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 access initiatives, like the Odyssey Scholarship, Empower Initiative, UChicago Stand Together, 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.

Families who apply for financial aid do not have to pay a college application fee to UChicago. You are welcome to attend a virtual session online anytime to learn more about applying to college.

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.

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.

Career support starts with your personal career advisor, continues through four years of professional development, and becomes real experience through over 3,000 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. 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. This year, UChicago awarded over $160 million in financial aid. Though UChicago financial aid awards have no loan expectation, federal loans are available should families wish to use them. UChicago provides enhanced financial aid guidance to help students and families make informed enrollment decisions.

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. 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.

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

Merit scholarships include:

- University Scholarship
- National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholarship
- Neubauer 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
- UChicago Stand Together Scholarship

SUPPORT FOR VETERANS, POLICE, AND FIREFIGHTERS

Through the UChicago Empower and Stand Together Initiatives, UChicago ensures that Veterans have access to resources and programs that empower them in the college application process. Our holistic approach centers around a “one-stop shop model” that provides admission support and access – a customized application process, dedicated career counseling and programming, academic advising, social programming, tailored financial aid, unique housing, and student support services.

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.

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 scholarship 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.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Nearly $20 million in need-based financial aid has been offered to international students at UChicago over the past four years, and a recent gift of $35 million for international financial aid has strengthened the University’s commitment to enrolling a diverse and talented student body from around the world. Please visit collegeadmissions.uchicago.edu/cost-aid/international-financial-aid to learn about international financial aid.

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<th>Early Decision II</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)</td>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>January 15</td>
<td>February 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>The University of Chicago Worksheet</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Tax Return</td>
<td>This is a signed copy of your parents’ federal income tax return, as used to file the FAFSA. Include all schedules, business returns, and W-2 forms.</td>
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*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/cost-aid/international-financial-aid.

Please visit financialaid.uchicago.edu/undergraduate/apply-aid for more information.