



# Scholarships, Financial Aid, and Managing Costs







# If you've ever wondered...

“How do I apply for scholarships?”

“What’s the difference between scholarships and loans?”

“What kind of aid am I eligible for?”

**...Indiana University is here to help.**

This guide will help you navigate the financial options available to students attending IU. You'll find definitions, tips, easy reference info, and—of course—ways to contact the IU experts dedicated to helping you minimize your costs.

# Financial aid at IU

Admission to IU is now test-optional. To learn if this is the right path for you, visit: [go.iu.edu/test-optional](https://go.iu.edu/test-optional)

Each year, IU students receive millions of dollars in scholarships and financial aid. Here's how it works:

Beginning October 1 of your senior year, you may **complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)**. The information from your FAFSA determines your eligibility for specific types of financial aid.

To be considered for scholarships, **submit your complete application for admission to IU** (including official transcript and test scores, and IU-specific essay) by November 1. This application is reviewed for scholarship eligibility.

If you are offered admission, watch the mail for your **Financial Aid Notification** in late February. This packet lists the amount of aid (including scholarships) you can expect to receive for your freshman year at IU.

**Contact Student Central** if you have any questions along the way. They are dedicated to helping you understand your costs, know your options, and take care of the business of being a student.



## Scholarship opportunities

### IU Academic Scholarships

The **Dean's Scholarship** is awarded to first-time out-of-state freshmen based on high academic performance. Awards range from \$1,000 to \$11,000 annually, renewable for up to four years.

The **Provost's Scholarship** is awarded to first-time Indiana resident freshmen based on high academic performance. Awards range from \$1,000 to \$8,000 annually, renewable for up to four years.

Students who automatically qualify for IU Academic Scholarships are notified in their admission letter.

### Selective Scholarship Application

Students who may be eligible for specific departmental and program scholarships are notified in their admission email and invited to complete the **Selective Scholarship Application (SSA)**.

### More to explore

Visit [scholarships.indiana.edu](https://scholarships.indiana.edu) for more information on these and other ways that IU can help fund your education.



# Words to know

**COA** stands for “cost of attendance.” It is an estimate of the total cost of attending a particular university—including tuition, room and board, books, supplies, and transportation. See ours at [go.iu.edu/COA](http://go.iu.edu/COA).

**EFC** stands for “expected family contribution.” Calculated by the federal government from FAFSA information, it’s the number used by a university to determine whether a student is eligible for certain types of aid.

**Financial aid** is a general term used for ways to access college funding. Scholarships, grants, loans, and work-study are all **types** of financial aid.

**Flat-rate tuition** means students can enroll in 12 to 18 credits per semester for the same cost. It’s designed to speed up students’ time to graduation and reduce their overall cost.

**Grants** are awards from federal, state, or local sources. They are often based on financial need and do not need to be repaid.

**Loans** are money borrowed to pay for education costs. They must be repaid. Possible loan sources include the federal government or other private lenders.

**Scholarships** are education funds awarded based on academic merit or other factors. Scholarships are not repaid and are sometimes renewable for more than one year.

**Work-study** is a need-based federal student aid program that provides funding for part-time employment—while a student is enrolled in school—to help pay education expenses.



# Dates to remember

## October 1

FAFSA opens: [fafsa.ed.gov](https://fafsa.ed.gov)

## November 1

Submit your complete application for admission to IU (including official transcript and test scores, and IU-specific essay) by this date for highest scholarship consideration.

## January 15

If you applied to IU by November 1, you may submit updated SAT/ACT scores for scholarship consideration until this date.

## February 1

Regular deadline to submit your complete application for admission.

## April 15

Priority date to submit FAFSA.

## May 1

Deadline to reserve your seat in the fall freshman class.



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# Managing your costs at IU

Beyond scholarships and financial aid, here are student tips for saving money and managing costs while attending IU:



Connor Randol, Class of 2020  
Auburn, IN

“I am beyond thankful that IU offers **flat-rate tuition**. Knowing that I’m paying the same amount, whether I’m taking 12 or 18 credit hours, has made it easy to strategically plan my semesters. I can stress less about tuition cost, and focus on staying on track for graduation.”



Dorothy Vincent, Class of 2020  
Weston, WI

“I would advise getting a job on campus. Not only do **campus jobs** pay the best, but supervisors are flexible with your work schedule so it fits in with classes and studying. IU hosts a wonderful job fair in the fall with lots of options.”



Erin McMahon, Class of 2020  
Naperville, IL

“To reduce the financial burden of college, I looked for **freshman housing** that allowed me to be comfortable yet had a manageable price tag. I chose the perfect mid-range option.”

## Want more tips?




Visit [moneysmarts.iu.edu](https://moneysmarts.iu.edu) to boost your financial literacy and learn more about managing costs during and after college.

# Connect with us

## Student Central

[studentcentral.indiana.edu](http://studentcentral.indiana.edu)





812-855-6500  
scu@indiana.edu

  IUStudentCentral  
 IUSCU411

## Office of Admissions

[admissions.indiana.edu](http://admissions.indiana.edu)

812-855-0661  
admissions@indiana.edu

   IUAdmissions  
 ParentsOffFutureHoosiers

## Office of Scholarships

[scholarships.indiana.edu](http://scholarships.indiana.edu)

812-855-5779  
scholar@indiana.edu

   IUScholarships



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