

# FINANCIAL AID

The University of Chicago

The University of Chicago is deeply committed to ensuring that students from every background, regardless of financial need, can find a home here. No Barriers allows UChicago students to graduate debt-free and prepared for lifelong success—no matter their chosen major or background prior to enrolling in college. We will work with your family to create a financial aid package that fits your unique circumstances and ensures that a UChicago education is within your reach.

## NO BARRIERS

No Barriers is a comprehensive plan to increase access to college, support students in receiving an empowering education, and prepare them for lifelong success. This program eliminates obstacles when applying, ensures that students can leave college without the burden of student debt, and offers robust, personalized support that gives every UChicago student, regardless of background, opportunities to discover their passions and leverage their world-class education. For more information, please visit [nobarriers.uchicago.edu](https://nobarriers.uchicago.edu).

### NO APPLICATION FEE

Families who apply for financial aid do not have to pay a college application fee to UChicago. You are welcome to attend a free UChicago session in your area to hear more information about the selective admissions process and applying for financial aid.

### NO LOANS

UChicago's need-based financial aid involves no loans and is awarded as grants, which do not need to be repaid. Students can graduate without debt influencing their plans for the future.

### FUNDED OPPORTUNITIES

Generous funding for summer and school-year involvement is available—from internships and research positions to study abroad and career exploration treks—for students of all majors and interests.

### LIFELONG CAREER SUPPORT

Career support starts with your personal career advisor, continues through four years of professional development programs that introduce skills built upon the previous year's lessons, and becomes real experience through over 1,700 funded internships annually.

**NEED-BASED AID** The admissions process at UChicago is need-blind, meaning that we evaluate students on their merits alone, without weighing their financial situation. Through No Barriers, UChicago College students who receive need-based financial aid will be awarded aid packages containing grants instead of loans. We meet 100% of your family's demonstrated financial need. This year, UChicago awarded over \$117 million in need-based aid. Though UChicago financial aid packages have no loan expectation, federal loans are available should families wish to use them.

For more detailed information, contact the Office of College Aid at **773-702-8666** or [college-aid@uchicago.edu](mailto:college-aid@uchicago.edu).

International students, please visit [collegeadmissions.uchicago.edu/costs/international-aid](https://collegeadmissions.uchicago.edu/costs/international-aid) for more information about international financial aid.

“A very comprehensive financial aid package was the confirmation that an education at UChicago is within any family's reach, regardless of their financial status.”

— Jorge M., father of Valeria M., member of the class of 2019

**THE ODYSSEY SCHOLARSHIP** In 2007, an anonymous donor gifted the University of Chicago \$100 million to establish the Odyssey Scholarship, a life-changing program to empower low-income and first-generation students at UChicago. The donor explained, “I give this gift in the hopes that future generations of students will not be prevented from attending the College because of financial incapacity and may graduate without the siren of debt distracting them from fulfilling unremunerative dreams.”

In addition to receiving our comprehensive need-based financial support, Odyssey Scholars receive unparalleled enrichment opportunities to complement

their transformative education. Funded summer internships or research opportunities allow Scholars to integrate classroom lessons into a real-world environment. Additionally, cross-year mentoring and alumni engagement provide current Odyssey Scholars successful role models from similar backgrounds.

Perhaps most importantly, the Odyssey Scholarship has brought a world-class opportunity within reach of students who might not otherwise seek it—approximately 40% of our Odyssey Scholars are the first in their family to attend college.



Because of the University of Chicago, **I appreciate the value of higher education and hard work.** UChicago, just in a short year, has been the catalyst that has sparked a fire, and as I gain leadership positions, internships, friends, and knowledge, **I can be a force to be reckoned with.**

— Anthony Downer, Odyssey Scholar and member of the class of 2017

**MERIT AID** In addition to comprehensive need-based awards, the University of Chicago is one of the few highly-selective universities in the country that also offers substantial merit scholarships to admitted students who show outstanding academic and extracurricular achievement, leadership experience, and commitment to their communities. Every first-year student admitted to UChicago is automatically considered for merit aid, which is usually awarded for four years of undergraduate study. Merit scholarships include:

- University Scholarship
- National Merit Finalists Scholarship
- National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholarship
- Chicago Public Schools Scholarship
- UChicago Charter School (Woodlawn Campus) Scholarship
- Chicago Police and Fire Scholarship
- Stamps Leadership Scholarship

### Financial Aid Materials and Priority Deadlines\*

| Document   | Early Action & Early Decision I | Early Decision II | Regular Decision |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <p><b>The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)</b><br/>The FAFSA is available October 1 at <a href="http://fafsa.gov">fafsa.gov</a> (use UChicago's school code 001774).</p> <p>We strongly encourage families to submit all of these materials to maximize their funding options (including the No Barriers program). However, if you wish to be considered only for federal student aid, the FAFSA is the only document you must submit.</p> | November 15                     | January 15        | February 15      |
| <p><b>The University of Chicago Worksheet</b><br/>This is a short, free online worksheet available through your UChicago Account once you have applied for admission.</p> <p>The College Board's CSS Profile can be substituted for this worksheet.</p>  | November 15                     | January 15        | February 15      |
| <p><b>Tax Return</b><br/>This is a signed copy of your parents' federal income tax return from 2015. Include all schedules and W-2 forms.</p>  | November 15                     | January 15        | February 15      |

Students who submit their financial aid materials by the priority deadline will receive their financial aid award with their admissions decision. We will continue to receive and process materials at any time. All students are automatically considered for merit aid.

\*These deadlines apply only to US citizens and permanent residents. International students, please visit [collegeadmissions.uchicago.edu/costs/international-aid](http://collegeadmissions.uchicago.edu/costs/international-aid).

Please visit [financialaid.uchicago.edu/prospective-students/apply-for-aid](http://financialaid.uchicago.edu/prospective-students/apply-for-aid) for more information.



College  
Aid

1115 East 58th Street  
Walker 309  
Chicago, Illinois 60637-5416  
T 773.702.8666  
F 773.834.4300

[financialaid.uchicago.edu](http://financialaid.uchicago.edu)  
[collegeadmissions.uchicago.edu](http://collegeadmissions.uchicago.edu)