All need-based aid packages are loan-free.

Northwestern meets 100% of demonstrated financial need.

$45,100 average Northwestern first-year scholarship

19% of the current first-year class receive Pell Grants

Northwestern

FINANCIAL AID AT NORTHWESTERN
Pointing You Toward Possible

Our admissions process is 100% need-blind for domestic applicants.

62% of undergraduates receive financial aid.

Total financial aid awarded in 2017–18: $174 million

$30,000 average Northwestern first-year scholarship

4 years of need-based aid*

8–10 hours per week for a typical work-study job

64% of the current first-year class receive work-study

Northwestern meets 100% of demonstrated financial need.

04. Northwestern is committed to providing a safe environment free from discrimination, harassment, sexual misconduct, and retaliation. To view Northwestern’s complete nondiscrimination statement, see northwestern.edu/hr/equalopportunity/index.html, and for crime and safety data, see northwestern.edu/up/safety/annual-report.

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BEYOND THE BASICS

Our website covers the ins and outs of Northwestern’s financial aid program in considerable depth. Visit undergrad.northwestern.edu for more information about these topics:

- Additional scholarships
- Resources for families who do not qualify for need-based aid
- Financing options
- For when monthly billing fails
- Link to other useful resources

FIVE STEPS, COUNTLESS POSSIBILITIES

You can apply for Northwestern financial aid in five basic steps:

1. Get organized. In order for you and your parents/guardians to know where to find all of your financial aid documents, including your 2016 tax returns. These documents, in the chart below and make sure your name and date of birth appear on all documents.

2. Submit the FAFSA. You can find the FAFSA online at https://fafsa.ed.gov. The website will not be open for the 2017-18 Federal Aid Year to ensure that your income information is accurate; we encourage you to choose this option. Northwestern’s FAFSA code is 1698.

3. Submit the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE. You can find the PROFILE online at https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org. We encourage you to choose this option. Northwestern’s PROFILE code is 2201.

4. Submit federal tax forms. Once you have filed the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE, you will be prompted by the College Board’s Institutional Data Retrieval Service to submit the College Board (not to Northwestern) signed copies of all pages of your parents’/guardians’ and your own most recent federal income tax forms, including all schedules and W-2 forms, plus any required supplemental forms.

5. Learn as much as you can about financial aid. Visit our website, www.undergraduate.northwestern.edu/financial-aid, to learn more about Northwestern’s financial aid programs and policies. Consult other resources, too—school counselors, peers, books, websites—to explore the full range of opportunities for financial assistance and to make informed decisions about attending and affording college.

FINANCIAL AID DEADLINES

The basic equation that guides our aid policy ensures that costs and family finances won’t keep students from pursuing undergraduate research funding, much of which supports projects abroad. Northwestern also awards more than $6 million annually in undergraduate research funding, which supports projects abroad.

MYTH BUSTERS

There are many myths about the financial aid process. Our job is to help you better understand the realities.

Myth: Middle-class families do not qualify for financial aid.
Reality: Many middle-class families do qualify for financial aid. We consider a variety of factors beyond income when determining a financial aid package.

Myth: My family will be penalized because we saved for college.
Reality: While savings are among the assets we look at, their impact on the parental contribution from assets is usually relatively small. Families who have not saved will likely have to finance a larger portion of their family contribution, making sacrifices in the future that you have made up front by saving.

Myth: I can’t receive financial aid if I study abroad.
Reality: In fact, financial aid generally travels with our students! Our need-based aid policy ensures that costs and family finances won’t keep students from pursuing international opportunities. Northwestern also awards more than $6 million annually in undergraduate research funding, which supports projects abroad.

We encourage you to use our Net Price Calculator at netprice.college.northwestern.edu to get an estimate of your family contribution.