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

Total financial aid awarded in 2018–19:
$190 million

FINANCIAL AID AT NORTHWESTERN
Pointing You Toward Possible

Northwestern meets
100% of demonstrated financial need

$48,700 average Northwestern first-year scholarship

20% of the current first-year class receive Pell Grants

$156,200 average Northwestern first-year scholarship

4 years of need-based aid*

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

All need-based aid packages are loan-free

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**OUR PRIORITY**
At the Office of Undergraduate Financial Aid, we take pride in the level of understanding and support we give all applicants. Like so many understandings throughout the University, our process is collaborative—we partner with students and their parents or guardians to help a Northwestern education affordable for all families.

**The basics**
The basic expectation that guides our financial aid program looks like this:

- No family will be penalized because they saved for college.
- No student will be denied aid because of their family's size, number of children in college or nonretirement assets, taxes paid, family size, or any special circumstances.
- Financial aid is tailored to meet your needs.
- Financial aid is awarded to help a Northwestern education affordable for all families.

**FINANCIAL AID DEADLINES**
You can apply for Northwestern financial aid in five basic steps:

1. Get organized. Make sure you and your parent(s)/guardian(s) know where to find all of your financial aid documents, including your 2017 tax return. Note our deadlines 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 [FAFSA.gov](http://FAFSA.gov). The website will guide you to the IRS Data Filing Tool to ensure that your income information is accurate. Be sure to check the application year; choose this option if it is incorrect. Northwestern's FAFSA code is 15665.

3. Submit the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE. You can find the PROFILE online at [ PROFILE at College Board](http:// PROFILE at College Board). Your parents' income information is also used by the College Board's Institutional (Financial Aid Package) Service to submit to the College Board (not to Northwestern) signed copies of all pages of your parent(s)'/guardian(s)' and your own 2017 Federal income tax forms, including all schedules and W-2 forms, plus any required supplemental forms.

4. Submit federal tax forms. Once you have filed the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE, you will be prompted by the College Board's Institutional (Financial Aid Package) Service to submit to the College Board (not to Northwestern) signed copies of all pages of your parent(s)'/guardian(s)' and your own 2017 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, [undergradaid.northwestern.edu](http://undergradaid.northwestern.edu), for information about the financial aid package and how to make the most of your aid.

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

**Reality:** My family will be penalized because we saved for college.

**Myth:** My family will be penalized because we saved for college.

**Reality:** When you save for college, you typically increase your family contribution as well as in each component of the aid package. As costs increase, you will typically see an increase in the overall family contribution as well as in each component of the aid package.

**Reality:** Many middle-class families do qualify for financial aid. We consider a variety of factors beyond income when determining a financial aid package.

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

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We encourage you to use our online calculators to see how affordable Northwestern may be for your family. Visit admissions.northwestern.edu/hub/aid/estimating-domestic-aid.html.

**SEE WHAT’S POSSIBLE**
These case studies are the result of Northwestern families with diverse financial circumstances. While no two families’ situations are alike, we hope these examples help you imagine how a Northwestern education might be possible for you.

**Case #1**
A student lives in a single-parent household with a sibling. Her family income totals $25,000. The family has $15,000 in savings and an $11,000 in investments.

**Total cost of attendance** $57,485

**Family resources**
Expected family contribution $17,994

**Financial aid**
Federal Work-study $2,900

**Financial aid award**
Expected family contributioncovery $17,994

**Total cost of attendance** $57,485

**Case #2**
A student lives in a two-parent household with two siblings. His family income totals $155,800. They have $100,000 in home equity and another $10,000 in investments.

**Total cost of attendance** $75,698

**Family resources**
Expected family contribution $22,200

**Financial aid**
Federal Work-study $2,900

**Financial aid award**
Expected family contribution $22,200

**Total cost of attendance** $75,698

**Case #3**
A student lives in a two-parent household with two siblings. Her family income totals $155,800. They have $100,000 in home equity and another $10,000 in investments.

**Total cost of attendance** $75,698

**Family resources**
Expected family contribution $22,200

**Financial aid**
Federal Work-study $2,900

**Financial aid award**
Expected family contribution $22,200

**Total cost of attendance** $75,698

**QUESTIONS?**
Here’s how to contact us.

Office of Undergraduate Financial Aid
340 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 2600 Chicago, Illinois 60601-6653 phone: 312.462.6000 email: undergradaid@u.northwestern.edu

Office of Undergraduate Admission
P.O. Box 6902 Evanston, Illinois 60204-6902 phone: 847-491-3000 email: admissions.northwestern.edu