Understanding Your Financial Aid for International Students

Grinnell College Guiding Principles on Financial Aid

Grinnell College adheres to generous core values when determining need-based aid eligibility. It is our belief that qualified students, regardless of financial circumstances, should be afforded a Grinnell education.

To that end, Grinnell meets 100% of demonstrated financial need as calculated at the time of admission. This can be summed up in the following formula:

Cost of Attendance
– Institutionally Calculated Family Contribution
= Demonstrated Financial Need

Demonstrated financial need is met with grants, scholarships, and student employment.

Grinnell assumes that students and their families are primarily responsible for paying for college to the extent that they are able. Financial aid funded by Grinnell College is intended to supplement family resources.

Understanding Your Aid

Gift Aid

Grants and scholarships, sometimes referred to as gift aid, are funds that do not have to be repaid.

Student Employment

Student employment is available to help you pay education-related expenses. The rate of pay for the 2026-27 academic year is $14.04 per hour. If your financial aid offer includes student employment, you will receive guidance by email in August.

Under U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) regulations, international students are permitted to work on campus for up to 20 hours a week. The offer of on-campus work assumes eligibility for employment in the United States. If you are not eligible to work in the United States, you may be eligible to borrow a loan instead.

Student employment will not appear as financial aid on your billing statement. You receive those funds as you earn them, and earnings are paid directly to you every other week.

Important Grinnell College Webpages

Student Accounts: Billing, Payments, Health Insurance
grinnell.edu/student-accounts
Pioneer One-Card (P-Card)
grinnell.edu/student-accounts/one-card
Employment Forms
grinnell.edu/student-accounts-forms
Office of Financial Aid Website
grinnell.edu/financial-aid
Online Financial Aid Office
grinnell.edu/online-financial-aid

Grinnell College

Policies

Consumer Information

Please visit our website at **grinnell.edu/consumer-information** to view a detailed listing of Grinnell's consumer information, including rights and responsibilities of students, graduation rates, annual security report, and other useful information.

Aid Renewal and Grinnell's Four-Year Commitment

Grinnell is committed to providing consistent financial aid that is renewed annually.

International financial aid offers for first-year students outline full aid eligibility for all sources of Grinnell funding. The maximum time frame to receive aid is eight semesters.

Financial aid is automatically renewed each year, and students are notified in the spring of their financial aid eligibility for the upcoming year. The cost of attendance generally increases each year. For students receiving need-based aid, the increase is partially covered by additional financial aid from Grinnell College and partially covered by you. As such, your family contribution will increase slightly each year.

Requests for Reconsideration of Aid

International financial aid offers are final. Grinnell does not consider aid appeals or increase aid in future years due to changes in your or your family's circumstances. These include, but are not limited to, exchange rate fluctuations, reduced employment income, unusual medical expenses, additional family members in college, loss of sponsorship, or academic achievements while enrolled.

Electronic Communications

The Office of Financial Aid generally communicates with students electronically, beginning as early as the point of application. It is the student's responsibility to monitor email, both personal and **grinnell.edu** accounts, and respond, if necessary, in a timely manner. If you wish to receive paper communications, you must notify us in writing.

Grinnell College uses an online system to allow students to view their financial aid offers and required documents. Applicants to the College can view this information through the admission applicant portal. Upon admission, this information is accessed through the online financial aid office. Login credentials are provided with the online admission letter.

Outside Scholarships

Please notify the Office of Financial Aid of any scholarships or tuition benefits that are not listed on your financial aid offer by completing the Outside Scholarship Information Sheet on the homepage of the online financial aid office. More information on Grinnell's outside scholarships policy is at **grinnell.edu/outside-scholarships**.

Study Away

Students may receive financial aid for one Grinnell-approved study away program. Need-based financial aid is adjusted based on the cost of the selected program. Loans may be offered for some programs that are more expensive than the cost of being on campus.

Billing

Grinnell College issues bills for the fall semester in June and for the spring semester in November. Balances are due approximately one month before the first day of classes. E-bills are available through the student online billing account. Additional information, including payment options, student health insurance, parents' access to online statements, and other aspects of student account functions, is available at **grinnell.edu/student-accounts**.

What's Next?

Complete the I-20 Request Form.
Deadline: as soon as possible, but no later than June 1

Report outside scholarships.
Deadline: as soon as possible

Nondiscrimination Policy

Grinnell College is committed to nondiscrimination in matters of admission, employment, and housing, and in access to and participation in its education programs, services, or activities. No person shall be discriminated against on the basis of race, national or ethnic origin, age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, veteran status, religion, creed, or disability.

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