

Financial Assistance

CONTINUING STUDIES



THE UNIVERSITY
OF TAMPA

The Financial Aid Office assists continuing studies students who desire a greater understanding of the financial aid process.

HOW TO APPLY

1. Complete the FAFSA

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) determines eligibility for all federal, state and University aid programs. Most aid programs are available only to U.S. citizens and permanent residents. Apply online at studentaid.gov under "Apply for Aid." Students should complete the FAFSA once it is available for the next academic year.

Students applying for aid in the summer sessions will be asked to complete the FAFSA for two academic years at or close to the same time.

*Remember to list UT on your FAFSA.
The federal school code is 001538.*

2. Receive Award Notification

Once UTampa receives the results of the FAFSA and a student has been admitted, the Financial Aid Office will award the aid for which the student is eligible and make it available on the Financial Aid portal at financialaid.ut.edu. Students can also print an award letter on the portal.

3. Reapply Each Year

To continue receiving financial aid, students must reapply every year. Students who submitted a FAFSA the previous year will receive an email reminder from the federal government to complete the next year's FAFSA online. Much of the information from the previous year's FAFSA will be pre-filled, making the application process faster and easier.

TYPES OF AID

State Aid Programs

Students must meet residency requirements for tuition purposes as defined by the State of Florida. Complete the Residency Questionnaire in Workday or contact your financial aid counselor if it is unavailable and you qualify for residency.

Residency must be proven prior to the end of the first week of classes for which aid is sought.

Florida Bright Futures

Students attending half time (6 credits) who were eligible for one of these lottery-funded scholarships at the time of high school graduation may receive funding in the fall and spring semesters. Funding may also be available for summer sessions (check with your financial aid counselor). Additional stipulations apply and vary based on high school graduation year. Learn more at floridastudentfinancialaid.org or speak to your financial aid counselor.

Honorably Discharged Graduate Assistance Program (HDGAP)

Students who are active duty or honorably discharged members of the Armed Forces who served on or after Sept. 11, 2001, may be eligible to receive up to \$50 per day for up to 20 days in an academic year during semester breaks. Limited funding is available. Funds are generally awarded in December for the winter break. In addition to proving Florida residency, students must complete a FAFSA and demonstrate financial need.

UTampa Grants and Scholarships

The University of Tampa offers a limited number of scholarships to continuing studies students. Criteria for the awards are admission to the program, high academic performance or potential, and financial need. Applicants should submit an essay (500–700 words) discussing their academic achievements, career goals and reasons for financial need to the Financial Aid Office at finaid@ut.edu and complete the FAFSA. The deadlines are Aug. 1 (fall semester) and Dec. 1 (spring semester). Learn more at ut.edu/financialaid/part-time.

Federal Aid Programs

Pell Grant

This federal grant is awarded on the basis of need (as determined by the FAFSA) and is prorated based on the number of credit hours enrolled.

Direct Loans

Federal Direct Loans are available to students registered at least half time (6 credit hours). Students may accept or decline their Direct Loans around mid-May in Workday. Loan Entrance Counseling and a Master Promissory Note are required and must be completed at studentaid.gov.

Payments on all Direct Loans are deferred while the student is enrolled at least half-time, and students may choose to make payments while enrolled in school. Various repayment plans are available. The interest rate is a fixed 6.53% for 2024-25.

There are two kinds of Direct Loans:

- **Subsidized Direct Loans** are based on need and interest on the loan is paid by the federal government until the loan goes into repayment.
- **Unsubsidized Direct Loans** are available to all students regardless of income, and interest begins to accrue immediately upon disbursement.

After students graduate, leave school or drop below half-time enrollment, they have a grace period of six months before beginning repayment. The first payment is due within 60 days of the grace period ending. A servicer for the Department of Education (the lender for all Direct Loans) will notify borrowers of their payment due dates. Alternative repayment plans also may be available.

TEACH Grant

This is a non-need-based grant. Recipients agree to teach in a high-need field at a school serving low-income students. See service requirements at studentaid.gov. Up to \$3,772 per academic year may be awarded for grants first disbursed prior to Oct. 1, 2024. This amount is pro-rated based on level of enrollment.

Work-Study

Federal Work-Study may be included as part of a student's aid offer based on need, as determined by the result of the FAFSA. Work-Study is earned as a paycheck and is not applied to the student's bill.

Other Payment Options

Florida Prepaid College Plans

Funds paid into this program can be withdrawn to help pay for your UTampa education. The Transfer Form is available at myfloridaprepaid.com.

Tuition Payment Plan

A payment plan is available through the University's Bursar's Office. Students may sign up for the payment plan on Workday. More information is available at ut.edu/tuition/paymentoptions.

Medical Disability Benefits

Assistance may be available from the local Office of Vocational Rehabilitation or Bureau of Visual Services.

Veterans and Military Educational Benefits

Veterans, children of deceased or disabled veterans, active duty service members and their families may be eligible for education benefits from the Veterans Administration or military service branch. Contact the local VA Office to learn more. The University of Tampa's VA certifying official is located in the Registrar's Office. Visit ut.edu/veterans.

Tax Credit

Taxpayers may be eligible to claim nonrefundable American Opportunity or Lifetime Learning tax credits against their federal income taxes. These credits may be claimed for the qualified tuition and related expenses of each student in the taxpayer's family.

Alternative Loans

Many private banks and lenders offer loans for financing educational costs. However, the University of Tampa recommends exhausting all federal aid options before taking an alternative loan (federal loans are generally less expensive). A FAFSA is not required for alternative loans. Award amount, interest and repayment terms vary.

These are credit-based loans and students must complete the lender's application process. Lenders may require students to have a cosigner, make payments while in school or have other stipulations. Even if not required by the lender, students may choose to apply with a cosigner because it could reduce the interest rate. View UTampa's preferred lender list at ut.edu/financialaid/loans.

Credit Card Payments

The University accepts Visa, MasterCard and Discover for tuition payments. Credit card payments may be made on Workday at ut.edu/login. For other payment options, visit ut.edu/tuition/paymentoptions.

Outside Privately Funded Programs

A number of sources are available for information on outside funding, including:

- ut.edu/financialaid/outsidescholarships
- fastweb.com
- finaid.org
- collegeboard.org
- collegeresourcenetwork.com
- scholarshipamerica.org

Students must notify the Financial Aid Office of any outside awards. Receipt of privately funded scholarships may cause an overaward of financial aid funds.

Overawards

The combination of University and non-University financial assistance may not exceed the cost of attendance, as determined by the Financial Aid Office. If students are receiving outside funds, previously awarded aid may be reduced or changed.

FINANCIAL AID CHECKLIST

- Contact the Office of Graduate and Continuing Studies to complete the admissions process and make required deposits.
- Complete the FAFSA as soon as possible once it is available.
- Contact the VA School Certifying Official if you will be using VA benefits.
- Review award offer once it is available and complete all paperwork requested by the Financial Aid Office.
- In mid-May, accept or decline loans in Workday.
- Complete the Master Promissory Note and Loan Entrance Counseling at studentaid.gov if using Federal student loans.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND WEBSITES

- UTampa Financial Aid Office
(813) 253-6219
ut.edu/financialaid
- UTampa Office of Admissions
(813) 253-6211
- UTampa Bursar's Office (bill payment, tuition payment plan, Florida Prepaid)
(813) 253-6202
- UTampa VA School Certifying Official
(813) 258-3975
vco@ut.edu
- Federal Student Aid and FASFA
(800) 433-3243
studentaid.gov
- Florida Prepaid College Plans
(800) 552-4723
myfloridaprepaid.com
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
(888) 442-4551
va.gov/education
- Financial Literacy and Career Resources
igrad.com

Financial Aid Office

401 W. Kennedy Blvd.
Plant Hall, Room 427
Tampa, FL 33606-1409

(813) 253-6219

Fax: (813) 258-7439

Email: finaid@ut.edu

ut.edu/financialaid



The University Of

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The University of Tampa does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, religion, national or ethnic origin, disability, military or veteran status, marital status, genetic information or any other protected characteristic. This policy of nondiscrimination extends in letter and spirit to all areas of the student's experience at the University.