2015-2016
Financial Aid Handbook
Calculating Your Family’s Share of the 2015-16 Swarthmore College Bill

Expected Educational and Living Expenses—Actual and Estimated

Expected Family Resources

Financial Aid Resources

- Scholarships & Grants (Swarthmore Scholarship, Federal Pell & SEOG, State Scholarships)
- Outside Merit-Based Scholarships
- Tuition Benefits
- Student Employment on Campus
- Resident Assistants

Financial Aid Staff

Off-Campus Study

Federal Aid Eligibility

- Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy

Our Assessment Process and Financial Aid from Year to Year

- Net Price Calculator
- Reconsideration Request

Federal Student Aid Report (SAR)

Financing Options

Confidentiality is taken very seriously at Swarthmore. We will not share your family’s private information with anyone outside our office. Paper documents will be shredded in a timely fashion under the supervision of our staff. Correspondence is generally sent only to the student. Students are then responsible to share any and all relevant information with parents/legal guardians.
**College Billing**

One-half of your College bill is to be paid late in July, and one-half is to be paid early in January. E-bills are distributed early in July and early in December. Students can access their e-bills through MySwarthmore. If your parents will be involved in paying your Swarthmore bill, be certain to arrange for their access by following instructions on the [College’s Student Accounts website](#). Although College and federal funds will show as deductions on your College bill, funds from outside such as community or state scholarships/grants will not. You may deduct half of those amounts from the fall bill in anticipation of the funds reaching the College but they will not appear as credits on your bill until they are actually received. Funds in excess of the College bill will be refunded.

To help with your financial planning, use the chart below to calculate how much of your Swarthmore College bill for the direct charges for tuition, fee, room, and board – $61,400 – will be met with scholarship or grant. The remainder is your family’s share of 2015-2016 billed charges. You may wish to use the extra columns on this chart to compare our aid award with those from other schools.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Swarthmore College</th>
<th>other school</th>
<th>other school</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total 2015-2016 billed charges (tuition, fee, room &amp; board)</strong></td>
<td>$61,400</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enter and subtract the amounts below:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Swarthmore Scholarship</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Federal SEOG grant</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Federal Pell grant</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>expected State Scholarship</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>outside scholarships such as National Merit, church, community awards or parents' tuition benefit</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Difference between the bill and all aid resources= the amount your family pays to the college—half each semester</strong></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

fall semester half  spring semester half
Your Swarthmore College bill—actual charges for 2015-2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition</td>
<td>$47,070</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student activity fee</td>
<td>$372</td>
<td>not appear on your College bill but are included on your financial aid award letter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room</td>
<td>$7,160</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books &amp; Supplies</td>
<td>$1,290</td>
<td>estimated cost for books &amp; supplies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board</td>
<td>$6,798</td>
<td>estimated cost for personal/incidental expenses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total actual charges for the year</td>
<td>$61,400</td>
<td>$1,270 Total estimated expenses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total estimated expenses</td>
<td>$63,960</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- We have provided estimates however; the amount you actually spend for books and supplies, personal expenses, or transportation depends on your spending choices.
- When planning your budget for the coming year, keep in mind that campus movies, lectures, parties, athletic events, and concerts are open to all students without charge.
- Books and Supplies: You should be prepared to purchase books and supplies when you arrive on campus. We suggest you visit our bookstore’s website at www.bookstore.swarthmore.edu for information about new, used, and rented book possibilities.
- Travel expenses: Although transportation costs are considered a part of the aid decision, no advance money or reimbursement will be given. You and your family should be prepared to pay for those costs.

College Health Insurance for Aided Students

- All students are required to have health insurance coverage. If you are not covered by your family’s health insurance, you need to enroll in the College’s insurance plan no later than June 15. Students receiving Swarthmore Scholarship support and enroll on time are eligible for a cost reduction. The Dean’s Office will send a notice about coverage in the spring. Visit the Worth Health Center’s website to read about coverage, to enroll in the College’s plan, or to opt out of the College’s plan by documenting your coverage under your family’s plan.
Expected Parents Contribution

This is your parents’ fair share based on our assessment. Basic demands on family resources such as costs for maintaining a family your size and taxes are considered. Parents’ needs for retirement protection and some of siblings’ educational expenses also influence our review. In most cases, standard demands on income rather than actual demands are considered. The uniform need-analysis system offered through the College Scholarship Service (CSS) of The College Board provides some guidance in our decision.

Swarthmore considers families’ special circumstances such as:

- Elder care and childcare expenses
- Cost of living in some areas of the country
- Medical expenses
- Exclusion of student's previous year income
- Parents' repayments of loans for their own educations

Additional Information: Swarthmore reduces the influence of home equity in determining your financial need. We also reduce the influence of parents' investments and savings if they do not have retirement provisions from their employer. Parents' savings in their children's names are treated as parents' assets.

Expected Summer Earnings Contribution

We expect first-year students to have saved $2,000 from their summer earnings and continuing students to have saved $2,500 to help with their Swarthmore expenses. The College cannot increase our scholarship award if your summer earnings fall short of the stated expectations. This expectation is required even if you cannot find a job, cannot save enough, go to school, choose not to work, choose to take a low-paying or volunteer position, or are unable to work. You may be able to replace unearned summer funds by borrowing through the federal Direct Stafford Loan program or through the federal Perkins Loan Program or by working more during the academic year.

Expected Student Asset Contribution

All student assets, presently liquid or not, are expected to be available for college. You will be expected to contribute at least 25% of your originally reported assets each year you are at Swarthmore, regardless of how and when you choose to spend those resources.

Financial Aid Resources

You will notice that the amount of financial aid we offer is equal to your need as we have assessed it. Most often, aid is awarded as a combination of scholarship and a campus job opportunity. In most cases, the first $1,960 of need is met with a campus job opportunity. Any need beyond that is met through one or more of the following sources: a Swarthmore College Scholarship; a grant through your state scholarship
Scholarships & Grants:

The Swarthmore College Scholarship is a gift from the College that need not be repaid. Scholarships are supported with the College’s endowed, restricted, or general funds. Many of these funds were provided by generous alumni and friends of the College, and you may be asked to provide a brief profile of your interests and activities for your donor. One half of your Swarthmore Scholarship will appear as a credit on your College bill each semester.

Each spring, your family will be required to reapply so that your continued financial need can be assessed. Continuing students must complete their financial aid by April 30th in order to receive a timely decision. Students are considered for Swarthmore Scholarship only during a program of eight semesters. This limit applies to our transfer students as well.

Federal Pell Grant eligibility is determined using a U.S. Department of Education system. If you receive a Pell award, this figure is an estimate, and no payment of that grant is possible until we review the results of your FAFSA. The FAFSA informs us about your eligibility for the Pell Grant and other federal aid. If you have not already used the IRS Data Retrieval Tool, go to https://fafsa.ed.gov/ to verify your information. Find a video tutorial at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ZNRdk3iXeM. Once you receive the results of your FAFSA application, the Federal Student Aid Report (SAR) will be emailed to you. If your Pell Grant eligibility changes after your information is verified, we will adjust your Swarthmore Scholarship so that your total scholarship/grant support remains the same. One half of the Pell Grant will appear as a credit on your College bill each semester. Students who do not submit the FAFSA form on time, or do not respond to requests for additional information, will not receive Swarthmore Scholarship in place of federal funding.

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG), are offered to eligible students from our limited federal allocation.

State Grants

Connecticut, Delaware, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, and West Virginia state grants may be used at Swarthmore. Any amount shown on your award letter is an estimate of your eligibility for state support. Each state determines your actual eligibility. If your state grant eligibility changes after your information is verified, we will adjust your Swarthmore Scholarship so that your total scholarship/grant support remains the same. One half of the state grant will appear as a credit on your College bill each semester. Students who do not submit the FAFSA form on time, or do not respond to requests for additional information, will not receive Swarthmore Scholarship in place of state funding.

Outside Merit Based Scholarships

In late spring, first-year students will receive an email from the Financial Aid Office, with a survey to complete; listing any outside scholarships you have been awarded. At that time, we will update your Financial Aid award and notify the Student Accounts Office that you are expecting these funds. If these amounts should change, please notify the Financial Aid Office immediately.
We will use these new funds to first replace your expected summer work contribution, which is $2,000 for your first year and $2,500 each subsequent year. After that funding is exhausted, we will then replace your campus job opportunity funding, which is listed as $1,960 on your award. You will still be able to work on campus, if you choose. Should the total of your outside scholarships total more than both of these resources, $3,960 for your first year and $4,460 for each subsequent year, then we will reduce your Swarthmore Scholarship to allow room for this resource. Please keep in mind that outside aid will not replace parents’ contribution, since that figure represents parents’ capacity to contribute from their income and assets.

Here are a few examples for first-year students with a summer earnings contribution of $2000:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aid Type</th>
<th>Original Award</th>
<th>New Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Swarthmore Scholarship</td>
<td>$47,450</td>
<td>$47,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus Work</td>
<td>$1,960</td>
<td>$1,460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pickles Award- outside scholarship</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Aid Award</td>
<td>$49,410</td>
<td>$51,410</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. The first $2,000 of the $2,500 outside scholarship reduces this first-year student's summer earnings expectations of $2,000 (no visible change to the financial aid award).
2. The $500 remaining of the outside scholarship then reduces the Campus Work Opportunity by $500 from $1,960 to $1,460.
3. The overall $2,500 of the outside scholarship is noted in the adjusted financial aid award.
4. This increases the total financial aid award by the net difference of $2,000 from $49,410 to $51,410.

Here are a few examples for currently enrolled students with a summer earnings contribution of $2,500:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aid Type</th>
<th>Original Award</th>
<th>New Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Swarthmore Scholarship</td>
<td>$47,450</td>
<td>$47,450</td>
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<tr>
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<td>$1,960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pickles Award- outside scholarship</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Aid Award</td>
<td>$49,410</td>
<td>$51,910</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. The first $2,500 outside scholarship reduces this currently enrolled student's summer earnings expectations of $2,500 (no visible change to the financial aid award).
2. The overall $2,500 of the outside scholarship is noted in the adjusted financial aid award.
3. This increases the total financial aid award by the net difference of $2,500 from $49,410 to $51,910.

Other Resources

Other resources may include veterans’ educational benefits, state rehabilitation benefits, or tuition grants from parents’ employers. If you receive one of these benefits but it is not listed on our award letter, or if you receive an amount different from what was reported, please let us know so that benefit can be factored into our aid decision.
Student Employment on Campus

The Student Employment Office (SEO), coordinated by two student co-directors, is available to help students with the job search process throughout the academic year. First year students who wish to work on campus should attend our orientation session and job fair. Aid recipients will be given hiring priority over non-aided students during the first week of class. We have set an earnings amount on your award letter. This amount may be increased if you should decide to work more hours than the 7 to 8 hours we suggest. Scholarship amounts are not affected.

The Student Payroll Office, coordinated by two students, will answer questions about timesheets and paychecks. All students who work on campus are required to complete federal work eligibility forms. Students are paid directly on a bi-weekly basis. The funds are not credited to your student account. Please keep in mind that these funds won’t be available to pay the fall bill. Student wages rates are:
- Category 1 $9.13
- Category 2 $9.47
- Category 3 $9.79
For more information please visit: STUDENT PAYROLL WEBSITE

Resident Assistants

Resident Assistants for 2015–16 will be compensated $7,160 for their work. Of the $7,160, $4,460 will appear as a credit on your bill ($2,230 each semester) and $2,700 will come to you through the student payroll for your personal expenses ($1,350 each semester). RA compensation replaces the earning elements of the aid award, but does not affect the amount of your scholarship. If a campus job and/or a summer earnings contribution are not a part of your award, being an RA may affect your scholarship.

Financial Aid Staff

Cathy Custer and Gina Fitts are Administrative Assistants of Financial Aid and lead the service and processing ends of the office. If you visit or contact the Financial Aid Office, Ms. Custer or Ms. Fitts will answer any question you may have or direct you to your financial aid director according to the following descriptions:

Laurie Heusner, Assistant Director of Financial Aid, is the financial aid director for students whose last names begin with A-G. You may contact Ms. Heusner at 610-328-8400 or lheusne1@swarthmore.edu

Kristin Moore, Associate Director of Financial Aid, is the financial aid director for students whose last names begin with H-O. You may contact Ms. Moore at 610-328-8392 or at kmoore1@swarthmore.edu

John Haggerty, Assistant Director of Financial Aid, is the financial aid director for students whose last names begin with P-Z. You may contact Mr. Haggerty at 610-690-3975 or at jhagger1@swarthmore.edu

Judy Strauser, Director of Operations, manages the Financial Aid Office’s processing and communications systems that allow us to process your information that determine your eligibility for financial aid.

Varo Duffins, Director of Financial Aid, is the aid director for international (non-U.S. citizen) students. You may contact Mr. Duffins at vduffin1@swarthmore.edu
**Off-Campus Study**

College aid can follow you to our many programs of study abroad and domestic exchange. This is only possible if your program is approved by our Off-Campus Study Office. Most study abroad programs do not offer campus work opportunities; however, other financing options may be available.

**Satisfactory Academic Progress**


**Federal Aid Eligibility**

**Selective Service Registration**

Eligibility for Federal student aid funds is linked to compliance with Selective Service regulations. Those who cannot register should call or visit the director of financial aid (please do not write). The College has made a commitment to replace with Swarthmore funds any federal funds forfeited by those who must, but cannot, register with Selective Service. The College has no special replacement funds, however, for any student who is not required to register.

**Federal Student Aid Report (SAR)**

The family contribution, noted on the SAR, was determined by the FAFSA but will be different than Swarthmore’s. This federal family contribution is used to determine your eligibility for federal or state aid, and will not influence our Swarthmore Scholarship decisions.

**Living Off-Campus**

Students living off campus (but not with their families) are assumed to face room and board expenses equal to the amounts the College charges. The budget we use for determining your aid eligibility is the same whether you live on or off campus. Although College aid cannot exceed your College bill, you may use federal, state, other outside aid or family resources to meet off-campus living expenses.
Financial Aid from Year to Year

We are committed to meeting all demonstrated financial need as we assess it, and that need must be reviewed annually.

Some reasons your total aid might be different from year to year:
- Siblings’ enrollment in an undergraduate program
- Increases and decreases in family income
- An increase in College charges
- Change in family circumstances

When parents are not together

The College expects that parents will pay all they are able (whether from current or future resources). Although we cannot increase our scholarship aid to fill the gap if a parent declines his/her responsibility, you may be able to borrow. Let us know in writing if you have a problem and wish to borrow.

Reconsideration Request

Requests will only be considered with new or corrected information, without which, the financial aid decision is unlikely to change. Please submit the request in writing. Our response time will vary depending on the application season.

Net Price Calculator

We offer the Net Price Calculator to help some prospective students with an estimate of the aid they might receive and the net price to be paid by the family. This calculator is best for students whose parents are salaried, and whose parents are together and live inside the U.S. Swarthmore has made the actual decision about your scholarship eligibility.

SWARTHMORE COLLEGE MONTHLY PAYMENT PLAN

The Swarthmore Monthly College Payment Plan (SCPP) enables families to pay all College-billed expenses in regular monthly payments. SCPP allows parents to determine how much of their annual tuition, room, board and fee they may want to pay in installments. This will afford families the ability to budget annual costs to best fit their individual needs.
### FEDERAL DIRECT STAFFORD LOAN—for students

The Federal Direct Stafford Loan is a long-term, low-interest educational loan for students. Eligibility for a Direct Stafford Loan is determined by the College. Using federal guidelines, the College determines the maximum you may borrow and whether the interest on your loan will be federally-subsidized during your enrollment. [See our website for more about this Federal Direct loan.](#)

- Up to $5,500 available to freshmen
- Up to $6,500 available to sophomores
- Up to $7,500 available to juniors and seniors

### Applying for a Federal Direct Stafford Loan:

- Complete a [2015-16 Federal FAFSA application](#)
- Incoming students: We will email you Federal Direct Stafford Loan application instructions late in May, and you will apply for that loan through our website.
- Previous borrowers: We will process your loan for the amount you requested on the College Board CSS/PROFILE. To change that amount, please send your request to: [SCLoans@swarthmore.edu](mailto:SCLoans@swarthmore.edu)
- Continuing students who have not previously borrowed: Please visit our [website](#)
- Student borrowers are required to complete both a Master Promissory Note and Loan Entrance Counseling prior to the disbursement of their first loan.

You will receive confirmation from our financial aid office after your loan is approved. That will be followed by more detailed information from the US Department of Education.

For more information on loan terms, interest rates, or repayment options visit [Federal Student Aid](#).

### FEDERAL DIRECT PLUS LOAN—for parents

The Federal Direct PLUS Loan is a long-term, low-interest educational loan for parents. For more information visit [Federal Student Aid](#).

- The U.S. Department of Education is the lender.
- The borrower must not have an adverse credit history.
- The maximum loan amount is the student’s cost of attendance (determined by the school) minus any other financial aid received.

### Applying for a Federal Direct PLUS Loan:

- If you have not already done so, complete a [FAFSA](#).
- Visit [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov) and sign in using parent’s information

If approved, the Federal Direct PLUS Loan will be disbursed in halves at the beginning of each semester.

If denied, additional unsubsidized Federal Direct Stafford Loan funds are available to students. If this occurs, students may request an additional:

- $4,000 for first or second year students
- $5,000 for third or fourth year students