

“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., UChicago student

# FINANCIAL AID

at The University of Chicago

UChicago provided **over \$200 million** in financial support to its students in 2025, ensuring all students can attend UChicago free from financial burden. Streamlined financial aid and application processes, generous need-based and merit-based financial aid, and personalized career guidance grant you the freedom to fully immerse yourself in the enriching academic environment at UChicago.

## FREE APPLICATION

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

## LOAN FREE

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

## FREE TUITION

Families earning less than \$60,000 per year attend UChicago for free. Families earning less than \$125,000 per year will receive free tuition.

## WORRY FREE

Career support starts with your personal career adviser, continues through four years of professional development, and becomes real experience through over 4,500 paid internships annually.

## THE ODYSSEY SCHOLARSHIP

A key program for students receiving our guaranteed free tuition and many first-generation students at UChicago, 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—over 50% 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.

“Growing up, I remember boldly telling my family that I would make it to college on a scholarship. Yet, I never could have imagined the transformative journey that awaited as I was awarded the Odyssey Scholarship. From taking classes on color theory to researching chemistry in Scotland, **The Odyssey Scholarship has encouraged and empowered me to march forward without barriers.** But most of all, it has brought me a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that has redefined my understanding of what prosperity and flourishing truly are.”

*Rocio P., Odyssey Scholar, Class of 2026*

## NEED-BASED AID

With approximately 50% of students receiving financial support, our goal is to make sure all students are prepared for lifelong success, no matter their chosen major or background prior to enrolling in The College. UChicago College students who receive need-based financial aid will receive aid packages containing grants instead of loans. **We meet 100% of your family's demonstrated financial need.** Next year, UChicago will provide over **\$200 million** in financial aid. Though UChicago financial aid packages 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 financial aid packages, 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 funded 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:

- Chicago Public Schools Educators Award Scholarship
- Chicago Public Schools Scholarship
- Emerging Rural Leaders Scholarship
- Evans Scholarship
- First Phoenix Scholarship
- National Police and Fire Scholarship
- UChicago Charter School (Woodlawn Campus) Scholarship
- University Scholarship

## STUDENT SUPPORT

No matter where you're coming from, UChicago ensures that you're supported throughout every step of your college experience. With specialized advising, a housing system that functions like family, and career advancement that prepares you for a successful career, UChicago is committed to providing you with the necessary resources and financial support to make sure you make the most of your time in college.

### First-Generation Students

The First Phoenix Scholarship program guarantees students who are the first in their families to attend college will receive a minimum \$20,000 scholarship over four years. This scholarship 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.

### Children of Police Officers and Firefighters

To honor our nation's public safety officers, the National Police and Fire Scholarship offers up to full-tuition, four-year scholarships to select children of professional, active-duty, injured or killed on duty, or mandatorily retired municipal, county, and state police and firefighters. Each scholarship is guaranteed for up to four years of undergraduate studies.

### Rural Students

In addition to our comprehensive need-based financial aid, a select number of rural and small-town students who are admitted to the University of Chicago are eligible for merit scholarships of \$5,000 a year, for four years. Admitted rural and small-town students will also receive guaranteed, paid summer internships.

### International Students

\$58.5 million in grants and scholarships have 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 talented students from around the world.

## Financial Aid Materials

### The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

The 2026-2027 FAFSA will be available in fall 2025 at [studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa](http://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa) (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.

### The University of Chicago Worksheet

This is a short, free online worksheet available through your UChicago Account once you have applied for admission.

### Federal Tax Return

This is a signed copy of your parents' federal income tax return. Include all schedules, business returns, and W-2 forms.

For the most up-to-date financial aid deadlines, visit: [financialaid.uchicago.edu/undergraduate/apply-aid](http://financialaid.uchicago.edu/undergraduate/apply-aid)

