Tuition and Financial Aid

Types of Financial Aid

Basis for the Type of Financial Aid

The aid awarded to a student may consist of a loan, grant, scholarship, part-time job, or any combination of these programs. The total amount of aid the student receives depends on the student's cost of attendance, expected family contribution, meeting application deadlines, outside resources, academic history, and the availability of funds. The following is a summary of the types of assistance that are available to students at The University of Texas at Dallas. The student should be aware that many of the programs are subject to change without notice by the state or federal government. Information on all programs may be obtained from the Office of Financial Aid unless otherwise noted.

Federal Pell Grant

The Federal Pell Grant program provides funds to students demonstrating financial need. Students should submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) through the Internet at www.fafsa.gov to apply for this program. This grant is available to undergraduate students who are pursuing their first baccalaureate degree.

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)

This federally funded program provides grants to undergraduate students with exceptional financial need. Students completing a FAFSA will automatically be considered for this grant. Awards are based on the availability of funds and the student's financial need.

Toward Excellence, Access and Success Grant (TEXAS Grant)

This program provides grants to enable academically prepared eligible students to attend public and private nonprofit institutions of higher education in Texas. An undergraduate student is eligible who:

- is a Texas resident;
- has graduated from a public or accredited private high school in Texas. There is a time limit of 16 months after graduating from high school to be eligible;
- completed the Recommended High School Program, or Distinguished Achievement Program or its equivalent in high school;
• has financial need, with an expected family contribution (EFC) of 4,800 or less for the academic year;
• has accumulated no more than 30 semester credit hours, excluding those earned for dual or concurrent courses or awarded for credit by examination (AP, IB, or CLEP);
• completes FAFSA or TAFSA (if applicable) and enrolls at least 3/4 time in an undergraduate degree program;
• has not been convicted of a felony or a crime involving a controlled substance; and
• has registered for the Selective Service or is exempt from doing so;

OR

• has earned an associate degree from a public technical, state, or community college in Texas; and
• enrolls in any public university in Texas no later than 12 months after receiving the associate's degree.

The amount of the grant is based on the average tuition and fees charged at 4-year public institutions. Students who continue in college and who meet program academic standards can receive awards for up to 150 semester credit hours or for six years, whichever occurs first. Requirements for continued funding are completion of at least 75 percent of the semester credit hours taken in the prior year and completion of at least 24 credits in the prior year. Additionally, students must maintain an overall grade point average of at least 2.500 on a 4.000 scale. Awards are made through the Office of Financial Aid. Students completing a FAFSA or TAFSA will automatically be considered for this grant. Students must submit the FAFSA or TAFSA before the deadline to be considered as on-time. The deadline is set annually and can be found online at www.collegeforalltexans.com. There is limited funding available.

Top 10% Scholarship Program

The 80th Texas Legislature created the Top 10 Percent Scholarship to encourage students who graduate in the top 10 percent of their high school class to attend a Texas public institution of higher education. Typically, if funding is available, qualifying students who submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA) by the deadline and have financial need and enroll full-time in a Texas public college or university in the fall semester may be eligible for an award. The deadline is March 15. Students who submit their FAFSA or TASFA after the published deadline will not be awarded due to limited funding. Complete information regarding this program can be found at www.collegeforalltexans.com.

Eligibility Requirements

Initial Eligibility Requirements:

• Be a Texas resident
• Demonstrate financial need (to be determined by the Office of Financial Aid)
Complete the FAFSA (or TAFSA if applicable) before March 15. The FAFSA must be processed by the federal government in a non-rejected status by this deadline. The Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA), if ineligible to complete the FAFSA, must be received by the Office of Financial Aid by March 15.

- Complete Recommended or Distinguished Achievement high school curriculum
- Rank in the top 10 percent of the high school graduating class
- Graduate from an accredited high school in Texas
- Enroll full-time in a Texas public 2-year or 4-year college or university in the fall semester immediately following high school graduation

**Renewal Requirements (contingent upon available funding):**

- Complete 30 semester credit hours in the previous year
- Maintain cumulative 3.250 GPA
- Complete at least 75% of semester credit hours attempted
- Complete FAFSA (or TAFSA if applicable) by March 15

**Texas Public Educational Grant**

An act of the 64th Texas Legislature established a grant program to provide financial assistance to students. The program is funded through appropriation of a portion of the tuition charges for resident and non-resident students. Students completing a FAFSA or TASFA will automatically be considered for this grant. Awards are based on availability of funds and the student's financial need.

**Educational Assistance Grant**

This program was established to provide financial assistance to students by an act of the Texas Legislature. The program is funded through appropriation of a portion of the designated tuition charge for resident and non-resident students. Students completing a FAFSA will automatically be considered for this grant. Awards are based on availability of funds and the student's financial need.

**General/Endowment Scholarship Programs**

The University of Texas at Dallas offers a number of endowed scholarships that are administered by a school or program. Students are encouraged to contact their school dean or program office to obtain information about eligibility criteria and scholarships awarded in the student's area of study.

The *Texas Education Code* contains specific requirements for a scholarship to be considered competitive:

Sec. 54.213. SCHOLARSHIP STUDENT
(a) An institution of higher education may charge a nonresident student who holds a competitive scholarship of at least $1,000 for the academic year or summer term for which the student is enrolled resident tuition and fees without regard to the length of time the student has resided in Texas. The student must compete with other students, including Texas residents, for the scholarship and the scholarship must be awarded by a scholarship committee officially recognized by the administration and be approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board under criteria developed by the coordinating board.

(b) The total number of students at an institution paying resident tuition under this section for a particular semester may not exceed five percent of the total number of students registered at the institution for the same semester of the preceding academic year.

(c) The difference between tuition charged to the student under this section and the tuition the student would be charged if this section did not apply to the student shall not be accounted for in such a way as to reduce the general revenue appropriation to an institution of higher education that charges a nonresident student resident tuition and fees under this section.

Transferred and redesignated from Texas Education Code, Section 54.064 by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 359, Sec. 1, eff. January 1, 2012.

In addition to any specific criteria governing awards of competitive scholarships (e.g., major field of study) the committee responsible for such awards will give primary consideration to the applicant's academic records, both evaluating the type and nature of courses taken and the grades achieved in specific courses. The committee may also consider and give positive weight to such factors as the following in designating recipients:

- Achievements in work experiences
- Community service
- Extracurricular activities; leadership
- Surmounting obstacles to the further pursuit of higher education
- Socioeconomic background
- Educational level
- Status as a first generation college student

Scholarships typically are awarded in the spring semester for disbursement during the following academic year.

**Federal Work-Study Program**

Federal Work-Study employment, either on-campus or off-campus, is available to students on the basis of demonstrated financial need. The wages of students participating in this program are subsidized with federal funds, making it easier to find a part-time job. The student is paid directly. Students completing a FAFSA will automatically be considered for this program.

The rate of compensation depends on the type of job, qualifications, and classification. For
information on job availability, students who have been awarded Federal-Work Study as part of their financial aid package should contact the Career Center at 972-883-2943 or go to their website at www.utdallas.edu/career to access the CometCareers system.

**Other On-Campus Employment**

Various programs and schools of the University employ students in positions that are not Federal Work-Study positions and are not based on need. Normally, students are employed for a maximum of 19 1/2 hours per week. Students interested in these positions should contact the Career Center at 972-883-2943 or go to their website at www.utdallas.edu/career to access the CometCareers system.

**Federal Direct Stafford Loan**

Also called a Direct Loan, funds from this program are made available to students from the U.S. Department of Education. The loan can be either subsidized or unsubsidized, or a combination of both. The maximum amount a student can borrow from this program in an academic year depends on the student's year in school (i.e. freshman, sophomore, etc.); whether the student is considered to be dependent or independent for the purposes of financial aid; the student's total cost of education as determined by the school; and what other forms of financial aid the student is receiving. To qualify for a subsidized Stafford Loan the student must demonstrate financial need. The federal government pays the interest on a subsidized Stafford Loan as long as the student remains enrolled in school at least half-time. The unsubsidized Stafford Loan is available for students who do not demonstrate financial need and for students who need more funding than is available with the subsidized Stafford Loan. Students who borrow an unsubsidized Stafford Loan are charged interest while they are enrolled in school. Students completing a FAFSA are automatically considered for this program.

Information regarding this program, including the promissory note and the Entrance Counseling, is available at www.studentloans.gov.

**Federal Perkins Loan Program**

This loan program provides a combination of federal and institutional funds to students who qualify on the basis of financial need. Priority is given to those students who demonstrate exceptional need. Students completing a FAFSA are considered for this program. Funding for this program is limited.

An undergraduate student may borrow up to a maximum amount of $5,500 per academic year with an aggregate undergraduate loan limit of $27,500. Graduate students may borrow up to $8,000 in a year with a total aggregate borrowing of $60,000, which includes amounts borrowed as an undergraduate. Current funding levels for this program do not allow UT Dallas to offer eligible students the maximum annual amount.

A Federal Perkins loan bears a modest interest rate. Borrowers are required to begin repayment of principal and interest nine months after they cease to be at least half-time students. Repayment
may extend over a ten-year period; however, there is a minimum payment of $40.00 a month.

Hazlewood Veteran Tuition Exemption

The Hazlewood Exemption Act provides an education benefit to honorably discharged or separated Texas veterans and to eligible dependent children and spouses of Texas veterans. Eligible students may receive an exemption from the payment of all tuition and most fees at Texas public institutions for up to 150 semester credit hours. Information on the Hazlewood Act and eligibility requirements are available at the Texas Veterans Commission website. Additional information can be found in the Office of Financial Aid Hazlewood Exemption website.

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Assistance

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board administers various tuition assistance programs including programs for teachers and vocational nursing students. Additional information about these programs may be obtained by contacting The Office of Financial Aid.

TEACH Grant Program

The College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007 created the Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant Program that provides up to $4,000 per year ($16,000 total for four-year programs) in grants to students who intend to teach full-time in high-need subject areas for at least four years at schools that serve students from low-income families.

Eligible students must be enrolled in coursework that is necessary to begin a career in teaching or plan to complete such coursework. Coursework that will prepare a student to teach in a high-need subject area (e.g., math courses for a student who intends to be a math teacher) is acceptable.

Eligible students must meet the following academic achievement requirements of either scoring above the 75th percentile on either the SAT or the ACT, or graduate from high school with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.250 on a 4.000 scale, or maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 3.250 throughout the academic program for which they receive a TEACH Grant.

Eligible students must complete TEACH Grant counseling and sign a "TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve." The TEACH Grant service agreement specifies the conditions under which the grant will be awarded, the teaching service requirements, and includes an acknowledgement by the student that if the required teaching service obligation is not met, TEACH Grant funds will be converted to a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan that must be repaid, the interest charged from the date of each TEACH Grant disbursement.

Teaching Obligation

To avoid repaying the TEACH Grant as a loan with interest, a student must be a highly-qualified, full-time teacher in a high-need subject area at a school serving low-income students for at least four years within eight years of completing or withdrawing from the academic program for which the grant was received.