DREAMS IN PRACTICE

Overview of Financial Aid

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Topics We Will Discuss

- What is financial aid, cost of attendance (COA), student aid index (SAI), and financial need?
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Categories, types, and sources of financial aid
- Special and unusual circumstances
- New for 2026-27

What Is Financial Aid?

Financial aid consists of funds provided to students and families to help pay for postsecondary educational expenses

Cost of Attendance

- Tuition and fees
- Housing and food (living expenses)
- Books, course materials, supplies, and equipment
- Transportation
- Miscellaneous personal expenses

Cost of Attendance

- Net Price Calculator - https://umdearborn.edu/netpricecalculator
  - This calculator will provide an estimate of your cost to attend UM-Dearborn, as well as the federal, state, and institutional aid you may qualify for.

What is Student Aid Index (SAI)?

Number resulting from the evaluation of a student's (and family's) approximate financial resources for a student's postsecondary education

Student contribution

Parent contribution

(for dependent students)

What is Financial Need?

Cost of attendance (COA)

– Student aid index (SAI)

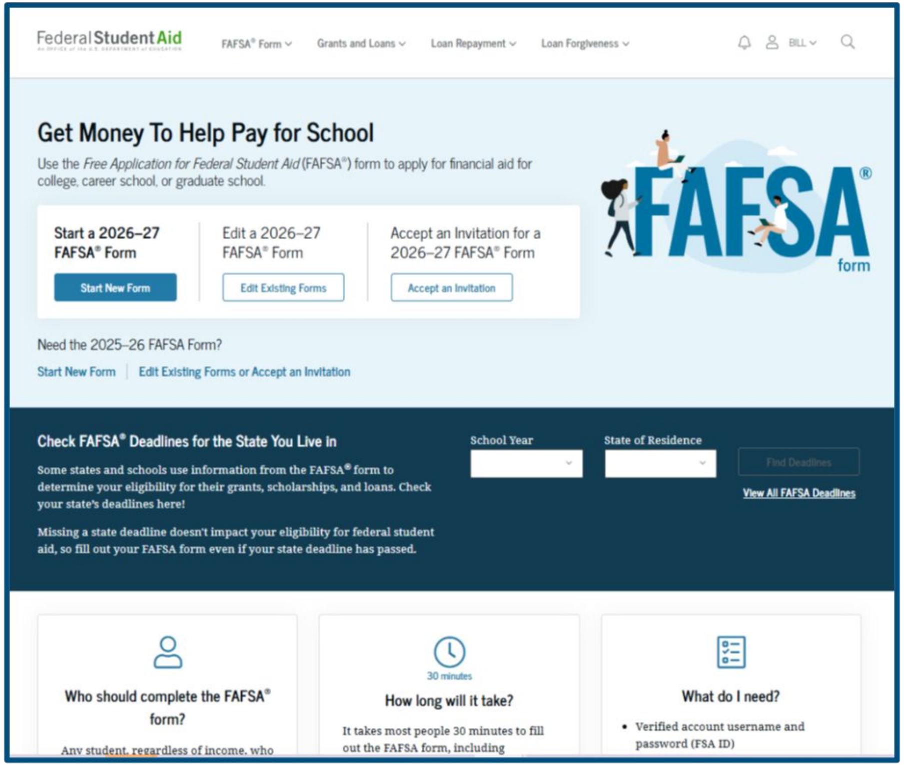
= Financial need

What is a FAFSA?

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid
- Federal form that collects demographic and financial information about the student and family
- Calculates Student Aid Index (SAI)
- Colleges use the SAI to award need-based financial aid

Let's Get Started!

- Application can be completed via website - www.studentaid.gov
- Create your free FSA ID for student and contributors (parents)
- 2024 tax information
- FAFSA results are sent to each college
- **UM-Dearborn FAFSA Code: 002326**
- Estimate Federal Aid Eligibility - https://studentaid.gov/aid-estimator/



What is “Financial Aid”

Definition: Money to help pay for college or career school

SCHOLARSHIPS

LOANS

GRANTS

WORK-STUDY

Grants

- Grants are a need-based form of financial aid that DO NOT have to be repaid.

- Types of Federal Grants
  - Federal Pell Grant
  - Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG)
  - Teach Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant

Scholarships

- Scholarships are merit or performance-based money without repayment.

- Many nonprofit and private organizations offer scholarships to help pay students college career.

- UM-Dearborn offers First year scholarships which is awarded automatically based on incoming students’ cumulative high school GPA at the time of application.

- Scholarship Universe

Scholarships- Go Blue Guarantee

Students at UM-Dearborn are eligible for the Go Blue Guarantee - University of Michigan’s landmark promise of free tuition for high-achieving in-state undergraduate students from qualifying backgrounds. Eligibility includes:

- Full-time, in-state undergraduate student
- Family income $125,000 or less
- Assets below $125,000
- Incoming 3.5 GPA

Other Tuition Free Pathways

MICHIGAN ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP

MI Student Aid

Accessible • Affordable • Attainable

WOLVERINE PATHWAYS

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

DEARBORN

Scholarships

Scholarship	Requirements	Annual Award	Total Award over 8 Semesters	Average Annual Net Cost
Dean's Award	4.00 GPA or higher	$5,000	$20,000	$11,000
Dearborn Scholars Award	3.25-3.99 GPA	$4,000	$16,000	$12,000
Distinction Scholarship	3.00-3.24 GPA	$3,000	$12,000	$13,000
Dearborn Gateway Award	2.50-2.99 GPA	$2,000	$8,000	$14,000

Work Study

- Federal Work Study is a need-based financial aid program that provides students with the opportunity to work part-time to earn money to pay educational expenses.

- Eligibility

  –Complete a FAFSA application

  –Demonstrate financial need

  –Be enrolled as an undergraduate student

- Students earn at least the current federal minimum wage

- Undergraduate students are paid by the hour;

Loans

Direct Subsidized	Direct Unsubsidized	Parent PLUS	Private/Alternative
• Loans made to eligible undergraduate students who demonstrate financial need to help cover the costs of higher education. • The government pays the interest on the loan during half-time enrollment	• Loans made to eligible undergraduate, graduate, and professional students, but eligibility is not based on financial need. • Interest accrues from the time of disbursement	• Parents are eligible to help their children meet college costs through the Federal PLUS Loan Program. • If the parent is denied and does not wish to appeal the credit decision or seek an endorser, the student can request additional unsubsidized loan funds.	• Students are eligible to take out private loans by private organizations such banks, credit unions, and state-based or state-affiliated organizations. • Private student loans are generally more expensive than federal student loans.

Parent PLUS Loan Changes

- New borrowers on or after July 1, 2026:
  - Annual loan limit: $20,000 per dependent student
  - Aggregate loan limit: $65,000 per dependent student

Unusual and Special Circumstances

- Conditions that justify an institution making an adjustment to a student's dependency status
  - Cannot contact parent or contact poses risk to student
- Student does not provide parental data on FAFSA
  - Considered provisionally independent
- Student follows institution's process for dependency override determination

- Different than unusual circumstances (dependency overrides)
- Unique conditions exist that cannot be documented with the FAFSA, or circumstances have changed since filing
- Student should contact institution's financial aid office for more information
- Decisions are final and cannot be appealed to U.S. Department of Education

Stay Connected

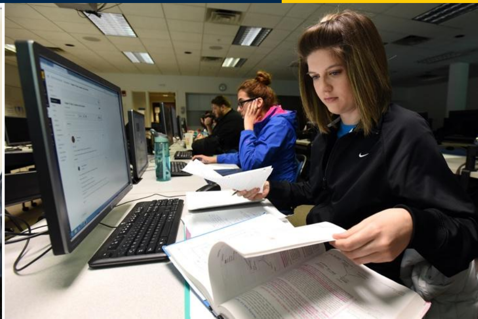
Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships

Contact: 313-593-5300

Email (umd-ask-ofa@umich.edu)

Office Hours: 8am - 5pm



Financial Aid Resources

1 Compare Your College Costs

Estimate your annual cost of college by calculating:

- Cost of attendance
- Financial aid

Once completed, turn the page to calculate your monthly budget

Estimated Academic Year College Cost of Attendance

SCHOOL NAME			
Tuition			
Fees			
Housing			
Dining/Meal Plan			
Books and Supplies			
Transportation			
Other			
Total Estimated Costs	$	$	$

Estimated Academic Year Financial Aid

SCHOOL NAME			
Federal Grant (Pell, SEOG, TEACH)			
State Grants/Institutional/ Other Grants			
Scholarships			
Federal Direct Subsidized Loan			
Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan			
Federal/College Work-Study			
Other (Veterans Benefits, Housing & Tuition Waivers, etc.)			
Total Estimated Aid	$	$	$
Estimated Net Out of Pocket Total Estimated Costs - Total Estimated Aid	$	$	$

DEARBORN

2 Estimate Your Expenses

Determine your monthly budget by calculating:

- Income
- Expenses

Monthly Income
Money you receive each month from employers, family and all other sources.

Financial Aid	
Wages from Job	
Allowance from Savings	
Allowance from Family	
Other	
Total Income	$

Fixed Monthly Expenses
Expenses that typically do not change from month to month, such as rent or cell phone bills.

Cell Phone	
Internet/Cable/ Streaming Services	
Utilities (Water/Gas/Electric)	
Rent	
Savings Contributions	
Loan Payments	
Car Payments & Insurance	
Other	
Total Fixed Expenses	$

Variable Monthly Expenses
Expenses that may vary from month to month, such as groceries, eating out and clothing.

Transportation (Gas/Bus/Rideshares)	
Entertainment/ Meals Out	
Medical Expenses	
Credit Card Payments	
Clothes	
Personal Care	
Food Groceries	
Other	
Total Variable Expenses	$

Balance Total Income –Total Expenses (Fixed and Variable)	$

Negative balance = Look for areas where you might be able to cut back your expenses (e.g., streaming services/transportation/clothes).

Positive balance = Consider putting extra funds into savings or paying toward the principle of you student loans, if applicable.

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