FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND SCHOLARSHIPS

The mission of Scholarships & Financial Aid is to provide students with information and financial resources to attend Texas A&M University along with support programs that promote higher education and developmental opportunities. As a part of this commitment, we strive to provide financial solutions to students at all income levels and with varying academic, merit, and leadership qualifications.

The need-based financial assistance program is designed for students who have demonstrated financial need, as defined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or other applicable application, in order to assist students in paying college expenses. All financial aid is contingent upon student enrollment and making Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), as defined by Scholarships & Financial Aid or the specific aid program.

Financial aid is available in two forms: Gift Aid and Self-help.

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Non-resident Tuition Waivers

Texas A&M University’s packaging philosophy for need-based financial aid is to provide the greatest amount of gift aid to those students with the highest demonstrated need and to keep loan liability to a minimum. Financial aid is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis with a priority date prior to the fall semester for which the student is seeking aid.

To apply for financial assistance, a student must submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA becomes available on October 1st each year for the next academic year. Students are encouraged to submit their FAFSA online at https://fafsa.gov as soon as possible. Students who do not meet the citizenship eligibility requirements to complete the FAFSA may be eligible to submit the Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA) or the International Student Financial Aid Application (ISFAA). Only students who have been accepted for enrollment, have a FAFSA or other financial aid application on file, and have submitted all requested documentation to Scholarships & Financial Aid will be sent a financial aid offer. Award offers for incoming students beginning in the Fall semester are made early in the preceding Spring semester. Award offers for incoming students beginning in the Spring semester are made late in the preceding Fall semester. Award offers to continuing students for the upcoming academic year are made after Spring semester grades have been submitted. Summer financial assistance is offered to students with a FAFSA on file who enroll at least half-time in summer coursework at Texas A&M.

Financial aid offers are made based on the assumption that students will enroll full-time in the fall and spring semesters. Cost of attendance and awards will be adjusted for students who are enrolled less than full-time at Texas A&M University or through the Texas A&M-Blinn TEAM Programs. Students may only receive federal financial aid for eligible courses that count towards the program of study. State and Institutional Aid are not subject to the same regulatory restrictions. However, the cost of attendance for students will be reduced for courses that are not counting to the program of study, which can result in a lower amount of state and institutional aid a student could receive.

Student inquiries may be directed to:

Scholarships & Financial Aid
Texas A&M University
P. O. Box 30016
College Station, TX 77842-3016
(979) 845-3236
financialaid@tamu.edu
http://financialaid.tamu.edu
FAFSA School Code 003632

Please visit our website (http://financialaid.tamu.edu) for the most current information on financial aid applications, programs, and any associated deadlines.

Grants

The Federal Pell Grant is available to undergraduate students who have not received a baccalaureate degree and who have demonstrated financial need as determined by the FAFSA. The Federal Pell Grant provides a foundation of financial assistance to which aid from other sources may be added.

The Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG), and the Texas Public Education Grant (TPEG) are available to students, provided the results of their financial aid application show evidence of financial need and funds are available. These funds are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. The Towards EXcellence, Access and Success (TEXAS) grant is available to eligible Texas residents who have requisite levels of financial need according to the FAFSA and have met the remaining program criteria (http://financialaid.tamu.edu/Undergraduate/Types-of-Aid/#0-TEXASGrant); it is also subject to funds availability and eligibility guidelines as defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. Additionally, Texas A&M University provides institutional grant aid to eligible students to assist with educational expenses. Student grants are subject to fund availability and may be single-year or multi-year awards.

Student Part-Time Employment

The Student Employment Office in Scholarships & Financial Aid coordinates student part-time employment, both off- and on-campus in the Bryan/College Station area. Students may visit the online job database. Work Study, assistantships and other part-time positions are posted. Students secure their own employment through job leads provided by Scholarships & Financial Aid or through their own initiative. Employment advising is available to students who have not had previous job seeking experience.

On-campus student employees are paid minimum wage or higher and are paid bi-weekly along with regular University employees. University student employees are not eligible for paid holidays, retirement, vacation, or sick leave.

Professional development workshops are available for student employees and supervisors of student employees. These free workshops include topics ranging from communication skills to preventing sexual harassment in the workplace and from customer service to workplace etiquette. For more information or to register, please visit the Jobs for Aggies website (http://jobsforaggies.tamu.edu) or call (979) 845-0686.
The Federal/Texas College Work Study Programs

Federal and state programs provide part-time employment for U.S. citizens, permanent residents and eligible non-citizens, within fund limitations, who have an established financial need and desire on-campus employment.

To qualify for the Federal/Texas College Work Study Programs, a student must have submitted a financial aid application, have financial need, be eligible to work in the United States, be enrolled at least half-time or accepted for enrollment and be making Satisfactory Academic Progress if enrolled.

The Community Service Program allows students who qualify for the Federal Work Study Program to work part-time with participating local non-profit, governmental and community-based organizations. This program is designed to improve the quality of life for community residents, particularly low-income individuals, or to solve problems related to community needs.

The Texas A&M University Reads and Counts program is a partner of the National Student Success Act (established initially as a part of the No Child Left Behind initiative). It is based on the philosophy that children are our nation’s greatest asset. It calls all Americans to support teachers and help ensure that every child can read well by the end of the third grade. Eligible and dedicated college students are called to serve as reading and math tutors, as well as mentors and role models for area elementary and middle school students.

All Work Study students are paid minimum wage or higher, work an average of 20 hours per week, and are not eligible for paid holidays, retirement, vacation, or sick leave. For more information on Federal/Texas College Work Study, the Community Service Program, or Texas A&M University Reads and Counts, visit the Student Employment Office on the second floor of the Pavilion or the Jobs for Aggies website (http://jobsforaggies.tamu.edu).

Loan Programs

The Federal Direct Loan Programs are available to students who have submitted a FAFSA. Students will be notified of their eligibility for the Direct Loan program(s) through a financial aid offer.

Students and parents seeking the Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS) may obtain information from the financial aid website (http://financialaid.tamu.edu). This program requires the FAFSA to be on file with Scholarships & Financial Aid.

Short-term loans are available to provide assistance to students who experience temporary financial difficulties with educationally related expenses. Funding for this program is provided by The Association of Former Students, the Class of 1926 and other University resources. This program is not intended to provide long-term assistance or to replace other assistance available through Scholarships & Financial Aid. Students must be degree-seeking and enrolled at least half-time to be eligible for short-term loans.

The Emergency Tuition and Required Fees loan program is available to help students pay their Texas A&M University tuition and required fees. The loan is applied directly to the student’s tuition and fee account.

Please refer to our website (http://financialaid.tamu.edu) for detailed information on all of the aforementioned programs and more.

The Money Education (ME) Center provides the following free resources to all students in order to help them make wise personal financial decisions and to lay a foundation for financial success throughout life.

- Money Wise Aggie Workshops – presentations covering budgeting, credit cards and credit scores, saving and investing, student loans, and more. Scheduled presentations occur on-campus each semester and are provided in classrooms and to student organizations upon request.
- Money Wise Aggie Financial Foundations Series – a series of presentations covering the most critical personal finance topics
- Advising – one-on-one personal financial counseling
- moneywise.tamu.edu – offers personal finance content and videos
- SALT (saltmoney.org/tamu) – provides scholarship, student loan, and personal finance information and tools

To learn more about these free resources, visit money.tamu.edu or contact money@tamu.edu.

Scholarships

College/Departmental Level Scholarships

A number of colleges and departments at the University award scholarships on a merit basis to incoming freshmen interested in particular major fields of study. The value of the awards vary, and the term of scholarships range from one to four years. Selection by each awarding college and department is based upon pre-determined criteria. Completed scholarship applications must be received no later than specified deadlines. Awards are announced mid-spring for the following academic year.

Incoming Freshmen Scholarship Programs

Opportunity Awards are awarded to freshmen based on academic achievement, leadership ability, extracurricular participation, and, in some cases, financial need. To be considered, students must complete and submit the ApplyTexas (http://www.applytexas.org) or Coalition (http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org) freshmen scholarship application no later than December 1 of their senior year of high school. In addition to scholarships offered through the Scholarships & Financial Aid office, many colleges, departments, the Corps of Cadets, and the Texas A&M Foundation utilize the ApplyTexas (http://www.applytexas.org) or Coalition (http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org) freshmen scholarship application.

Achievement Scholarships are available to incoming freshmen who attended and graduated from targeted high schools in the State of Texas. Scholarships include the Academic Achievement Scholarship, President’s Achievement Scholarship, Challenge Scholarship, and Century Scholarship. These high schools are designated as House Bill 400 schools, Engineering E12 schools, Early College High Schools, and Century Scholar Program Schools. Awards are based on academic achievement, leadership ability, and extracurricular participation. To be considered, students must complete and submit the ApplyTexas (http://www.applytexas.org) freshmen scholarship application no later than December 1 of their senior year of high school.

Academic Scholarships are available to incoming freshmen who achieve a minimum 1300 Old SAT composite score (critical reading + math, with respective scores of 600 in each), 1360 New SAT composite score (evidence-based reading and writing score of at least 660 + math scores of at least 620), or 30 ACT composite (English + Math, with scores of at least 27). Scholarships include President’s Endowed Scholarship, Lechner Scholarship, and McFadden Scholarship. Awards are based on academic achievement, leadership ability, and extracurricular

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**Continuing Student Scholarships**
The University Scholarship Application is available to students with at least one semester completed at Texas A&M. Awards range in value from $500 to $1,500 and are available to undergraduate, graduate, and professional students currently enrolled at Texas A&M. Some awards are limited to certain fields of study and to individuals who have attained a necessary academic classification, while others are unrestricted. Awards are made to outstanding students based on a combination of academic achievement, campus/community involvement, campus leadership roles, and, for some scholarships, financial need. In addition to scholarships offered through the Scholarships & Financial Aid office, many colleges, departments, the Corps of Cadets, and the Texas A&M Foundation use the University Scholarship Application for award consideration. Students are encouraged to complete the application beginning in October via the scholarships website (https://scholarships.tamu.edu). The deadline for submitting applications is February 1, prior to the academic year for which the student will be awarded.

**Transfer Student Scholarships**
Aggie Transfer Student scholarships are designed to recognize outstanding students who will be transferring to Texas A&M University. Scholarships are awarded based on a combination of academic achievement, extracurricular activities, campus involvement at their current institution, leadership, major and, in some instances, financial need. These award amounts can range from $500 to $2,000 and the application is available to students through the ApplyTexas (http://www.applytexas.org) or Coalition (http://www.coalitionforcollegeaccess.org) application. In addition to scholarships offered through the Scholarships & Financial Aid office, many colleges, departments, the Corps of Cadets, and the Texas A&M Foundation use the ApplyTexas transfer scholarship application for award consideration. For more details, visit our website (https://scholarships.tamu.edu).

**Scholarship Recipients and Non-Resident Tuition Waivers**
The Competitive Scholarship waiver, authorized under Texas Education Code 54.213a, is an optional waiver that institutions can implement. An eligible non-resident student who holds a competitive academic scholarship of a specified minimum dollar amount for the academic year or summer for which the student is enrolled may be eligible to pay the fees and charges required of Texas residents without regard to the length of time the student has resided in Texas. The student must have competed with other students, including Texas residents, for the scholarship and the scholarship must be awarded by a Texas A&M University college or departmental scholarship committee or university representative. An outside donor may be consulted for input by the college or departmental unit, however, outside donor(s) may not make the final selection of the student recipient for a scholarship.

Effective Fall 2017, undergraduate students must be awarded and maintain competitive scholarships of at least $4,000 per academic year in order to qualify for this waiver. All graduate students, all professional students, and current undergraduate students with existing and continuing scholarship awards, may continue to receive this waiver at the previous $1,000 threshold.

More information is available at http://scholarships.tamu.edu/Non-Resident-Tuition-Waiver

For additional information on scholarships, please visit https://scholarships.tamu.edu/ or email scholarships@tamu.edu.