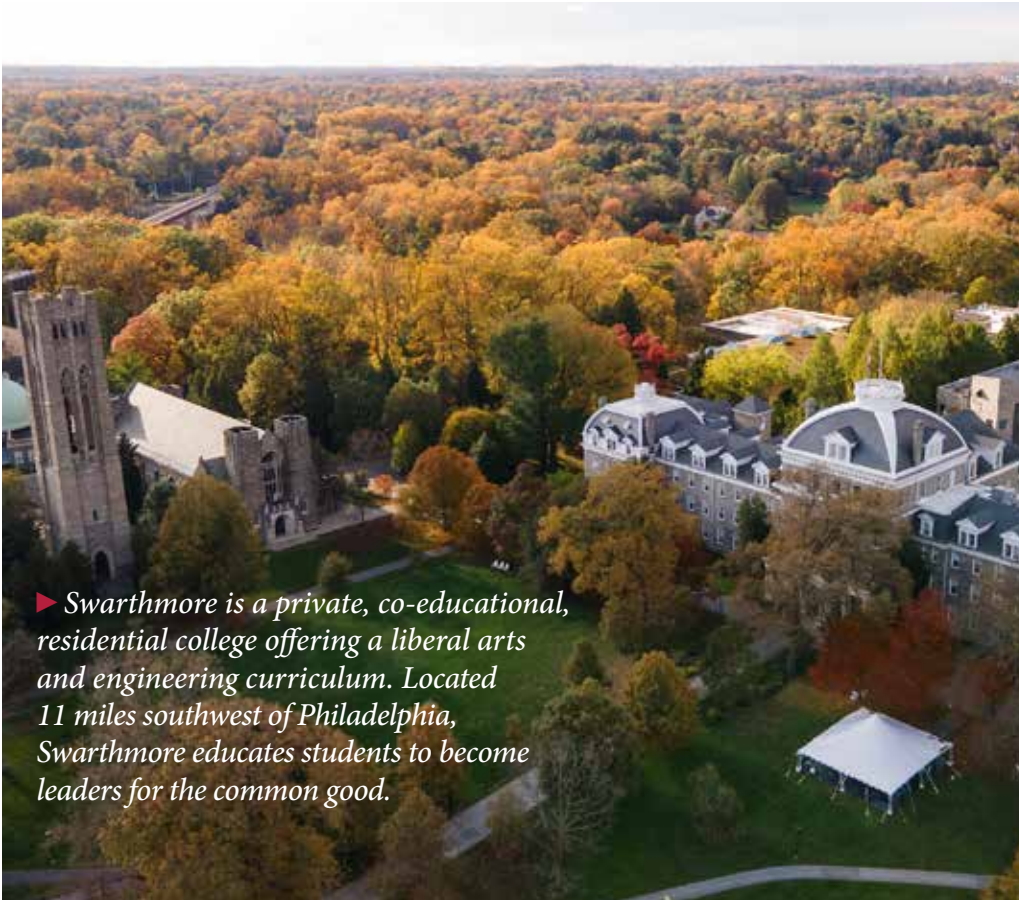




# SWARTHMORE AID & ACCESS

A GUIDE FOR COUNSELORS, ADVISORS, AND COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS



▶ *Swarthmore is a private, co-educational, residential college offering a liberal arts and engineering curriculum. Located 11 miles southwest of Philadelphia, Swarthmore educates students to become leaders for the common good.*

## QUICK STATS

### THE ADMITTED CLASS OF 2025\*

FIRST-YEAR ADMITS: 1,014

- 218** QUESTBRIDGE STUDENTS
- 30%** FIRST GENERATION TO COLLEGE
- 59%** RECEIVED APPLICATION FEE WAIVER
- 93%** TOP 10 PERCENT OF HIGH SCHOOL CLASS (OF THOSE REPORTED)
- 65%** GRADUATED FROM PUBLIC SCHOOL
- 5%** SMALL-TOWN AND RURAL STUDENTS
- 34%** WORKED WITH A COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION
- 93%** LIVE OUTSIDE OF PENNSYLVANIA

\*AS OF MARCH 24, 2021

## WHY SWARTHMORE IS SPECIAL

A few things that make Swarthmore different from other institutions:

### We're small (about 1,600 students), but we pack a punch.

Students can choose from 40 programs of study and more than 600 courses at Swarthmore, with even more classes available at Haverford and Bryn Mawr colleges through the Tri-College Consortium or at the University of Pennsylvania. Nearly 40% of our classes have fewer than 10 students enrolled.

### Our Quaker heritage runs deep.

Swarthmore was founded in 1864 as a Quaker institution, and while we are officially independent, Quaker values of peace, integrity, and community continue to imbue life at the College.

### Our students take academic risks.

A student's first semester at Swarthmore is pass/fail, meaning students can take courses outside their comfort zone without worrying about grades. Learning for learning's sake takes center stage.

### We provide an idyllic home in the backyard of one of America's greatest cities.

We're easily accessible to Philadelphia via a 25-minute train ride straight from the campus station. Students enjoy a residential living experience and wide-open spaces in a 425-acre arboretum campus. They also have access to world-class public art, professional sports, great restaurants, and a thriving music scene. Philadelphia and nearby New York and Washington, D.C., offer a wealth of opportunities for internships, research positions, and employment.

# ADMISSION TO SWARTHMORE

We streamline the admissions process for low-income and first-generation college students.

## Application fee waivers:

Students may select their need for a fee waiver on the Common Application or the Coalition Application. Students may also use SwatPass, an online tool that allows students to answer a few questions and self-identify their need for a fee waiver.

## Optional testing and self-reported test scores:

Standardized test scores are not required for students applying during the 2021–2022 admission cycle. Students who choose to submit scores may self-report them in lieu of submitting and paying for official scores from a testing agency.

## Undocumented student policy:

Our Quaker heritage informs our work. That's one reason why we admit and fund undocumented and DACA-eligible first-year and transfer students the same way we do any domestic student — and meet full financial need.



## Discover Swarthmore:

Each fall, we traditionally host a few hundred high school students on campus to explore life at Swarthmore. The program is an all-expenses-paid trip to the College, and we accept nominations from counselors and advisors.

► **Swatlight:** We believe that every admitted student should have the ability to visit campus. Each spring, we typically host an all-expenses-paid trip to Swarthmore for admitted students who are the first in their families to attend college, come from low-income backgrounds, or have been working with a community-based organization.

► **Enrollment fees:** Swarthmore automatically waives enrollment deposits for qualified students, and we do not ask for a housing deposit.

STUDENTS SHOULD SUBMIT ONLY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS:



# STUDENT SUPPORT

We are committed to enrolling and supporting a diverse class by offering:

## Money for textbooks:

Every student receives a \$700 annual credit to support the purchase of required course materials, through Swarthmore's new Textbook Affordability Program.

## Cash-free campus and cash-free consortium:

There are no "additional fees" at Swarthmore. Nearly everything is included in the annual activities fee, so things like movie nights, laundry, printing, and athletic events are free to all students. In addition, Swatties may eat in the dining halls and attend most events for free at Haverford and Bryn Mawr colleges.

## Campus spaces and programs:

Swarthmore supports students from diverse backgrounds with programs sponsored by the Black Cultural Center, Women's Resource Center, Hormel-Nguyen Intercultural Center at Sproul Hall, Interfaith Center, and International Student Center. We also offer services, events, and resources that support the personal and intellectual development of Asian American, Latinx, multiracial, Native American, LGBTQ+, low-income, international, and first-generation college students, and students with disabilities.

## First-Gen/Low-Income

**(FLI):** Swarthmore's FLI Program assists students in building community, finding support, and taking advantage of College resources while bringing together FLI students, staff, and faculty.

## Mentoring:

Initiatives like the Richard Rubin Scholar Mentoring Program and Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program provide thoughtful mentoring and significant funding to conduct research, attend conferences, and pursue professional-development opportunities.

## Student Emergency Fund:

Students who find themselves facing an urgent financial shortfall for expenses not included in the cost of attendance receive monetary support when they need it.

## Undocumented students:

A member of the Dean's Office staff supports undocumented students with their specific questions and concerns, and a student-run organization provides community.

## Internship and summer research funding:

Students do not need to choose a paid internship over nonprofit or community work. The College provides funding programs for internships and summer research that are open to all students who wish to apply.



## SWARTHMORE SUMMER SCHOLARS PROGRAM (S<sup>3</sup>P)

This program is designed for incoming first-year students who have been admitted to Swarthmore and are the first in their families to attend college, come from a low-income background, or belong to a traditionally underrepresented group in STEM. S<sup>3</sup>P provides coursework in STEM and writing, along with mentorship from faculty and staff that lasts throughout the student's time at the College. All expenses are paid for the program, and a stipend is provided.

# FINANCIAL AID

Students should not be limited in their educational pursuits because of their inability to afford higher education.

## NEED-BLIND ADMISSIONS

Our admissions review does not take the ability to pay into consideration for U.S. citizens, permanent residents, eligible non-citizens (such as refugees), and undocumented students who graduate from a high school in the U.S.

## 100% OF FINANCIAL NEED IS MET

Swarthmore adds up the costs of attendance (tuition, activities fee, room and board, transportation, and personal expenses), determines what the family can reasonably pay (from \$0 to total cost), and provides a financial aid decision for the difference between the total cost of attendance and the family contribution.

## LOAN-FREE FINANCIAL AID DECISIONS

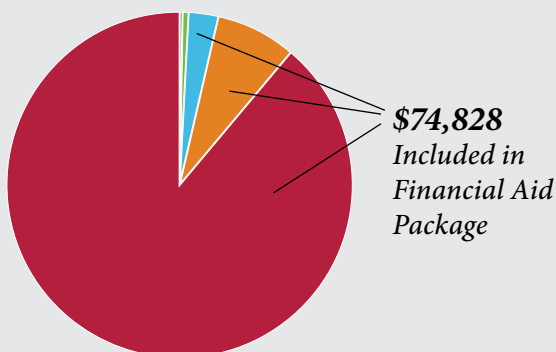
Swarthmore's financial aid decisions do not include loans. While some families choose to take out loans to pay the family contribution, all Swarthmore financial aid decisions are composed of grants (which do not have to be repaid) and an opportunity to earn money while working a part-time College job.

### SAMPLE FINANCIAL AID DECISIONS\*

#### Sample #1: John

John's parents earn about \$37,400 annually. John has no siblings. He received a Federal Pell Grant of \$5,845. His parents will contribute \$352 toward the cost of Swarthmore, while John is expected to contribute \$176 from his summer earnings. John has no savings of his own. John's total family contribution is \$528. Swarthmore's total cost of attendance for 2021–2022 is \$75,356. John's total financial aid package is \$74,828, which consists of a Federal Pell Grant, a Swarthmore Scholarship, and part-time work at a College job.

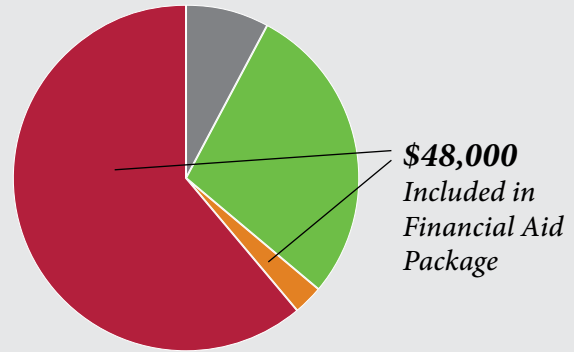
| COST OF ATTENDANCE                                  | \$75,356 | 100.00% |
|---|----------|---------|
| John's Contribution                                 | \$176    | 0.23%   |
| Family Contribution                                 | \$352    | 0.47%   |
| Federal Pell Grant                                  | \$5,845  | 7.76%   |
| Swarthmore Work-Study Job                           | \$2,000  | 2.65%   |
| Swarthmore Scholarship<br><i>(Need-Based Grant)</i> | \$66,983 | 88.89%  |



#### Sample #2: Beatriz

Beatriz's parents earn \$111,424 annually. Her sister has graduated from college and moved out. Her parents will contribute \$21,361 toward the cost of Swarthmore, while Beatriz is expected to contribute \$2,000 from her summer earnings and \$3,995, a small portion of her assets. The total family contribution is \$27,356. Swarthmore's total cost of attendance for 2021–2022 is \$75,356. Beatriz's total financial aid package is \$48,000, which consists of a Swarthmore Scholarship and part-time work at a College job.

| COST OF ATTENDANCE                                  | \$75,356 | 100.00% |
|---|----------|---------|
| Beatriz's Contribution                              | \$5,995  | 7.96%   |
| Family Contribution                                 | \$21,361 | 28.35%  |
| Federal Pell Grant                                  | \$0      | 0.00%   |
| Swarthmore Work-Study Job                           | \$2,000  | 2.65%   |
| Swarthmore Scholarship<br><i>(Need-Based Grant)</i> | \$46,000 | 61.04%  |



\*Sample aid decisions are based on real information. Students' individual situations will vary.

We invite you to contact us for more information. Visit [swarthmore.edu](http://swarthmore.edu) or email us at [access@swarthmore.edu](mailto:access@swarthmore.edu).