- Information on the Annual Security Report can be found at www.registrar.wisc.edu/ferpa_overview.htm
- Information on Campus Safety can be found at uwpd.wisc.edu
- Information on voter registration can be found at vote.wisc.edu
- Information on vaccination requirements is available at uhs.wisc.edu/services/records/immunization-and-health-history.shtml
- Information on the Drug & Alcohol Policy is available at students.wisc.edu/alcoholinfo/policies.html

The information in this brochure is the most accurate available at the time of publication, and is subject to change at any time without notice.

In conformance with applicable federal and state law and with university policy, UW–Madison does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sexual orientation, arrest or conviction record, marital status, handicap, political affiliation, or veteran’s status with regard to treatment of employees and students in educational programs or activities which it operates. Inquiries concerning this policy may be directed to the appropriate campus admitting or employing unit or to the Office for Equity and Diversity, 179A Bascom Hall, 608–263–2378, oed.wisc.edu.

Office of Student Financial Aid
University of Wisconsin–Madison

333 East Campus Mall #9701
Madison, WI 53715–1382
608–262–3060, Fax 608–262–9068
Email: finaid@finaid.wisc.edu
Website: www.finaid.wisc.edu

Produced by University Marketing
Photos by the Office of University Communications