

Financial Aid and Scholarships*

Fairleigh Dickinson University administers a variety of academic and need-based funding from federal, state and University sources. Financial aid is available to qualified full-time and part-time matriculated students at Fairleigh Dickinson University. A graduate student is considered to be enrolled full time when registered for a minimum of 9 credits per semester. New and returning students are expected to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) no later than February 15. The FAFSA must be filed EVERY year.

Financial aid is awarded annually and is based on continued eligibility, financial need, enrollment status, availability of funds and maintenance of satisfactory academic progress. In addition, a student may not be in default and/or may not owe a refund on any Title IV and/or HEA loans or grants.

International students are not eligible for federal, state or University need-based financial aid. However, international students are eligible for athletic funding (as provided by the National Collegiate Athletic Association [NCAA] guidelines) as well as academic scholarships.

Fairleigh Dickinson University students enrolled at Community College Partnership locations should reference the *Community College Partnership Booklet* designed to relay the unique financial aid information and processes particular to those academic programs. This booklet is available from the Office of Adult and Graduate Admissions, (201) 692-2505.

All available sources and types of academic and need-based funding are detailed throughout this section.

University-funded Programs

University Provost's Scholarship Program for Graduate Study

All students admitted to a master's program beginning with the spring 2013 semester and who plan to register for a minimum of 6 credits may apply. Eligible candidates must have a minimum under-

graduate grade point ratio of 3.00 (on a 4.00 scale) and standardized test scores acceptable for admission. The University Provost's Scholarship awards range from \$100.00 per credit to \$300.00 per credit and cannot be combined with other University scholarship or assistantship assistance. Students enrolled in graduate study as part of a combined (bachelor's/master's) degree program or enrolled in a master's program with a nonstandard tuition rate are not eligible. More information about the University Provost's Scholarship Program for Graduate Study, including the list of eligible master's programs and maintenance criteria for scholarship awards, can be found on the University Provost's Scholarship webpage www.fdu.edu/provostscholarship or for more information email provostscholarship@fdu.edu.

University Fellowships

Fairleigh Dickinson University funds fellowships for full-tuition scholarships (up to 9 credits per semester). Fellowships are awarded by the academic department/school in which the student is studying or planning to study. All inquiries should be directed to the appropriate academic program administrator. The receipt of a fellowship supercedes other FDU funding and will result in the reevaluation of any existing financial-aid award.

Teaching Fellowships

Students receive a fellowship of one-half tuition plus \$2,000 during the first and second years of the program and one-half tuition during the third year of the program. Some research and clinical practice have an additional stipend included, and various additional fellowships are available for students who meet certain conditions.

Graduate Administrative Assistant Fellowships

Recipients of graduate administrative assistant fellowships assist with the administration of programs within admissions, career management and other administrative areas of the University for 720 hours per academic year (360 hours per semester). Stipend compensation is \$4,000.00 per academic year (\$2,000.00 per semester).

University-funded Grant Programs

Alumni Incentive Grant

Effective fall 2001, an alumnus/a of the University may be eligible for the Alumni Incentive Grant in the amount of \$100 per credit. The alumnus/a must be matriculated. The grant cannot be used in conjunction with any other University tuition discount and/or University aid program. Contact the Graduate Admissions Office for further details.

Privately Funded Scholarships

Johnson & Johnson Scholarship

The Johnson & Johnson Scholarship provides funding for doctoral candidates enrolled in the Ph.D. in clinical psychology program at the Metropolitan Campus, Teaneck, New Jersey, who demonstrate a commitment to enhancing health care in certain targeted counties of New Jersey. Inquiries should be made to the academic administrator of the clinical psychology program.

Sammartino Scholarship

The Peter Sarmmartino Endowment and the Sylvia Sarmmartino Endowment are scholarship funds which were created through the bequests left by the University's founder and first president, Peter Sarmmartino, and his spouse, Sylvia Sarmmartino. Scholarships are available to students enrolled in the Master of Arts in Teaching program in the Peter Sarmmartino School of Education. A demonstration of the desire to teach is one of the criteria. Scholarships up to one half of tuition are awarded.

Nurse Faculty Loan Program

The Henry P. Becton School of Nursing and Allied Health offers the Nurse Faculty Loan Program (NFLP). Students who have an interest in becoming nurse faculty after having finished the Master of Science in Nursing program or the Doctor of Nursing Practice program may borrow for tuition and fees (less amounts received from other sources). Applicants should arrange for an interview with the project director, Prof. Teresa Moore, at TCMoore@fdu.edu.

*Information within the Financial Aid and Scholarships section is subject to change. Students should contact the Office of Financial Aid for any revisions or additions.

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Federally Funded Programs

Financial aid from federal sources is available for eligible students from the Federal Direct Loan and Federal Work Study programs. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) must be filed by February 15 each year for consideration. Eligibility is based on enrollment and satisfactory progress toward completion of the degree program.

Federal Work Programs

Federal Work Study

Eligibility for Federal Work Study (FWS) is based on financial aid as determined by the information from the FAFSA.

Students awarded Federal Work Study may work on campus or off campus at cooperating nonprofit community service agencies. Annual FWS awards usually range from \$750.00 to \$2,000.00 per academic year.

FWS positions are managed by the Office of Career Development on each campus. An FWS student may not work more than 20 hours per week and no more than seven hours in one day. Students are paid biweekly.

Federal Veterans' Educational Assistance Programs

Veterans' Education Benefits

Veterans' educational benefits may be available to students who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. More information may be found at the Department of Veterans Affairs GI Bill® website: <http://www.gibill.va.gov/>.

Post 9/11 GI Bill

The Post 9/11 GI Bill — also commonly known as Chapter 33 — is for individuals with at least 90 days of aggregate service on or after September 11, 2001, or individuals discharged with a service-connected disability after 30 days. This benefit provides up to 36 months of educational benefits, generally payable for 15 years following release from active duty.

It is important to note that Fairleigh Dickinson University has agreed to participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program, that is a provision of the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008. Under

this program, FDU has agreed to fund tuition expenses for eligible veterans that exceed the highest public in-state undergraduate tuition rate by matching a VA contribution of 50 percent with an FDU contribution for the same amount.

This program will provide the following benefits for eligible individuals:

- Tuition and fees paid directly to the school are not to exceed \$21,084.09. The cost of private university tuition and fees may be fully covered for those veterans eligible for the Yellow Ribbon Program.
- A monthly housing allowance based on the Basic Allowance for Housing for an E-5 with dependents at the location of the school.
- An annual books-and-supplies stipend of \$1,000.00 paid proportionately based on enrollment.

If students are enrolled exclusively in online training they will not receive the housing allowance. If students are on active duty, they will not receive the housing allowance.

The GI Bill

As provided under Chapter 30 of the Montgomery GI Bill, students that entered the military after June 30, 1985, are eligible for educational benefits if they elected to reduce their monthly salary by \$100.00 for the first 12 months of active duty.

VA Vocational Rehabilitation

The VA Vocational Rehabilitation Bill-Chapter 31 incurs the cost of tuition, fees and books. Eligible veterans must apply directly with the Department of Veteran's Affairs, 20 Washington Place, Second Floor, Newark, New Jersey 07102.

Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program (DEA – Chapter 35)

Dependents' Educational Assistance (DEA – Chapter 35) provides education and training opportunities to eligible dependents of certain veterans. The program offers up to 45 months of educational benefits. These benefits may be used for degree and certificate programs, apprenticeship and on-the-job training. A spouse may take a correspondence course. Remedial, deficiency and refresher courses may be approved under certain circumstances.

Federal Tuition Assistance

Military Tuition Assistance is a benefit paid to eligible members of the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard. Congress has given each service the ability to pay up to \$250.00 per credit for the tuition expenses of its members. A member is eligible for up to \$4,000.00 a fiscal year in Federal Tuition Assistance benefits.

Each service has its own criteria for eligibility, obligated service, application process and restrictions. This money is usually paid directly to the institution by the individual services.

Other Veterans' Affairs Educational Benefits

There are additional veterans' educational benefits available for the dependents and widows of veterans who died of service-related causes.

Individuals in the Selected Reserve (Chapter 106) and those who contributed to the Veterans Education Assistance Program (VEAP-Chapter 32) may also be eligible for VA educational benefits.

For additional information regarding veterans' educational benefits, please contact the State of New Jersey Department of Military and Veteran Affairs State Approving Agency, P.O. Box 340, Eggert Crossing Road, Trenton, New Jersey 08625 directly.

Federal Loan Programs

Federal Perkins Loans

The Federal Perkins Loan Program is administered by Fairleigh Dickinson University and is awarded to students demonstrating exceptional financial need. Eligible students must be enrolled at least half-time for consideration. Federal Perkins Loan awards generally range between \$500.00 and \$4,000.00 per academic year (over fall–spring terms).

Principal and interest is deferred while the student is enrolled at least half-time. Loan repayment and interest charges begin nine months after graduation, withdrawal or when enrollment drops below half time. The interest rate is fixed at 5 percent per year; the minimum quarterly payment is \$150.00.

For further detailed information regarding loan repayment, deferment and cancellation provisions, please contact the Fairleigh Dickinson University Office

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of Student Loan and Repayment at (201) 692-2575.

Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan

Eligible students may borrow up to \$20,500.00 per year (\$33,000.00 for graduate health-profession students enrolled in a nine-month academic year and \$37,167.00 for graduate health-profession students enrolled in a 12-month academic year) from the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan program. Interest begins accruing at disbursement but may be capitalized and payments deferred until enrollment ceases (or drops below half-time). The interest rate is tied to financial markets and is determined each June for new loans made for the upcoming award year (July 1 to the following June 30). Each loan will have a fixed interest rate for the life of the loan and therefore students borrowing over multiple years may have loans at varying interest rates. There is a loan fee paid by borrowers at the time of disbursement, which, at the time of printing, is 1.073 percent (subject to change due to federal budget cuts). The Direct Unsubsidized Loan has a six-month grace period following the last date of at least half-time attendance (graduation, withdrawal or reduction in enrollment) before repayment begins.

Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan

Eligible students may borrow up to the cost of attendance less any amounts received from other sources from the Direct Graduate PLUS loan. Interest accrues at disbursement but may be capitalized while enrolled at least half-time. The interest rate is tied to financial markets and is determined each June for new loans made for the upcoming award year (July 1 to the following June 30). Each loan has a fixed interest rate for the life of the loan and therefore students borrowing over multiple years may have loans at varying interest rates. There is a loan fee paid by borrowers at the time of disbursement, which, at the time of printing, is 4.292 percent (subject to change due to federal budget cuts). Eligibility for the Direct Graduate PLUS loan is based on a credit review.

Federal Nursing Loan Program

Matriculated nursing students with "exceptional financial need," as determined by the information supplied on the FAFSA, may apply for a Federal Nursing Loan.

The student must be enrolled at least half-time (at least 4.5 credits per semester). Annual awards range from \$500.00 to \$4,000.00 per academic year. Please contact the Fairleigh Dickinson University Office of Student Loan and Repayment, (201) 692-2575, for further details regarding repayment and deferment of Federal Nursing Loans.

New Jersey State-funded Programs

There are a number of New Jersey State (NJS)-funded financial aid programs, such as loans. For a student to be eligible for any of these programs, he/she must be matriculated and maintain satisfactory academic progress in addition to being a New Jersey resident. To establish eligibility for any need-based funding, a student must also file an FAFSA by February 15 every year.

NJS Scholarship Programs

Need-based NJS Grant Programs **NJS EOF Grant**

The NJS Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) provides financial assistance and support services to economically and educationally disadvantaged students. To be eligible, the student must have been a New Jersey state resident for at least 12 consecutive months prior to application and must meet state-established income guidelines. Applicants also must be full-time, matriculated students.

EOF grant awards are valued up to \$2,500.00 per academic year (traditional fall and spring semesters only). Awards are limited, and students who were EOF students as undergraduates receive priority for funding. Prospective students should contact the Office of Admissions for further information.

NJCLASS Loan Program

NJCLASS Loan

The NJCLASS Loan Program is a credit-based loan program for either the student or the parent. Applicants may borrow up to the cost of education less any other financial aid. More information about the NJCLASS Loan and the application may be found online at <http://www.hesaa.org/njclass>.

Important Information About Financial Aid

Terms and Conditions of Financial Aid Awards

Students awarded financial aid from University, federal and/or state sources will receive a financial-aid award notice.

Financial-aid offers are based on full-time attendance (9 credits/semester for graduate students) and anticipated housing plans as reported on the FAFSA. Students must inform the Office of Financial Aid immediately, in writing, of any changes in enrollment or housing plans so that financial aid may be reevaluated accordingly.

Financial-aid offers are conditional based on receipt of any requested information by the Office of Financial Aid. Financial-aid applicants selected for verification will be required to submit additional documentation, which may lead to revisions in the financial-aid awards offered.

Award offers are contingent upon maintaining satisfactory academic progress toward completion of the degree program. Satisfactory academic progress reviews are performed at the conclusion of the spring semester. Failure to maintain satisfactory academic progress will result in the loss of financial-aid funding. Detailed information about satisfactory academic progress may be found online at www.fdu.edu/sap.

The University awards grants and scholarships from University operating funds and reserves the right to substitute funding received from private or endowed sources. In such an event, a revised Financial Aid Award Notice will be sent detailing the substitution.

Financial-aid funding will be used toward balances owed to the University, including, but not exclusively, tuition, room, board, medical insurance, fees, fines, etc. If students do not wish to have funding from federal sources used to pay "noneducational expenses" such as parking fines, they must notify the Office of Enrollment Services in writing.

Receipt of financial assistance from any sources may affect eligibility for financial aid as detailed on the award notification. The Office of Financial Aid must be informed of the receipt of additional awards not already noted.

Federal and state awards may be based on estimated funding levels. The Office of Financial Aid reserves the right to make

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adjustments as a result of changes in federal- and/or state-funding levels.

Renewal of Financial Aid

A student must maintain the minimum requirements for the renewal of any scholarship funding (as was outlined previously and in the original scholarship notification letter).

Students who receive need-based financial aid from any source are eligible to apply for a renewal of this aid. To be eligible for a renewed need-based financial-aid package, the student must:

1. File the FAFSA application no later than February 15 (including the correct **Federal School Code: 002607** for the Metropolitan Campus, Teaneck, New Jersey, and **004738** for the Florham Campus, Madison, New Jersey);

2. Respond to all requests for information/documentation by the Office of Financial Aid and meet eligibility requirements as determined by the U.S. Department of Education and the University;

3. Maintain "Satisfactory Academic Progress" as mandated by the U.S. Department of Education.

Satisfactory Academic Progress

Continued eligibility for federal financial aid requires a student to maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) toward completion of the degree program. SAP reviews are performed at the end of the spring semester at which time both qualitative (grade point ratio) and quantitative (pace toward completion of the degree program) measures will be reviewed. To meet SAP requirements, a graduate student must complete no less than 67 percent of the credits attempted and meet a minimum cumulative grade point ratio (CGPR) of 2.75 for all colleges except the Silberman College of Business, Public Administration Institute, corporate and organizational communication program and nursing, which require a minimum CGPR of 3.00; and the clinical psychology (Ph.D.) program, which requires a minimum CGPR of 3.25.

Effective spring 2012, due to changes in federal regulations, the Office of Financial Aid is required to monitor and adjust a student's enrollment level for Title IV aid (Pell Grants, Supplemental Opportunity Grants, Federal Perkins Loans and Federal Stafford Loans) if, or when, he/she repeats

course work for credit that he/she has already earned.

This applies to all students regardless of any policy within an academic program requiring a higher grade in the course.

Students may retake courses and receive federal aid, if they had previously failed a course, but can only receive financial aid once for a course that has been previously passed. A passing grade is defined as "D" or better.

The policy allows a student to receive financial aid under the following situations:

- To repeat any failed course that has never been passed until a passing grade is received;
- To repeat any withdrawn course with a grade of "W" that has never been passed previously until a passing grade is received; or
- To repeat one time any course in which the student previously received a passing grade ("D" or better).

Important Note: After receiving the first passing grade in a course, a "W" is counted as a retake of the course. Any enrollment-status changes will affect the amount of the financial-aid award in a term.

Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal Guidelines

Students may appeal a decision to deny aid per SAP guidelines if there has been an unexpected, exceptional event that hindered their ability to perform to standards. Approval of an appeal will allow a student to receive federal aid for a probationary period.

Students must meet with an academic adviser and devise an academic plan which will put them on track to meet minimum SAP guidelines for future eligibility. SAP policy can be found at <http://view2.fdu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-admissions/financial-aid/satisfactory-academic-progress/>.

All appeals are confidential and documentation provided will be used for this purpose alone. Appeals are not heard in person but must be made in writing (printed or legibly handwritten). Guidelines for an SAP letter of appeal may be found online or in the Office of Financial Aid.

Tuition Payment Options

Fairleigh Dickinson University makes every attempt to meet students' full financial need. However, it is possible that the financial-aid package may not cover all college expenses. The University does not guarantee the ability to meet a student's full financial need. As a result, there may be an amount left between the federal family contribution, the amount of aid offered by the University and the total cost of education. If this is the case, please consider the following options:

Installment Plans

Option One

Using Tuition Management Systems (TMS), a family can arrange to make 10 regularly scheduled monthly payments during the academic year without interest or incurring charges. An enrollment form and an annual enrollment fee of \$65.00 are required (www.afford.com/fdu).

Option Two

Fairleigh Dickinson University also offers a University-administered semester payment plan. A family can make four regularly scheduled monthly payments during an academic semester without interest. An enrollment form and semester fee are required (www.fdu.edu [search payment options]).