



FINANCIAL AID QUICK GUIDE

Financial Aid Information

You can view, accept, reduce, or decline your financial aid from 6 AM to 2 AM by logging into the Student Center at uaconnect.uark.edu. Just click on the Financial Aid tile, then choose Accept/Decline Awards, and select the appropriate school year. To learn more about financial aid, visit finaid.uark.edu.

The university can adjust your aid if:

- The information on your FAFSA is different from what you provided.
- Your family's financial situation changes during the year.
- You receive help from another source besides what is listed in your financial aid notification (FAN).
- Your enrollment status changes after your award is determined.
- There was a mistake made while determining your award.

Remember, financial aid can't be used for deposits, physical exams, or fees due before registration. You need to file a FAFSA each year to keep your financial aid eligibility at studentaid.gov (under the "Apply for Aid" menu). For more information, check out the university's consumer information at finaid.uark.edu/consumer_information/index.php

Scholarship Information

University of Arkansas Academic Scholarships

The Academic Scholarship Office runs a university-wide scholarship competition open to current UA undergraduate and graduate students in any major. To apply, you must have completed the previous fall semester at UA. This competition looks for students who have strong academic achievements and show leadership, involvement in campus or community activities, financial need, or have succeeded despite challenges.

Submission Period:

- **January 1, 2025, to February 15, 2025** (11:59 PM CST)

Eligibility: To be considered for the University-Wide Current Student Scholarship, you must:

- Be currently enrolled as a degree-seeking undergraduate or graduate student in good standing.
- Plan to enroll as a full-time undergraduate or graduate student for the next academic year.
- Have completed the previous fall semester as a UA undergraduate student.
- Submit a complete General Application in the Academic Works system.
- Complete your application during the Submission Period.

Applications submitted late or that are incomplete will not be considered.

Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship

If you're an Arkansas resident receiving the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship, you must:

- **Take at least 15 credit hours each semester** for the scholarship funds to be available. (Exception: In your first fall semester, you can take only 12 credit hours.)
- **To keep your scholarship**, you need to complete **30 credit hours each year** (or 27 hours if you're a new freshman) and maintain a **cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher**.

For more details about the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship rules, log into your YOUniversal account at scholarships.adhe.edu to see messages and information from the Arkansas Department of Higher Education.

New Arkansan Nonresident Tuition Award (NRTA) and Alumni Legacy Scholarship

These tuition reduction scholarships help pay for the difference between resident and nonresident tuition costs for a full academic year. However, they **cannot be used** for other expenses like resident tuition, fees, housing, books, or other charges from the university.



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If you receive this award, you will not be considered an Arkansas resident. To renew either scholarship, you must:

- **Complete 24 or more credit hours each academic year**
- **Maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher** at the University of Arkansas.

For more information, visit nrta.uark.edu.

Outside Scholarships

Outside scholarships come from organizations that are not part of the University of Arkansas. There are thousands of these scholarship organizations, and UA students typically receive a lot of outside scholarships each year.

Reputable scholarship search websites include **Big Future** and **FastWeb**, which are popular nationwide scholarship search engines. We encourage you to use multiple search engines to find scholarship funding.

Federal Work-Study

If you are awarded Federal Work-Study (FWS), follow these steps to find and apply for jobs:

1. **Check Job Listings:** Go to finaid.uark.edu/FWS. Click on “Work Study for Students,” then click on “Job Listings.”
2. **Contact the Supervisor:** Reach out to the supervisor of the job you’re interested in to apply.
3. **Discuss Job Details:** Talk with the supervisor about the job schedule, responsibilities, and pay rate.
4. **Get Hired:** If you’re hired, the supervisor will fill out a job assignment form and request approval for your pay rate from the Office of Financial Aid.
5. **Complete HR Paperwork:** Before you start working, you need to show the hiring department that you’ve finished all Human Resources employment paperwork.

Pay Schedule: You will get paid twice a month for the actual hours you worked. If you have trouble finding a FWS job, contact the Office of Financial Aid for help.

Federal Student Loans

Your Financial Aid Notification (FAN) will tell you how much you can borrow in Direct Loans this year. If you want to borrow less than what is offered, you can do that in your Student Center.

Keep in Mind: The amount you borrow during the academic year might affect how much you can borrow for summer school. Remember, **loans must be repaid.**

Before you can receive your Direct Loan funds, complete these three steps:

1. **Accept Your Loan(s):** Log into your Student Center in UAConnect. Click on the Financial Aid tile, then choose Accept/Decline Awards, and select the right year. If you want to accept a smaller amount than what was offered, you can change the amount after checking the accept box. The accepted amount will be split evenly between the fall and spring semesters.
2. **Complete Entrance Counseling:** Use your FSA ID (the same ID you used to sign the FAFSA) to log into studentaid.gov. Under the Complete Aid Process menu, click on “Complete Entrance Counseling.” Select that you are an undergraduate student, read the information, and answer the questions at the end of each page.
3. **Sign a Master Promissory Note (MPN):** Go to studentaid.gov in the Complete Aid Process menu to complete and sign the Subsidized/Unsubsidized Master Promissory Note. It’s a good idea to print a copy of the MPN for your records.



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College and Departmental Scholarships

- [College of Education and Health Professions](#)
 - <https://coehp.uark.edu/students/scholarships.php>
- [College of Engineering](#)
 - <https://engineering.uark.edu/academics/scholarships-and-financial-aid.php>
- [Dale Bumpers College of Agriculture, Food, and Life Sciences](#)
 - <https://bumperscollege.uark.edu/future-students/scholarships.php>
- [Fay Jones School of Architecture](#)
 - <https://fayjones.uark.edu/admissions/index.php>
- [J. William Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences](#)
 - <https://fulbright.uark.edu/scholarships/department-awards.php>
- [Sam M. Walton College of Business](#)
 - <https://walton.uark.edu/student-engagement/scholarships.php>

Additional Funding Opportunities

- <https://scholarships.uark.edu/guide-to-academic-freshman-scholarships/additional-funding-opportunities.php>
- *Barnes & Noble Book Scholarship Form:* <https://forms.uark.edu/xfp/form/954>
- *Arkansas Alumni Association Scholarships:* <https://www.arkansasalumni.org/s/1429/bp20/interior.aspx?sid=1429&gid=1&pgid=436>