

FINANCIAL AID GUIDE

A guide to understanding your
Assumption University Financial Aid Offer



Assumption University

PREPARING FOR COLLEGE IS AN EXCITING TIME, but it can also be stressful for students and their families. There are many important decisions to be made: what to study, where to apply and, often just as important, how to pay for it. We believe that an Assumption education helps prepare students for a bright future and we are dedicated to helping you make the best choices regarding how to afford it. The Assumption University Office of Financial Aid is committed to assisting and supporting current and prospective students as they navigate the process of applying for and receiving financial aid. We understand this process may be unfamiliar and can be complex. We have created this guide as a resource to help you understand Assumption University's financial aid process.

We look forward to working with you over the next four years.

Sincerely,

Monica M. Blondin
Director of Financial Aid



"Assumption is able to offer institutional scholarships and grants due to the generosity of our alumni. We value our Assumption education and pass it on to you."

Candace McGovern Race '78
Fidelity Investments
Asset Management Marketing Head

Applying for Financial Aid

To apply for need based institutional, federal, or state financial aid for the 2021-2022 academic year (fall 2021 and spring 2022 semesters), students must complete the 2021-2022 FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) at FAFSA.gov. Assumption University's federal school code is 002118 and must be included on the FAFSA Application. The FAFSA needs to be completed on an annual basis to apply for need-based financial aid in future academic years at Assumption University.

Enrollment Status

All financial aid awards are conditional and will apply only if the student enrolls full-time (at least 12 credit hours per semester) for the entire academic year in the undergraduate degree day program at Assumption University. Awards will be adjusted for less than full-time attendance, a change in housing status, or verification review.



Financial Aid Notification

Assumption University assumes that you will accept all of your financial aid funding. If you decide to cancel or reduce any of your financial aid, please email us at fa@assumption.edu.

Estimated Expenses

Your financial aid offer is based upon anticipated costs for the 2021-2022 academic year.

2021-2022 DIRECT COSTS (RESIDENT/ON CAMPUS)

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Tuition..... | \$45,100 |
| Student Activities Fee | \$300 |
| Technology Fee | \$350 |
| Health Fee | \$150 |
| Orientation Fee | \$425 |
| Room Damage Deposit..... | \$350 |
| Room/Board | \$14,068 |
| Total Billed Costs | \$60,743 |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Institutional Scholarships/Grants | - \$ _____ |
| Federal/State Grants | - \$ _____ |
| Total Net Costs | \$ _____ |
| Federal Direct Loans | - \$ _____ |
| Total Remaining Costs | \$ _____ |

2021-2022 DIRECT COSTS (COMMUTER/LIVE AT HOME)

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Tuition..... | \$45,100 |
| Student Activities Fee | \$300 |
| Technology Fee | \$350 |
| Health Fee | \$150 |
| Orientation Fee | \$425 |
| Total Billed Costs | \$46,325 |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Institutional Scholarships/Grants | - \$ _____ |
| Federal/State Grants | - \$ _____ |
| Total Net Costs | \$ _____ |
| Federal Direct Loans | - \$ _____ |
| Total Remaining Costs | \$ _____ |

Remaining costs can be paid through a variety of resources, including: student and other savings, outside scholarships, payment plans, parent PLUS loans, private/alternative loans, or a combination of the above.



Types of Financial Aid

Grant/Scholarship Aid

Funding to assist in paying educational costs. The source of these funds may include but is not limited to, Assumption University, the state and/or federal government, and other private sources. Grant/scholarship aid does not have to be repaid.

ASSUMPTION UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS/GRANTS

Assumption University Merit Scholarships: Scholarships are awarded as part of the admission process and are guaranteed for four years or eight academic semesters as long as students maintain the GPA requirement outlined in their admission letter and remain enrolled full time (12 credits or more per semester).

Assumption University Need-based Grants and Scholarships: Grants and scholarships based on financial need are awarded by the Office of Financial Aid. In order to qualify for a need-based grant or scholarship in the 2021-2022 academic year, students must demonstrate financial need from filing the 2021-2022 FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). Need based grants and scholarships are not guaranteed from year to year. In order to qualify for need based grants and scholarships in future academic years, students must demonstrate financial need from filing the FAFSA on an annual basis.

Athletic Scholarships: Scholarships are awarded as part of the admissions process and in collaboration with Assumption University's Athletic Department.

Family Tuition Discount: If two or more children enroll in the full-time, undergraduate day program at Assumption University, tuition for the family (not the individual students) will be discounted by \$1,000 for the academic year.

Tuition Exchange Scholarship Programs: Assumption University participates in two tuition exchange scholarship programs; the Tuition Exchange Program and the Council of Independent Colleges Tuition Exchange Program. Both scholarship programs are based on parental employment at another participating institution.

For additional information, contact the Tuition Exchange liaison at your college and visit tuitionexchange.org and cic.edu.

FEDERAL & STATE GRANTS

Federal Pell Grant: Federal Pell Grants are awarded to students who have a qualifying EFC (expected family contribution) from filing the 2021-2022 FAFSA.

Federal Supplemental Opportunity Grant (FSEOG): FSEOG funds are awarded to a limited number of Federal Pell Grant recipients pending federal funding. FSEOG funds are limited so not all Federal Pell Grant recipients will receive FSEOG funds.

MASSGrant: The Commonwealth of Massachusetts provides educational grants to qualified students who have completed the FAFSA. Eligibility is based on Massachusetts state residency, a qualifying EFC from the FAFSA, and full time enrollment status. Students must file the 2021-2022 FAFSA prior to May 1, 2021 in order to be considered for these funds.

Non-Massachusetts State Scholarships: Some states offer grant programs to students that are transferrable to out-of-state schools. Awards from these states will not be added to the financial aid offer until official notification from the state's agency is received (generally occurring during the summer months prior to the start of school).

Loans

Funding to assist in paying educational costs. The source of these funds may include but is not limited to, the state, federal government, and/or private loans. Loans are funds that have to be repaid.

STUDENT LOANS

Federal Direct Subsidized Loans: If your financial aid offer lists a Federal Direct Subsidized Loan, Assumption University has determined that you are eligible to receive up to the maximum amount allowed for the 2021-2022 academic year. The interest rate for the Federal Direct

Subsidized Loan is paid for you by the federal government while you are in school. Once you graduate, withdraw from school, or drop below half-time status (6 credits), your six-month grace period begins and then you will be responsible for the payment of the principal and interest on your student loan.

Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans: The Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan is a non-need based loan. Interest accrues on this loan while you are in school and the federal government does not pay the interest on this loan while you are enrolled in school. You can choose to make the interest-only payments while enrolled as a student or allow the interest to accrue and be added to the principal amount of your loan. Repayment of your loan does not begin until six months after you graduate, withdraw from school, or drop below half-time status (6 credits).

Federal Direct Loan annual amounts may change, all or in part, to an unsubsidized Direct Loan depending on the student's financial need as determined by the FAFSA. Annual limits are based on the number of credits earned towards the student's degree. Federal Direct Loan terms and conditions include:

- **The fixed interest rate for the 2020-2021 academic year is 2.75%** (the rates for the 2021-2022 academic year will not be determined until May 2021 and not take effect until July 1, 2021)
- **An origination fee will be deducted from each loan disbursement. This fee is 1.057% as of October 1, 2020** (origination fees for the 2021-2022 academic year will not be determined until May 2021 and not take effect until October 1, 2021)
- **Once your Direct Loan is disbursed, it will be assigned a loan servicer.** Students can view additional information about their Direct Loans by logging into the National Student Loan Data System (nslds.ed.gov).

UNDERGRADUATE FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN AMOUNTS

| Grade Level | Subsidized + Unsubsidized = Annual Loan Total* | Annual Loan Amount for students whose parents are denied a PLUS Loan** |
|----------------|--|--|
| FRESHMAN YEAR | \$3500 + \$2000 = \$5500 | \$3500 + \$6000 = \$9500 |
| SOPHOMORE YEAR | \$4500 + \$2000 = \$6500 | \$4500 + \$6000 = \$10500 |
| JUNIOR YEAR | \$5500 + \$2000 = \$7500 | \$5500 + \$7000 = \$12500 |
| SENIOR YEAR | \$5500 + \$2000 = \$7500 | \$5500 + \$7000 = \$12500 |

*The subsidized amounts listed above are awarded based on financial need. If the student does not have financial need, this amount will be replaced with an unsubsidized loan.
 **Increases to the student's Unsubsidized Federal Direct Loan as a result of a Federal Parent Plus Loan denial, are not applicable if the Direct PLUS loan is approved at a later time.

Accepting Federal Direct Loans: Students who wish to accept their Federal Direct Loans will need to complete the following steps:

- Log into studentaid.gov
- Complete and submit the MPN (Master Promissory Note)
- Complete and submit Entrance Counseling
- Complete and submit Annual Student Loan Acknowledgment

Massachusetts No Interest Loans: The Massachusetts No Interest Loan Program (MA NIL) is a state-funded, no interest, deferred loan offered to qualified Massachusetts residents. Repayment does not begin until six months after graduation or student is no longer enrolled. Loan amounts range from \$1,000 to \$4,000 per year. Students must file the FAFSA and have an EFC range between \$0 and \$15,000. Funding is limited, and is not guaranteed. Award amounts are determined according to financial need and availability.

Student Employment

The Student Employment program at Assumption University provides part-time employment for undergraduate students on or near campus to help pay for incidental expenses during the year. Assumption University administers two student employment programs, a Federal Work Study program and a University funded work study program.

- The Federal Work Study program is a federally subsidized part-time employment program awarded to full-time undergraduate students who demonstrate a certain level of financial need determined by filing the FAFSA. Jobs are available on or off campus. This is a need based federally subsidized program.
- The University Employment program is an on-campus, part-time employment program funded by the university.

Unlike other forms of financial aid, Federal Work-Study and University Funds are not applied as a credit to students' accounts. Students are paid on a bi-weekly basis for hours worked during the prior weeks. A work-study related offer does not guarantee an on-campus job. Students are encouraged to secure a position and can review how to obtain a job by visiting www.assumption.edu/studentemployment.

Additional Financing Options

FEDERAL DIRECT PLUS LOAN – Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS)

Parents of dependent students may be able to borrow a Federal Direct PLUS Loan to help cover their undergraduate student's educational expenses. Parent applicants who are approved for the PLUS may borrow up to the total cost of attendance (COA) minus any other financial aid received. For maximum benefit, it is recommended that you apply for the total expenses of the full academic year instead of on a semester by semester basis.

The 2020-2021 interest rate for the PLUS loan is 6.08% fixed. An origination fee is deducted from the loan before the funds are sent to the university. For 2020-2021, this fee was 4.248%. The interest rate for the 2021-2022 academic year will not be determined until May 2021 and not take effect until July 1, 2021. Repayment of the PLUS Loan begins 60 days after final disbursement and is based on a 10-year repayment. The borrower may also contact the loan servicer to make interest-only payments, or defer payments until the student is no longer enrolled in school at least half-time.

Parents may apply for the PLUS loan at studentaid.gov using their FAFSA FSA ID username and password. Credit decisions are sent to the Office of Financial Aid. Once approved, parents must electronically sign a Master Promissory Note before funds will be disbursed to the university.

If the parent is denied a Federal Direct PLUS Loan, the student may be eligible for an additional Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan.

PRIVATE/ALTERNATIVE LOANS

Parents or students may apply for a private/alternative loan up to the annual cost of attendance less any financial aid offered. Most students who apply for a private/alternative loan will need a credit worthy co-borrower. Loans vary in interest rates, fees, and repayment options. Repayment of interest usually begins immediately, with some lenders offering deferment options.

Assumption University encourages you to fully research the loans and lenders that best fit your needs. Private loans are available to help cover the remaining balance after financial aid is applied. All private loans are subject to credit approval and require a completed promissory note. These loans must be submitted for certification to

the Office of Financial Aid; the certified loan will then be reflected as a secure loan to be applied towards your student account.

ELMSelect provides a truly neutral lender and product comparison tool. It allows students and parents to evaluate, compare and select a lender that best fits their financial need. You can review all lenders on one page, narrow the list of lenders and compare them side-by-side. You can begin the loan application process from ElmSelect.com by choosing 'Apply Now' for the selected lender. For detailed information about these loans, including borrower benefits and services, log onto ELMSelect.com.

INTEREST-FREE MONTHLY TUITION PAYMENT PLAN

Assumption University offers monthly payment plans through Nelnet/Tuition Management Systems (TMS) to all undergraduate students. These plans offer students and families the option to pay their tuition balance in manageable installments.

Advantages to the Monthly Tuition Payment Plan:

- You can pay all or part of your annual charges in monthly installments without interest charges.
- The plan is flexible and can be used to supplement all other forms of financial aid such as grants, loans and scholarships.

Additional information on the tuition payment plan will be sent to enrolled students in May. For more information, please visit assumption.afford or contact the Assumption University Student Accounts Office at (508) 767-7351.

- The Fall semester plan runs from June 1 – October 1 (5 monthly installments)
- The Spring semester plan runs from November 1 – March 1 (5 monthly installments)
- There is a \$40 per semester enrollment fee (this rate applies to the 2021-2022 academic year).

Financial Aid Terms and Conditions

1. Your award is based upon the data you supplied on the FAFSA. Upon verification of your financial aid file, and/or additional documentation supplied, your financial aid offer may be revised. (Please refer to Verification on the Financial Aid website.)
2. The amount of your financial aid, including merit scholarships, is contingent upon enrolling on a full-time basis. If you reduce your course load to less than 12 credit hours per semester, the award may be adjusted.
3. Any change in your enrollment status, financial status, campus residence status, or marital status must be reported to the Office of Financial Aid. Any change may result in an adjustment to the award.
4. Financial assistance received from other sources must be reported to the Office of Financial Aid. Assistance from outside sources may result in an adjustment to your financial aid offer. The funds from these type of awards need to be posted to the student's account to be counted towards the bill.
5. Need-based financial aid is awarded for one academic year only. Students who wish to be considered for need based financial aid in subsequent years must submit the appropriate documents on an annual basis, including completing the FAFSA.
6. To remain eligible for financial aid, you must maintain satisfactory academic progress (SAP) according to the terms of the University Policy. (See the Assumption University Undergraduate Catalog or financial aid website.)
7. Awards are deducted from your bill on a semester basis, except for Federal Work-Study, which is not deducted from your bill.
8. Withdrawal from the University after the first day of classes and prior to the completion of the academic period will result in a revision of the financial aid award based upon Assumption University's refund policy and federal regulations.

FINANCIAL AID DOCUMENTS

The Office of Financial Aid will reach out to students and parents via the email used to file their 2021-2022 FAFSA to request any additional documentation. Please periodically check your emails and submit requesting documentation as soon as possible to the Office of Financial Aid.



Office of Financial Aid Contact Information

Members of the Office of Financial Aid are available to answer questions regarding the University's financial aid process as well as alternative methods of financing the expenses associated with attending Assumption University.

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Phone: 508-767-7158

Fax: 508-519-1286

Email: fa@assumption.edu

Website: www.assumption.edu/FAOffice

Schedule Appointments:

calendly.com/assumption_fa



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