



FINANCIAL AID facts

56% of Amherst students received scholarship aid from the College.

\$850 to \$67,509 Range of scholarship grants awarded to Amherst students

30% of all Amherst students received enough need-based scholarship aid to cover tuition completely.

\$11,469 Average net price of a year at Amherst for students from families with annual income between \$60,000 and \$90,000.

\$5,850 Average net price of a year at Amherst for students from families with annual income between \$30,000 and \$60,000.

\$4,285 Average net price of a year at Amherst for students from families with annual income below \$30,000.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Does Amherst offer merit-based scholarships?

No. Amherst has been committed to a need-based financial aid program since the college's founding in 1821. Need is the only criterion for receiving financial aid from Amherst. You should also apply for federal and state scholarships and grants for use at Amherst.

Will Amherst require me to take out loans?

No. Amherst's financial aid packages include only scholarship and job opportunities; students are not required to take out loans. Students may, of course, choose to take a loan to purchase a computer, to make up a shortfall in summer savings or to replace work in an aid package. Need-based student loans are interest-free while you're in school and are low-interest after graduation.

How are outside scholarships handled?

If you are awarded outside scholarships, Amherst will allow them to replace the work component of your financial aid package. Outside scholarships in excess of the amount of work eligibility in your financial aid award reduce the Amherst College scholarship on a dollar-for-dollar basis.

Is there assistance for parents?

Parent loans with favorable terms are available to U.S. citizens and permanent residents through the federal Direct PLUS program (Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students). Parent "alternative" loans are available from a number of sources. Parents may borrow from any source available to them.

What if I can't earn money over the summer because I'm doing unpaid community service or an internship?

Once during four years, Amherst will replace your expected savings from summer earnings with a scholarship if you spend the summer doing unpaid community service or an unpaid internship. In other circumstances, you may borrow a student loan or increase work to replace a shortfall in summer savings.

May I study abroad with financial aid?

Yes, your financial aid may be used for study abroad, as well as Twelve College Exchange or other domestic off-campus study. The cost of the program is taken into consideration, and your financial aid will be adjusted accordingly.

When will I receive my financial aid package?

If you apply Regular Decision and submit your financial aid application materials on time, you will receive a financial aid notification within a few days of the admission notification in early April. If you apply Early Decision and submit your financial aid materials on time, you'll receive a "preliminary" financial aid award soon after you receive a letter of admission. Your financial aid award will be confirmed later, after the cost of attendance for the coming year is set and we have reviewed your and your parents' 2013 federal tax returns.

HOW IS THE PROCESS DIFFERENT FOR ME?

I'm applying early decision to Amherst.

Note the Early Decision deadlines. If you're applying Early Decision or your income tax forms are not available by March 10, submit copies of the previous year's tax documents and wage statements directly to Amherst's Office of Financial Aid. When current documents are available, submit them through IDOC at <http://idoc.collegeboard.com>

I'm transferring to Amherst.

Note the transfer student deadlines. Otherwise, you should follow the same rules as first-year students.

My parents are divorced.

If your parents are separated or divorced, your noncustodial parent should file the College Board's Noncustodial PROFILE after you and your custodial parents have filed the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE.

I am a U.S. citizen living abroad.

You should follow the same rules as other resident, U.S. citizen first-year students.

I am a Canadian citizen or permanent resident.

You complete the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE, but **do not** complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). You should submit signed copies of your and your parents' federal income tax returns and wage statements (T-4 forms) directly to Amherst's Office of Financial Aid.

I am an international student.

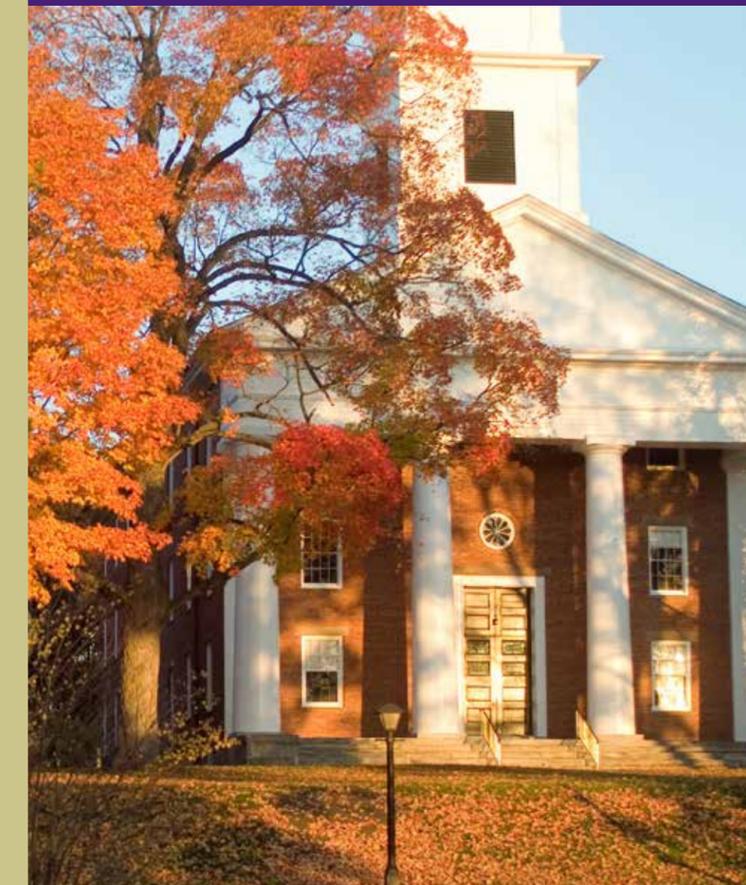
You should follow the same process as other first-year or transfer students, starting by completing the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE. You **do not** complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). For more information, go to https://www.amherst.edu/offices/financialaid/international_students

CONTACT US:

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Financial Aid AT AMHERST COLLEGE

The average financial aid package provided by Amherst in 2012-13 was \$44,888.



College is expensive. But at AMHERST, it is AFFORDABLE.

Our financial aid policies are among the most generous in the nation, so families pay according to what they can afford. We hope you won't let worries about cost keep you from applying to Amherst. We admit students regardless of financial need. And if you're admitted to Amherst, we guarantee that we will meet your full demonstrated financial need.

You'll find the basics here, but for more detailed information, visit our website: www.amherst.edu/offices/financialaid/.

The financial aid process can be complicated—but we try our best to make it as easy as possible for you.

WHAT DOES NEED-BLIND MEAN?

At Amherst, the admission decision is based solely on your achievements, talents and promise—not on your or your family's financial situation.

WHAT IS FINANCIAL AID, EXACTLY?

Financial aid is a combination of grants, scholarships and work-study that helps you and your family afford college. Aid can also include optional student loans, but loans are not a required part of Amherst's financial aid packages.

SHOULD I APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID?

Yes, if you believe that you will need assistance with college costs. Amherst will meet the full demonstrated need of all students who are admitted, including transfer students, international students and U.S. and Canadian citizens and permanent residents. We encourage all students interested in Amherst to apply for admission, regardless of your financial need. We don't want cost to be the determining factor in your decision about Amherst.

HOW MUCH IS YOUR NEED?

We use the formula below to determine your **demonstrated financial need**, the amount we cover to make your Amherst education affordable.

WHAT IT COSTS: Cost of attendance	— minus	WHAT YOU CAN AFFORD: Family contribution	= equals	YOUR NEED: Demonstrated financial need
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuition Room Board Fees Books Personal expenses Travel <p>The cost of attendance includes not only direct costs for tuition, room, board and fees, but also indirect costs for out-of-pocket expenses, such as books, personal expenses and travel.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parent income Parent assets Student income Student assets <p>We don't look just at how much you and your family earn and own. We also take into account things like how many siblings you have, how much tuition your parents already pay and how much debt they have.</p>		<p>Cost of attendance — Family contribution</p> <p>Demonstrated financial need</p> <p>Your expected family contribution subtracted from Amherst's cost of attendance equals your demonstrated financial need.</p> <p>WE MEET 100% OF YOUR DEMONSTRATED FINANCIAL NEED.</p>

HOW DOES AMHERST MEET YOUR DEMONSTRATED FINANCIAL NEED?

Your Amherst financial aid package includes scholarship and grant aid and a campus job. Typically, need is met first with work, then with scholarship or grant aid.

- 1. WORK:** Up to \$1,800 of need
- 2. SCHOLARSHIP:** Remaining need
- 3. STUDENT LOAN:** None!

Need is first met through **student employment**. Various jobs are available to students on and off campus—ranging from working in the art gallery to tutoring low-income elementary school students in literacy and numeracy. The money you earn generally pays for your personal expenses on campus.

All remaining need is met with **scholarships** and **grants**—aid that doesn't have to be repaid and that directly reduces how much your family must pay to the college.

Amherst's financial aid packages include only scholarships, grants and work opportunities. Under our no-loan policy, Amherst does not ask you or your family to take out loans to finance your education.

TIP:

Go to www.amherst.edu/offices/financialaid and click on "Financial Aid Net Price Calculator" to estimate your family contribution and actual cost after scholarship grants are deducted.

WHAT DOES THE COST OF ATTENDANCE REALLY INCLUDE?

There's more to the cost of attendance than just tuition. When calculating your financial aid, we budget for ALL college expenses.

What are DIRECT Costs?

Direct costs are the costs of tuition, room and board and fees (including health insurance, if needed) that are set and billed by the college each year.

What are INDIRECT Costs?

Indirect costs are the out-of-pocket expenses—for books, personal expenses, and travel between school and home—that can vary depending on each student's circumstances.

2013-14	
TUITION, ROOM, BOARD:	\$57,970
STUDENT FEES: (student activities, campus center programs, residential governance)	\$774
HEALTH INSURANCE: (may be waived, if student has other coverage that satisfies Massachusetts insurance requirements)	\$1,626
BOOKS AND SUPPLIES (estimate):	\$1,000
PERSONAL EXPENSES (estimate):	\$1,800
TRAVEL (estimate; varies by location):	\$50 – \$2,500
COST OF ATTENDANCE:	\$63,220 – \$65,670

WHAT IS NET PRICE? HOW IS IT DIFFERENT FROM COST OF ATTENDANCE?

Net Price is the cost of attendance *minus* any scholarship grants received for the year. Amherst has replaced student loans with additional scholarship grants, resulting in a lower net price.

HOW WILL MY FAMILY PAY THE NET PRICE?

Your net price will be covered partly by your family contribution (your parent's contribution plus your summer work savings) and partly by your on-campus job. The money you earn from your on-campus job is intended to provide your spending money for personal expenses, not the direct costs of tuition, room and board.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID?

Because it's important to be as accurate as possible when talking about financial aid, there's a good amount of paperwork involved. These are the main forms that you'll need to apply for financial aid at Amherst. Our financial aid staff is available to walk you through the process and to answer your questions.

	THE FORMS	THE DEADLINES
CSS PROFILE	CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE (All applicants) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete online at collegeboard.com/profile. The Amherst College code is 3003. Filing the PROFILE starts the process and allows us to ask you for the documents we need next. 	Early Decision: November 1 Regular Decision: February 15 Fall Transfer: March 15 Spring Transfer: November 1
TAXES	Parents' and Student's Federal Tax Return(s) and Wage Statement(s) (All applicants) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All U.S. citizens and U.S. permanent residents submit signed copies of these documents through the College Board's Institutional Documentation Service (IDOC) at http://idoc.collegeboard.com. Others submit signed copies of national income tax return(s), wage statements, or other income documentation directly to the Financial Aid Office. 	Early Decision: November 15 Regular Decision: March 10 Fall Transfer: April 10 Spring Transfer: November 1
FAFSA	Free Application for Federal Student Aid /FAFSA (U.S. citizens & permanent residents) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete online at www.fafsa.gov. The Amherst College code is 002115. FAFSA collects information that helps Amherst distribute U.S. federal financial aid funds. 	Online anytime after January 1 Also make sure you meet any state scholarship or grant program deadlines.

www.amherst.edu/offices/financialaid/firstyear_transfer/applying

WHAT DOES FINANCIAL AID REALLY LOOK LIKE?

<p>STUDENT 1: This student is from a Massachusetts family of four. The parents pay tuition for an elder sister at community college. The family has an income of \$85,000 and \$113,000 in home equity.</p> <p>COST OF ATTENDANCE Direct costs: Tuition, room, board, student fees \$58,750 + Indirect costs: Travel (\$50), books (\$1,000), personal expenses (\$1,800) +\$2,850 \$61,600</p> <p>FAMILY CONTRIBUTION Parent contribution \$5,500 + Student summer savings contribution +\$1,600 \$7,100</p> <hr/> <p>Cost of attendance \$61,000 – Family Contribution –\$7,100 DEMONSTRATED NEED = FINANCIAL AID AWARDED \$54,500 Campus Job \$1,800 Scholarship/Grant \$52,700</p> <hr/> <p>NET PRICE Cost of attendance \$61,600 – Scholarship/Grant –\$52,700 \$8,900</p> <p>BOTTOM LINE Of the \$8,900 net price for this student, \$6,050 will be billed by Amherst for direct costs. The remaining \$2,850 will be used to pay the student's indirect costs.</p>	<p>STUDENT 2: This California student is the eldest of four. The parents pay \$12,000 tuition yearly for a younger brother at a private high school. The family has an income of \$172,000 and \$80,000 in home equity.</p> <p>COST OF ATTENDANCE Direct costs: Tuition, room, board, student fees \$58,750 + Indirect costs: Travel (\$1,000), books (\$1,000), personal expenses (\$1,800) +\$3,800 \$62,550</p> <p>FAMILY CONTRIBUTION Parent contribution \$30,000 + Student summer savings contribution +\$1,600 \$31,600</p> <hr/> <p>Cost of attendance \$62,550 – Family Contribution –\$31,600 DEMONSTRATED NEED = FINANCIAL AID AWARDED \$30,950 Campus Job \$1,800 Scholarship/Grant \$29,150</p> <hr/> <p>NET PRICE Cost of attendance \$62,550 – Scholarship/Grant –\$29,150 \$33,400</p> <p>BOTTOM LINE Of the \$33,400 net price for this student, \$29,600 will be billed by Amherst for direct costs. The remaining \$3,800 will be used to pay the student's indirect costs.</p>
<p>STUDENT 3: This student is the only child of a Texas family. The family has an income of \$30,000, no assets and no home equity.</p> <p>COST OF ATTENDANCE Direct costs: Tuition, room, board, health insurance, student fees \$60,370 + Indirect costs: Travel (\$900), books (\$1,000), personal expenses (\$2,200) +\$4,100 \$64,470</p> <p>FAMILY CONTRIBUTION Parent contribution \$0 + Student summer savings contribution +\$750 \$750</p> <hr/> <p>Cost of attendance \$64,470 – Family Contribution –\$750 DEMONSTRATED NEED = FINANCIAL AID AWARDED \$63,720 Campus Job \$1,800 Scholarship/Grant \$61,920</p> <hr/> <p>NET PRICE Cost of attendance \$66,470 – Scholarship/Grant –\$61,920 \$2,550</p> <p>BOTTOM LINE This student's scholarship/grant fully covers direct costs billed by Amherst and also provides \$1,550 toward the student's indirect costs (issued to the student by check). The \$2,550 net price will be used to pay the student's remaining indirect costs.</p>	<p>STUDENT 4: The eldest of three children, this student is from New York City. The mother is widowed and has an income of \$68,500 and no home equity.</p> <p>COST OF ATTENDANCE Direct costs: Tuition, room, board, health insurance, student fees \$60,370 + Indirect costs: Travel (\$150), books (\$1,000), personal expenses (\$2,200) +\$3,350 \$63,720</p> <p>FAMILY CONTRIBUTION Parent contribution \$4,250 + Student summer savings contribution +\$750 \$5,000</p> <hr/> <p>Cost of attendance \$63,720 – Family Contribution –\$5,000 DEMONSTRATED NEED = FINANCIAL AID AWARDED \$58,720 Campus Job \$1,800 Scholarship/Grant \$56,920</p> <hr/> <p>NET PRICE Cost of attendance \$63,720 – Scholarship/Grant –\$56,920 \$6,800</p> <p>BOTTOM LINE Of the \$6,800 net price for this student, \$3,450 will be billed by Amherst for direct costs. The remaining \$3,350 will be used to pay the student's indirect costs.</p>