



# Widener University

2021-2022

## UNDERGRADUATE FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

### IMPORTANT

1. Your initial financial aid offer is based on your matriculation and projected enrollment status from your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). **Any change to your enrollment status (number of registered credits or college of matriculation) may affect your financial aid offer.** It is important that you notify Financial Aid Services of any change in your enrollment status.
2. **Changes in your housing status may affect your financial aid offer.** It is important that you notify Financial Aid Services of any change in your housing status (living with parents or a relative, living in a residence hall, or living off campus).
3. **Report all awards not listed on your financial aid offer letter, including non-University or University awards such as Scholarships, Grants, and Tuition Remission.** These awards may affect previously awarded financial aid including Federal Direct Loans. You will be notified of any adjustments to your financial aid offer.

*Refer to the Undergraduate Academic Progress Standards online at <http://Widener.edu/FinancialAidOffice> Students must maintain satisfactory academic progress in order to continue to receive aid. Your Widener Grant in Aid will most likely be affected if your housing status changes from your original living plans.*

The financial aid listed on your offer letter is for the upcoming academic year only. The academic year at Widener University consists of summer, fall and spring. Please remember you will need to reapply for financial aid each year by March 1, our priority filing date for returning students. By meeting the deadline, you will be considered for Widener University Grants, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, and Federal Work-Study. Financial aid offers will vary based on the University's deadline, number of students applying, availability of funds, and federal, state and University guidelines. Financial need is determined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Cost of Attendance} \\ & - \text{Expected Family Contribution (EFC)} \\ & = \text{Financial Need} \end{aligned}$$

Widener University uses standard Cost of Attendance budgets to evaluate eligibility for financial aid as required by federal regulations. These are based on average costs incurred and estimated additional expenses for books and supplies, personal and travel. Actual costs may vary based on courses taken, and room and board selections made by student. The EFC is determined by the Department of Education using information provided on your FAFSA and applying a formula established by the Federal Government. Information on the EFC calculation can be found at <https://studentaid.ed.gov>

### FEDERAL AND STATE GRANTS

**Federal Pell Grants** – Federal Pell Grants are awarded to matriculated undergraduate students pursuing their first bachelor's degree. Federal Pell Grant eligibility is determined by your EFC. The time limit a student may receive Federal Pell Grant funding is 12 full-time semesters (or fractional equivalents for less than full-time enrollment) while pursuing a first bachelor's degree.

**Pennsylvania State Grants (PHEAA)** – Pennsylvania State Grants are awarded to undergraduate Pennsylvania residents who are pursuing a first bachelor's degree. To maintain eligibility, you must make academic progress by completing at least 24 new credits for full time and at least 12 new credits for half time enrollment each year. The PHEAA Grant Division determines award amounts. Information and any additional application requirements can be found at [www.pheaa.org](http://www.pheaa.org).

### UNIVERSITY NEED BASED AID

**Widener University Grants** - awarded to full time, matriculated undergraduate students (12 or more credits per semester) who are pursuing a first bachelor's degree and demonstrate financial need. Awarded for eight full-time semesters only.

**Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG)** – awarded to matriculated undergraduate students pursuing a first bachelor's degree, with priority given to Federal Pell eligible students with exceptional financial need.

**Federal Work-Study (FWS)** – FWS is awarded to matriculated students enrolled at least half time. FWS is paid directly to you in the form of a bi-weekly paycheck based on the number of hours you work and is limited each semester to the amount on your award letter. **FWS awards are NOT credited to your University account.** *NOTE: Not all students will qualify for FWS funds.*

### WIDENER UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS

Your offer of aid may include non-need based Widener University academic merit, talent, community service, or endowed awards that have additional criteria for continued eligibility. You have already, or will receive, separate communication regarding these scholarship awards.

*Please turn page over for additional information*

## WILLIAM D. FORD FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN

The William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan included in your offer letter is based on information you supplied on your FAFSA and your grade level. If you qualify, (based on need) for a Federal Direct Subsidized Loan, the government will pay the interest on your loan while you are in school. You are responsible for paying all of the interest that accrues on a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan. If we are awaiting additional information to complete your application for aid, the amount of your Federal Direct Loan eligibility on your offer letter will be an estimate only. You must maintain at least half time enrollment to retain Federal Direct Loan eligibility. If you wish to reduce the amount of your Federal Direct Loan, please change the amounts indicated with the amounts you want and return the offer letter with a hand-signature and date. Financial Aid Services will reduce your approval amounts prior to disbursement if possible (at least two weeks notification necessary prior to disbursement). Information and interest rates on Direct Loans can be found at <https://studentaid.gov>

New borrowers must complete a Master Promissory Note (MPN) at <https://studentaid.gov/h/complete-aid-process>. If you have previously completed a Master Promissory Note with the Department of Education, we will certify your eligibility and you will receive a guarantee notice in the mail. **New loan borrowers at Widener must also complete Entrance Counseling by going online at <https://studentaid.gov/h/complete-aid-process>.**

## ACCEPTING YOUR FINANCIAL AID

- 1. If you are accepting the aid as it appears, you do not need to return the offer letter.**
2. If you are making any changes, or if your housing or enrollment status differs from your offer letter, please make a note of the changes on the offer letter, sign it, and return it to Widener University Financial Aid Services.
3. If you wish to reduce the amount of your Federal Direct loan certification, cross out the amounts indicated on your offer letter, write in the amount you want, sign it, and return it to Widener University Financial Aid Services.

## PAYING YOUR BILL

Each semester your finalized financial aid will be applied to your account, with the exception of Federal Work-Study. Financial aid **may not be enough to cover your total charges**. Billing is done by semester; notification of e-billing is emailed to the student's Widener University assigned email address and all authorized users set up by the student. Students can access their online student account by going directly to [www.widener.edu/mybill](http://www.widener.edu/mybill) using your Widener credentials to login. Authorized users can access the bill by going to [www.widener.edu/ebill](http://www.widener.edu/ebill). Please visit the Widener University Bursar Office website at <http://Widener.edu/BursarOffice> for information on all University charges, bill payment information and Widener University Payment Plans under the Tuition Rate and Payment Guide. **The charges listed below are subject to change pending Board approval.**

**Undergraduate Average Direct Charges**

	Commuter	Residence Hall	Off-Campus
Tuition	48,724.00	48,724.00	48,724.00
Fees*	982.00	982.00	982.00
Room (average)**	0	9,132.00	0
Meal Plan (average)**	0	6,636.00	0
TOTAL	49,706.00	65,474.00	49,706.00

\*Engineering students pay an additional \$2,244.00 fee. Nursing students pay an additional \$1020.00 fee.

\*\* Average Freshman Room & Board: \$14,750.00

Widener University will bill students for all tuition, fees and residence hall charges for students who reside in University Housing. You can estimate your costs by taking your financial aid offer (less any Federal Work Study award) and deducting the aid offer from the estimated Tuition and Fees and Room and Meal Plan residence hall average figures above.

All actual Widener University cost figures, when determined, are published in the Tuition Rate and Payment Guide available online each year at: <http://Widener.edu/BursarOffice>