

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 a 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 funding availability, 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.

Gift Aid	Self-Help
Grants (Federal, State, Institutional)	Loans (Federal, State, Institutional, Alternative)
Scholarships	Student Employment (Work Study, Part-time Employment, Internships, Assistantships)

Waivers

Texas A&M University’s packaging philosophy for need-based financial aid is to provide the greatest amount of gift aid to 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 based on priority dates published on our Financial Aid webpage (<https://financialaid.tamu.edu/>).

To apply for financial assistance, an eligible student must submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA becomes available on October 1 each year for the next academic year. Students are encouraged to submit their FAFSA online at the Federal Student Aid webpage (<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa/>) 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). Information on these applications can be found at our Financial Aid webpage (<https://financialaid.tamu.edu/>). 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.

Financial aid offers for incoming students beginning in the Fall semester are made early in the preceding Spring semester. Financial aid offers for incoming students beginning in the Spring semester are made late in the preceding Fall semester. Financial aid 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 or other financial aid application 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

offered financial aid amounts are adjusted for students who are enrolled less than full-time at Texas A&M University or through the Texas A&M-Blinn TEAM Program, the Texas A&M Engineering Academy at Blinn-Bryan, or another approved consortium program.

Students may receive federal financial aid only for eligible courses that count towards their program of study. State and institutional aid are not subject to the same regulatory restrictions. Regardless of the type(s) of aid offered, the cost of attendance for students will be reduced for courses that are not counting towards their program of study, which may result in a lower amount of federal, state, and institutional aid a student could receive. Financial aid offers may also be adjusted if a student does not begin attendance in all courses in which they are registered.

Student inquiries may be directed to:

Texas A&M University
 Scholarships & Financial Aid
 P.O. Box 30016
 1252 TAMU
 College Station, TX 77842-1252
aggieonestop@tamu.edu
<https://financialaid.tamu.edu> (<https://financialaid.tamu.edu/>)
 FAFSA School Code 003632

Please visit our Contact Us webpage (<https://financialaid.tamu.edu/Contact-Us/Contact-Our-Offices/>) to review all contact methods for College Station, Galveston, McAllen, School of Law, and the Health Science Center.

Please visit our Financial Aid webpage (<https://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 results of their financial aid application and have met the remaining program criteria, which may be reviewed on our Types of Aid webpage (<https://financialaid.tamu.edu/Undergraduate/Types-of-Aid/>). The TEXAS Grant 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 renewable awards.

Scholarships

College/Departmental Level Scholarships

A number of colleges and departments at the University award scholarships to students interested in particular major fields of study

on the basis of academic record, service, activities, and demonstrated leadership. The value of the awards varies, and the term of scholarships range from one to four years. Awarding colleges and departments select recipients based upon predetermined criteria. Completed scholarship applications must be received no later than the specified deadlines. Awards are typically announced mid-Spring for the following academic year.

For more information, please review the opportunities that may be available within your college at our Continuing Students Scholarships webpage (<https://scholarships.tamu.edu/CONTINUING-STUDENTS/University-Scholarships/>).

Incoming Freshmen Scholarship Programs

Opportunity Award: awarded to freshman students based on academic achievement, leadership roles, community/extracurricular participation during high school, and, in some cases, financial need.

Achievement Scholarship: available to incoming freshman students who attended and graduated from targeted high schools in the State of Texas. Scholarships include the President's Achievement Scholarship and Century Scholars. Awards are based on academic achievement, leadership roles, and community/extracurricular participation during high school.

Academic Scholarship: available to incoming freshman students admitted in the Fall (only). Scholarships include the President's Endowed Scholarship, Lechner Scholarship, and McFadden Scholarship. Awards are based on academic achievement, leadership roles, and community/extracurricular participation during high school.

For more information, please visit our Freshman Scholarships webpage (<https://scholarships.tamu.edu/FRESHMEN/University-Scholarships/>).

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 University academic achievement, campus/community involvement, campus leadership roles, and, for some scholarships, financial need. In addition to scholarships offered through Scholarships & Financial Aid, 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 University Scholarship Application (<https://uwide.tamu.edu/>) beginning in October. The deadline for submitting applications is February 1, prior to the academic year for which the student will be awarded.

For more information, please visit our Continuing Students Scholarships webpage (<https://scholarships.tamu.edu/CONTINUING-STUDENTS/University-Scholarships/>).

Transfer Student Scholarships

Aggie Transfer student scholarships are designed to recognize outstanding students who transfer to Texas A&M University. Scholarships are awarded based on a combination of college academic achievement, extracurricular activities, campus involvement at their current institution, leadership, major, and, in some instances, financial need. In addition to scholarships offered through Scholarships & Financial

Aid, many colleges, departments, the Corps of Cadets, and the Texas A&M Foundation use the transfer admissions application for award consideration.

For more information, please visit our Transfer Students Scholarships webpage (<https://scholarships.tamu.edu/TRANSFER/Available-Scholarships/>).

Scholarship Recipients and Non-Resident Tuition Waivers

The Non-Resident Tuition Waiver for Competitive Scholarship Recipients, authorized under Texas Education Code 54.213a, is an optional waiver that institutions can implement. An eligible non-resident student who holds a competitive 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.

The Texas Education Code requires that all male students receiving a State waiver or exemption must provide one-time proof of Selective Service registration or a Selective Service Statement of Registration Status in order to be considered eligible. Documentation will be requested through the Financial Aid Portal in Howdy

More information is available at our Non-Resident Tuition Waiver for Competitive Scholarship Recipients webpage (<https://scholarships.tamu.edu/Non-Resident-Tuition-Waiver/>). You may also visit our Scholarships webpage (<https://scholarships.tamu.edu/>) or email scholarships@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 our Types of Aid webpage (<https://financialaid.tamu.edu/Undergraduate/Types-of-Aid/>). This program requires the FAFSA to be on file with Scholarships & Financial Aid.

Short-term loans are available to assist 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 Financial Aid webpage (<https://financialaid.tamu.edu/>) for detailed information on all of the aforementioned programs and more.

Changes in Status that Impact Financial Assistance

Dropping or Q-dropping a course affects a student's enrollment status. In turn, enrollment status may impact certain funding sources as described in the below sections.

- **Enrollment Status** – A student's enrollment status continues to be adjusted throughout the semester when a student drops or Q-drops a course. However, in most cases, the change in status has minimal impact, depending on timing. The impact is primarily on student loan repayment. Federal financial aid can pay only for courses included in the student's degree plan. Enrolling in courses not on the degree plan may result in reduced financial aid eligibility.
- **Health Insurance** – With the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), a dependent can be covered under their parents' insurance plan until the age of 26 regardless of their enrollment status as a student.
- **Financial Aid & Scholarships** – Timing matters when a student drops a course. Financial aid checks enrollment status on two occasions – when a student's aid is released to their billing account and on the 12th class day of a Fall or Spring semester. A student's aid amount can be adjusted if the student's enrollment status changes between the time funds are disbursed to the billing account and the 12th class day. However, after the 12th class day, enrollment status is not a factor for aid that has already disbursed, unless a student withdraws or drops all courses. Instead, any changes in enrollment status will be reviewed through financial aid's satisfactory academic progress standards for subsequent semesters and will not impact current semester aid. If aid has not been disbursed prior to the 12th class day, then enrollment status is checked on the date the aid is disbursed. In the Summer semester, enrollment status is officially checked on the 4th class day of the Summer session(s) in which the student is enrolled.
- **Student Loan Repayment** – students must maintain at least half-time enrollment throughout the semester for student loans to remain in an in-school deferred status. Dropping below half-time enrollment at any time during the semester will trigger student loans to enter any applicable grace period, with repayment required after the grace period has elapsed. Changes in enrollment status from full-time to half-time have no consequence on student loans. Half-time enrollment for an undergraduate student is defined as 6 hours for the Fall and Spring semesters.

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. Off-campus employment may also be considered if it is at a Texas A&M System member institution, with a Community Service Program partner, or for the Reads & Counts program. Students seeking part-time job opportunities on campus and in the Bryan/College Station area may search the Jobs for Aggies (<https://jobsforaggies.tamu.edu/>) job board.

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 are accepted for enrollment and plan to enroll at least half-time, and be

making Satisfactory Academic Progress if enrolled. On a case by case basis, awards can be offered to students who are enrolled less than half-time through professional judgment.

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 Every Student Succeeds 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 on 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 Jobs for Aggies (<https://jobsforaggies.tamu.edu/>) or the Aggie One Stop located on the first floor of the General Services Complex.