

## Undergraduate Financial Aid Guide

### How Financial Aid is Calculated

Need-based financial aid is based on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Our priority filing deadline is **February 1** each year. Grants, some scholarships, work-study, and federal direct subsidized loans require students to demonstrate financial need, which is determined by this formula:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Your Cost of Attendance (i.e., budget)} \\ - & \text{Your Student Aid Index (SAI)} \\ = & \text{Financial Need} \end{aligned}$$

### Financial Aid Types

Financial aid comes multiple sources, including federal, state, and institutional programs.

Federally funded programs include:

- Federal Pell Grant
- Federal Work Study
- Federal Direct Loans (subsidized, unsubsidized, Parent PLUS)

State programs include (but are not limited to):

- Pennsylvania State Grant (PHEAA)
- Pittsburgh Promise
- DCTAG

Institutional:

- Temple University Grant
- Temple Promise
- Temple Merit Tuition Scholarships

### Cost of Attendance

The amount of financial aid you can receive is limited by your Cost of Attendance (i.e., budget). Your budget is determined by the following components:

- Tuition & Fees
- Housing
- Food
- Books, supplies, equipment, & course materials
- Transportation
- Other, personal/miscellaneous expenses

A breakdown of the full Cost of Attendance for Temple University by program is available here:

<https://sfs.temple.edu/eligibility/your-financial-aid-offer/cost-attendance>

### Accepting Your Financial Aid

Gift aid, such as grants and merit scholarships, are automatically accepted on behalf of students. You will need to follow additional steps to accept or decline any offered federal work study and federal subsidized and unsubsidized loans. Instructions on how to accept your financial aid offer are here:

<https://sfs.temple.edu/eligibility/your-financial-aid-offer/accepting-your-aid>

### Federal Direct Student Loans

Students who complete the FAFSA and are eligible for federal aid are extended a basic federal loan offer, which is determined by your dependency status and the number of credits you earn. You will need to complete a Master Promissory Note and Entrance Counseling when you accept your loans for the first time at Temple University. Details on federal direct student loans are here: <https://sfs.temple.edu/financial-aid-types/federal-student-loans/undergraduate-loans>

### Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loans

If your financial aid does not cover your bill, or if you need additional funds for expenses such as off-campus housing or books, your parent can choose to apply for the Federal Direct Parent PLUS loan. Parents go to [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov) and select 'Loans and Grants' from the top menu, then the log in with their FSA username and password to complete the application. If approved, the parent-borrower then must complete a Master Promissory Note. **All loans are processed for the full year, so your parent needs to request enough to cover both the fall and anticipated spring balances.** Details on this loan and how to determine how much to request are available here: <https://sfs.temple.edu/financial-aid-types/federal-student-loans/undergraduate-loans/federal-direct-parent-loan-undergraduate-students-parent-plus>

### Private Loans

You have the choice of using a private loan from a bank, credit union, or other private financial institution. Private loans are recommended as an option only after you have considered and/or exhausted federal loan options. **As with the Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan, we process loans for the full year, so the amount requested should be enough for both fall and the anticipated spring balance.** More information on our private loan process is here:

<https://sfs.temple.edu/financial-aid-types/private-student-loans>

### **University Scholarship Information**

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions automatically evaluates all students for scholarships upon their admission to the university. You are encouraged to review your academic department's website for scholarship information specific to your school or college. If awarded a scholarship, you need to ensure you maintain continuous full-time enrollment and the required cumulative GPA. Details on the academic merit scholarship policy are here:

<https://sfs.temple.edu/policies/academic-merit-tuition-scholarships>

### **Outside Scholarships**

You are encouraged to use ScholarshipUniverse to search and apply for outside scholarships, starting with the summer you initially enroll at Temple and continuing through your academic journey. Outside scholarship award letters should be sent to [sfs@temple.edu](mailto:sfs@temple.edu) via TUSafeSend, and the checks sent to the Bursar's Office:

Temple University Bursar's Office  
Attn: Outside Scholarship Payment Processing  
216 Carnell Hall  
1803 N. Broad Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19122

### **Federal Work Study & Student Employment**

SFS will include a federal work study offer on your financial aid offer if you are eligible to participate in the program. On-campus job postings are available on Careers@Temple on TUPortal, and off-campus positions are listed on our website. Full details about federal work study are available here:

<https://sfs.temple.edu/financial-aid-types/federal-work-study>

You can also be a student worker if you are not eligible for federal work study, but you must ensure the position does not require work study.

### **Financial Aid Refunds**

All financial aid disburses 2-3 business days before the start of term, provided all outstanding requirements are satisfied and you meet the necessary enrollment requirements for your aid (half-time for federal, full-time for institution). Financial aid, with exception of federal work study, is applied directly to your bill. Any excess funds are then released as refund. Sign up for direct deposit through TUPay to ensure your refund is delivered in a safe and timely manner.

### **Financial Aid Requirements**

The US Department of Education may request additional documentation from you to confirm your financial aid eligibility. These requests are delegated to Student Financial Services to obtain the necessary documentation and complete the required reviews. Check the Costs & Aid tab on TUPortal to ensure all outstanding requirements are satisfied. Details on the common requests are here:

<https://sfs.temple.edu/eligibility/eligibility-requirements>

### **Enrollment & Adjustments**

Financial aid offers assume that you are enrolled full-time (12-18 credit hours per semester). Temple University has the right to revise or cancel aid if funds are unavailable, if there is a change to the information reported on your FAFSA, if you drop below full-time, or for any other eligibility-related reasons.

### **Special Circumstances Appeal**

Students and families who have experienced a recent financial hardship that is not reflected on the FAFSA can request a Special Circumstances Appeal to have their federal Pell Grant eligibility reviewed.

<https://sfs.temple.edu/policies/special-circumstances-appeals>

### **Unusual Circumstances Appeal**

Students who are unable to report their parents' information on the FAFSA due to unusual circumstances can request this appeal for a review of their dependency status. This appeal is not guaranteed to cover all expenses.

<https://sfs.temple.edu/policies/unusual-circumstances-appeals>

### **Contacting Student Financial Services**

Website: [sfs.temple.edu](http://sfs.temple.edu)

Email: [sfs@temple.edu](mailto:sfs@temple.edu)

Phone: 215-204-2244

Appointments:

<https://sfs.temple.edu/about/appointments>

### **US Department of Education**

Website: [Studentaid.gov](http://Studentaid.gov)

Help Line: 800-433-3243

TTY/TDD: 800-730-8913

### **FAFSA Code 003371**