

“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

# FINANCIAL AID

The University of Chicago

The University of Chicago is committed to ensuring that students from every background, regardless of financial need, can access a world-class education that prepares them for lifelong success. Our **Empower Initiative**, **Odyssey Scholarship**, and **No Barriers** philosophy eliminate obstacles when applying and ensure that all students, regardless of their family circumstances and financial background, can thrive at the College and graduate without the burden of student debt.

## 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 UChicago session in your area to learn more about applying to college.

## NO STUDENT LOAN EXPECTATION

UChicago’s need-based financial aid is awarded as grants, which do not need to be repaid. Students can graduate without debt influencing their plans for the future.

## GUARANTEED FREE TUITION

Families earning less than \$125,000 per year (with typical assets) will receive a financial aid award that covers the full cost of tuition. Families earning less than \$60,000 per year will have tuition, fees, and room and board covered by financial aid.

## LIFELONG CAREER SUPPORT

Career support starts with your personal career advisor, continues through four years of professional development, and becomes real experience through over 2,700 paid internships annually.

## THE ODYSSEY SCHOLARSHIP

A key program supporting low-income and first-generation students, the Odyssey Scholarship was established in 2007 with a \$100 million gift from an anonymous donor. 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.

In addition to receiving our comprehensive need-based financial support, Odyssey Scholars have unparalleled enrichment opportunities to complement their transformative education. All first-year Odyssey Scholars at UChicago are guaranteed a research experience or a Metcalf internship, each with a \$5,000 stipend, to allow them to integrate classroom lessons into a real-world environment.

“When I think back to a year ago, I never would have imagined myself in my current position. Because of the University of Chicago’s **Odyssey Scholarship**, I see myself becoming the person I have always wanted to be—researching cellular biology by day and cultivating community by night. **Odyssey has inspired me, encouraged me and compelled me to do my best and have fun in the process.**”

— Gabe M. Barrón, Odyssey Scholar, Class of 2020



## NEED-BASED AID

The admissions process at UChicago is **need-blind**, meaning that we evaluate students on their merits alone, without weighing their financial situations. Through No Barriers, UChicago College students who receive need-based financial aid will receive aid awards containing grants instead of loans. **We meet 100% of your family's demonstrated financial need.** Last year, UChicago awarded **\$153 million** in financial aid. Though UChicago financial aid awards have no loan expectation, federal loans are available should families wish to use them.

**International students**, please visit [collegeadmissions.uchicago.edu/international-financial-aid](http://collegeadmissions.uchicago.edu/international-financial-aid) to learn about international financial aid.

## FIRST-GENERATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Students who are the first in their families to attend college will receive a \$20,000 scholarship over four years at UChicago. This financial aid award will complement any need-based aid for which they are eligible. First-generation college students at UChicago will also be guaranteed a paid internship opportunity during the summer following their first year in the College.

## 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. Students are selected to receive University merit scholarships on the basis of outstanding academic achievement, demonstrated leadership, and commitment to their communities.

Every first-year student admitted to UChicago is automatically considered for merit aid without consideration of financial need, and merit scholarships are usually awarded for four years of undergraduate study as long as the student remains a full-time student in good standing with the College.

## SUPPORT FOR VETERANS, POLICE, AND FIREFIGHTERS

To honor our nation's public safety officers, the National Police and Fire Scholarship offers full-tuition, four-year scholarships to the children of professional, active-duty or killed on duty municipal, county, and state police and firefighters. Each recipient is guaranteed full tuition for four years of undergraduate studies, provided he or she makes satisfactory academic progress and remains enrolled full-time in the College.

Through expanded partnerships with organizations like the Posse Foundation, UChicago ensures that veterans have access to resources and programs that empower them in the college application process. In the Posse Veterans Program, a cohort of veterans is selected each year, and receives training and mentorship from the Posse Foundation before matriculating to UChicago in the fall.

### Merit scholarships include:

- University Scholarship
- National Merit Finalists Scholarship
- National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholarship
- Chicago Public Schools Scholarship
- Chicago Police and Fire Scholarship
- UChicago Charter School (Woodlawn Campus) Scholarship
- Chicago Public Schools Educators Award Scholarship
- National Police and Fire Scholarship
- Emerging Rural Leaders Scholarship

Financial Aid Materials and Priority Deadlines*			Early Action & Early Decision I	Early Decision II	Regular Decision
<b>The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)</b> The FAFSA is available October 1 at <a href="http://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa">studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa</a> (use UChicago's school code 001774). We strongly encourage families to submit all of these materials to maximize their funding options, including aid from UChicago. However, if you wish to be considered only for federal student aid, the FAFSA is the only document you must submit.	<b>The University of Chicago Worksheet</b> This is a short, free online worksheet available through your UChicago Account once you have applied for admission. The College Board's CSS Profile can be substituted for this worksheet.	<b>Federal Tax Return</b> This is a signed copy of your parents' federal income tax return, as used to file the FAFSA. Include all schedules and W-2 forms.	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 U.S. citizens and permanent residents. International students, please visit [collegeadmissions.uchicago.edu/international-financial-aid](http://collegeadmissions.uchicago.edu/international-financial-aid).

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