

# A F F O R D I N G

a Notre Dame Education



Office of Student Financial Services

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## Dear prospective student and family:



On behalf of the entire Notre Dame community, I want to welcome your interest and invite you to learn more about Notre Dame. The University has grown tremendously in many ways since its founding in 1842, and our goal is to continue to improve our role as the premier Catholic institution of higher education in the world. The Notre Dame vision is shaped by our special mission for academic excellence and religious faith, two indispensable and wholly compatible strands of higher learning. It includes the rigorous pursuit of knowledge, the harmony between faith and reason, and the role of community and the call to service.

**“We are an institution that has been blessed in many ways and are proud of our ability to offer each of our students in need of financial assistance a level of student aid resources sufficient to put our costs reasonably in reach.”**

At a private institution, the issue of rising college costs is often a concern for many families. It is equally one for all of us responsible for providing the finest of experiences for our students supported through the very best resources possible. Part of our challenge is to insure that every student who has been admitted can be assured of our ability to make our costs affordable. We are an institution that has been blessed in many ways and are proud of our ability to offer each of our students in need of financial assistance a level of student aid resources sufficient to put our costs reasonably in reach. Whether the challenge is one faced by an individual family or is a more widespread one resulting from a difficult turn in economic conditions, we remain firmly committed to this special policy.

Substantial University resources have been committed annually to support financial aid, and we remain confident of our ability to meet the full demonstrated financial need of all of our deserving students. As we move ahead, my vision for Notre Dame is to provide an alternative for the 21st century—a place of higher learning that plays host to world-changing teaching and research, where technical knowledge does not outrun moral wisdom, where the goal of education is to help students live a good human life, and where our quest to understand the world not only lives in harmony with faith but also is strengthened by it. This is the hallmark of a Notre Dame education.

It is with the greatest of respect that we recognize the students and families who make the sacrifices involved in preparing for the costs associated with Notre Dame. The University shares the pride with the families of thousands of students who have met the financial challenges and continue to do so each year. Our goal continues to be to share in the effort to enroll the most qualified and diverse student body possible. All of us are here to assist you in realizing the dream of receiving a Notre Dame education. May God bless you.

In Notre Dame,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Jenkins". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line extending from the end.

Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C.  
President

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Additional information regarding the federal student aid programs may be obtained at [studentaid.ed.gov](http://studentaid.ed.gov) or by calling the U.S. Department of Education's toll-free Information Center number (800) 4-FEDAID, Monday–Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST/EDT.

*The University of Notre Dame does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, sex, disability, veteran status, or age in the administration of any of its educational programs, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic and other school-administered programs or in employment.*

For additional information on the financial aid programs and services offered through the Office of Student Financial Services, contact:

## Financial Aid Office

115 Main Building  
Notre Dame, IN 46556-5602

Phone: (574) 631-6436

Fax: (574) 631-6899

E-mail: [fnaid@nd.edu](mailto:fnaid@nd.edu)

[financialaid.nd.edu](http://financialaid.nd.edu)

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST/EDT,  
Monday through Friday

## Student Accounts Office

100 Main Building  
Notre Dame, IN 46556-5602

Phone: (574) 631-7113

Fax: (574) 631-7117

E-mail: [stdacct@nd.edu](mailto:stdacct@nd.edu)

[studentaccounts.nd.edu](http://studentaccounts.nd.edu)

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST/EDT,  
Monday through Friday

## Student Employment Office

115 Main Building  
Notre Dame, IN 46556-5602

Phone: (574) 631-6454

Fax: (574) 631-6899

E-mail: [stdempl@nd.edu](mailto:stdempl@nd.edu)

[studentemployment.nd.edu](http://studentemployment.nd.edu)

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST/EDT,  
Monday through Friday



# The Value of a Notre Dame Education

We believe that the value of a Notre Dame education far exceeds its price tag. The University of Notre Dame takes great pride in the quality of its academic program. The value-oriented educational environment and the many positive influences provided through the residential life programs supplement the formal classroom experience. The Notre Dame degree is truly one of a handful of college diplomas that is recognized around the world ... and with valid reason. The academic profile of the student body is one of the most competitive in higher education—in fact, of last year’s freshman class, 72% ranked in the top 5% of their high school classes.

Astute consumers will want to ask some important questions in considering the value of their education.

Question	Notre Dame's Response
Is Notre Dame ranked in any of the national rankings?	Notre Dame rated among the nation’s top 25 institutions of higher learning in surveys conducted by <i>U.S. News &amp; World Report</i> , <i>Princeton Review</i> , <i>Time</i> , <i>Kiplinger’s</i> and <i>Kaplan/Newsweek</i>
What is the average student-to-faculty ratio?	12:1
What is the average class size?	55% of classes have fewer than 19 students
What is the retention rate of students from freshman to sophomore year?	97%
What is the on-time graduation rate of students?	95%
How does the institution adjust a student’s financial aid package if there is an outside scholarship?	First reduces need to borrow or work. May reduce or eliminate need-based scholarship in some cases.
Can I expect a similar financial aid package each year?	Yes, assuming proper application and similar financial circumstances
What is the most typical range of need-based Federal Stafford & Perkins Loan borrowers?	\$17,000 to \$19,500
What is the default rate for student loans?	3/10 <sup>ths</sup> of 1% Among the lowest in the nation
How many employers come to campus, and how many interviews are conducted?	400 employers and more than 6,000 interviews
What percentage of graduates who pursue jobs, graduate school, and/or volunteer service are successful in finding career opportunities within one year of graduation?	98%
What percentage of the alumni have earned at least one advanced degree within 10 years after graduation?	60%
What is the satisfaction level of alumni?	Ranks among the top three nationally

# Understanding Need-Based Financial Aid

What is "Financial Need"?	
	Cost of Attendance
-	Family Contribution
=	Financial Need

Financial need is the difference between the estimated cost of attendance for a school year and the estimated family contribution. Because several factors in this evaluation are subject to change from one year to the next, this evaluation is made annually for each student who applies for financial aid.

## Cost of Attendance 2009-10

The average Notre Dame undergraduate student expense budget included the following factors:

Tuition and Fees	\$38,480
Room and Board	10,370
Books and Supplies	950
Personal Expenses	1,000
Transportation	500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$51,300</b>

Actual costs varied based on housing accommodations, travel costs, and personal expenses. Annual increases in the cost of a Notre Dame education are anticipated.



The estimated family contribution is based upon the information the family provides annually on the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE Application and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Factors such as income, assets, liabilities, family size, number of family members in college, age of parents, and private school costs for other children are considered in determining a family's financial strength. The University assumes that all families will contribute to educational costs to the extent that they are capable.

The University believes that parental responsibility for financing a college education does not cease upon divorce or separation of the student's parents. The University will expect both parents (in the event of divorce or separation) to submit financial information and to provide assistance for the student's college expenses based on their ability to contribute from their income and assets. The custodial parent (and his or her spouse) must complete the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE Application and the FAFSA. The non-custodial parent (and his or her spouse) must complete the Non-Custodial Parent Statement. Students who have unique circumstances in their relationship with their non-custodial parent should submit their written concerns directly to the Financial Aid Office.

Based upon a thorough review of the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE Application, FAFSA, and supporting data (such as parents' and the student's signed Federal Income Tax Returns and W-2 Forms), the Financial Aid Office determines the estimated family contribution, calculates the applicant's financial need, and notifies the student of available sources of funding.

The University of Notre Dame administers a broad array of financial aid programs, including scholarships/grants, loans, and work, to assist in meeting a student's demonstrated financial need.

In addition, programs are available for families who do not demonstrate financial need but who are interested in investigating various education financing options such as a monthly payment plan, student employment, the Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loan, the PLUS Loan for Parents, and private loans. One of our country's most respected ROTC programs provides yet another alternative for some students. Many families combine two or more of these programs to help manage their financial obligation.

## An Independent 529 Plan The Tuition Plan Consortium (TPC)

Notre Dame, along with over 270 private colleges across the country, participates in the Independent 529 Plan, also known as the Tuition Plan Consortium (TPC). The plan is designed to keep college costs affordable and allows families to purchase a percent of future tuition at today's cost minus a modest tuition discount.

*Additional information on the Independent 529 Plan is available at [independent529plan.org](http://independent529plan.org) or toll-free (888) 718-7878.*

# Applying for Financial Aid

The CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE Application and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) serve as the official applications for need-based financial aid at the University of Notre Dame, including University scholarship programs. Unless otherwise noted, no additional applications are required to be considered for all scholarship/grant programs the Financial Aid Office administers. *Applications for financial aid must be properly filed every year.*

Priority Deadline	Online Applications	School Code
2/15/2010	CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE Application at <b>collegeboard.com</b>	1841
2/15/2010	Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at <b>fafsa.gov</b>	001840

## Institutional Documentation Service (IDOC)

The University of Notre Dame participates in the College Board's *Institutional Documentation Service (IDOC)* which allows students to submit one packet of supporting documentation to IDOC rather than mailing individual documents to each participating institution to which a student has applied for admission.

CSS/*Financial Aid PROFILE* applicants will receive communication directly from IDOC in early February regarding the submission of supporting documentation. Families should be prepared to submit this supporting documentation to IDOC by Notre Dame's priority IDOC deadline.

Priority Deadline	IDOC	Documentation
3/1/2010	<b>idoc.collegeboard.com</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parent and student signed 2009 Federal Tax Returns</li> <li>• Parent 2009 W-2 Form(s)</li> <li>• Verification Worksheet</li> <li>• Other documents as requested (e.g., Business/Farm statement, non-custodial parent information)</li> </ul>

The Office of Financial Aid begins mailing Financial Aid Award Letters in late March to admitted students who have completed the financial aid process.

**Note:** *To be eligible for federal student aid a student must be a citizen or eligible non-citizen of the United States with a valid social security number. In general, students must be degree seeking and be enrolled on at least a half-time basis. Additionally, students may not owe a refund on a federal student grant, nor be in default on a federal student loan.*

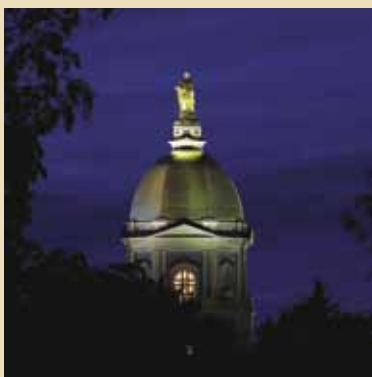
# Financial Aid Programs

The University administers financial aid resources from institutional, private, federal, and state student aid programs. Students who follow the appropriate annual financial aid application procedures as previously outlined will be considered for all institutional as well as federal aid programs.

The University is committed to offering a financial aid package designed to meet the financial need of all undergraduate applicants for financial aid. A self-help component, including student loan and campus employment programs, typically serves as the foundation of a financial aid package before University scholarship consideration.

An annual review of the cost of a Notre Dame education along with a student's demonstrated financial need may result in an adjustment to both the self-help and scholarship components of the financial aid package.

Financial aid programs typically are categorized as gift, loan, and work assistance and are outlined on the following pages.



## Need-Blind and Need-Based

Admission to Notre Dame is "need-blind" for U.S. citizens and permanent residents. This means students are admitted to the University on the basis of their academic and personal records of achievement, not their financial circumstances.

Notre Dame is fully committed to meeting the financial need of a student through our need-based aid program.

Nearly half of the undergraduates receive at least one source of need-based aid (scholarship, grant, loan, and/or work).

**All admitted students who properly apply annually for financial aid will have their full demonstrated financial need met for all four years of undergraduate study.**

## Gift Assistance (Scholarships)

### Notre Dame Scholarships

All students accepted for admission who have completed the financial aid process as previously outlined are automatically considered for all University scholarship programs. The University is committed to offering a financial aid package designed to meet the financial need of all undergraduate applicants for financial aid. The level of University assistance is based on demonstrated financial need and academic performance and thus varies from student to student.

Many scholarship recipients receive part of their assistance through awards made possible by the generosity of the Congregation of Holy Cross through their contributory services to the University.

A self-help component, including student loan and campus employment programs, typically serves as the foundation of a financial aid package before scholarship consideration.

University scholarship assistance and the self-help component are reviewed annually based on demonstrated financial need (including the student's receipt of additional student aid from other sources), academic performance, and annual increases in the cost of a Notre Dame education.

Students not receiving scholarship assistance as incoming students may be considered in subsequent years based upon a number of factors, including financial need, academic performance, and the availability of University scholarship resources.

### Notre Dame Club Scholarship

More than 140 Notre Dame clubs offer scholarships from their respective geographic areas. All applicants for financial aid are considered for club scholarships. Students will be advised by participating clubs if any additional steps (e.g., interview, essay) might be required by the local club. Similar to Notre Dame scholarships, club scholarships are awarded on the basis of demonstrated financial need.

### Federal Pell Grant

The Federal Pell Grant is a need-based grant offered to eligible undergraduate students. In 2009–2010, Pell Grant awards ranged from \$976 to \$5,350.

### Federal Academic Competitiveness Grant (AC Grant)

The Federal AC Grant is a need-based grant restricted to students who qualify for the Federal Pell Grant program and complete a rigorous high school program of study as designated by their state. The maximum award for a freshman is up to \$750. The maximum award for a sophomore is \$1,300.

*(continued on next page)*

# Financial Aid Programs continued

## Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG)

The SEOG assists students demonstrating exceptional financial need in accordance with the guidelines and funding allocations established by the U.S. Department of Education. SEOG awards range from \$100 to \$4,000 annually.

## State-Sponsored Scholarships and Grants

Residents from states including Indiana, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont may be eligible for scholarship/grant assistance from their home state scholarship/grant programs. Students may obtain information and application procedures directly from their state scholarship agency.

## Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC)

Air Force, Army, Navy and Marine Corps ROTC scholarships are available on a competitive basis, and the military services award them based on merit and personal qualifications. ROTC scholarships may be awarded up to the full cost of tuition, books, and fees, plus an in-school subsistence. Students must apply during the fall semester of their high school senior year.

Further information is available through high school guidance offices, military recruiting offices, and the ROTC Department of the University.

Students who do not receive an ROTC scholarship as incoming first year students may compete for a limited number of scholarships available to continuing students.



## Private Scholarships

Many private organizations provide financial assistance to Notre Dame students. Scholarship information may be obtained by contacting civic, professional, religious, and other community organizations.

The Financial Aid Information Page at [finaid.org](http://finaid.org) and the College Board Online at [collegeboard.com](http://collegeboard.com) provide scholarship search information.

Caution is strongly advised when using fee-based scholarship search enterprises.



## Work Assistance

### Student Employment

Excellent part-time employment opportunities, including those offered through the need-based Federal Work-Study Program as well as other programs, are made available to assist students in meeting some of the costs related to college attendance.

Approximately 40% of Notre Dame undergraduates are employed on campus annually. In addition to on-campus positions, employment opportunities are available off campus with a number of not-for-profit community service agencies. Federal Work-Study eligibility is required to participate in these programs.

Many student employees average 10–12 hours of work per week. Students are paid on a biweekly basis via a direct deposit to their personal bank accounts. Hourly rates vary depending on the job requirements. The basic hourly wage during the 2009–2010 academic year was \$7.25.

# Loan Programs

## Loan Assistance

### Federal Perkins Loan

The Federal Perkins Loan is a need-based loan made by the University. The Perkins Loan program requires that the student borrower repay, with interest, this source of financial assistance. Additional terms, subject to revision by federal law, include:

- Zero interest while the student is enrolled in school on at least a half-time basis and during the nine-month grace period following enrollment.
- No origination fee or insurance fee.
- 5% interest rate during repayment.
- Repayment on both principal and interest beginning nine months after the student ceases to be enrolled in school on at least a half-time basis, generally extending over a 10-year period.
- \$5,500 annual loan limit.
- \$27,500 maximum aggregate undergraduate borrowing limit.

### Subsidized Federal Stafford Loan

The terms of the need-based Subsidized Federal Stafford Loan Program require that the student borrower repay, with interest, this source of financial assistance. This program is referred to as “subsidized” because of the interest subsidy being paid by the federal government to the lender while the student is enrolled in school as well as during the six-month grace period following enrollment. Additional terms, subject to revision by federal law for 2009–2010, include:

- 5.6% fixed interest rate during repayment.
- Up to 1% origination fee and up to 1% insurance fee.
- Repayment on both principal and interest beginning six months after the student ceases to be enrolled in school on at least a

half-time basis, generally extending over a 10-year period.

- \$23,000 maximum base aggregate borrowing limit for an undergraduate dependent student for subsidized and unsubsidized loans.

### Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loan

The terms of the non need-based Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loan Program require that the student borrower repay, with 6.8% interest, this source of financial assistance. This program is referred to as “unsubsidized” because the federal government is not paying the interest to the lender while the student is enrolled in school. Interest on Unsubsidized Stafford Loans begins to accrue after disbursement of the loan funds; however, the student may choose to have the payment of the interest deferred during enrollment and later capitalized (added to principal) at the time repayment begins.

Undergraduate students are eligible to borrow up to an additional \$2,000 from the Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Loan Program.

Additional information regarding the Federal Stafford Loan program is available on our website at [financialaid.nd.edu](http://financialaid.nd.edu).

### PLUS Loan for Parents

The Federal PLUS Loan provides a borrowing option for parents of dependent undergraduate students. Based upon a parent’s past credit, a parent may borrow through this federally guaranteed, non need-based loan program. Additional terms, subject to revision by federal law, include:

- 8.5% fixed interest rate.
- 3% origination fee and up to 1% insurance fee.
- Repayment on both principal and interest usually beginning within 60 days of disbursement of the funds.
- Parent’s ability to apply for up to the full cost of education minus student aid.

### Private Student Loans

After exhausting the opportunities available from the federal aid programs, students may consider private loan programs as a source of funding.

The terms and conditions of these credit-based loan programs vary, and as such, students are encouraged to review the details of the programs before selecting a private loan program. Private loans are not eligible for loan consolidation programs made available for federal student loans. Interest rates, fees (both at the time of borrowing and at repayment), credit checks, and annual and aggregate loan limits require careful evaluation by the student as a consumer.

Additional information regarding private student loan options is available on our website at [financialaid.nd.edu](http://financialaid.nd.edu).

As always, taking on debt for any reason should be done deliberately and only for the amounts needed. Additional information is available from the Department of Education publication, *Federal Aid First*.



Further information, including an online application, is available on our website.  
[financialaid.nd.edu](http://financialaid.nd.edu)

# Money Management

Borrowing for college, as with any other financing program, should be done responsibly and only to the extent absolutely necessary. Although many of the educational loan programs currently available are very reasonable, potential borrowers need to exercise common sense and caution, especially when considering many of the nonessential or discretionary items associated with attending college.

This advice can also extend to the manner in which students plan and budget their resources each year. Checkbooks, credit cards, or other means of credit can be misused or employed in a manner that ultimately leads to undue financial stress. Simple budgeting and careful money management are practical tools that help to ensure the affordability of a college education. These basic guidelines will ultimately continue throughout the post-college years for most individuals. Distinguishing a “want” from

a “need” is part of each of these important decisions, and understanding the critical role of a good credit record is indeed an important part of becoming a responsible adult.

The Financial Aid Office website provides sound advice about a number of money management issues: developing a budget, balancing a checkbook, using an ATM, being wise about using credit cards, and several other basic consumer suggestions.

# Office of Student Accounts

The Student Accounts Office is responsible for administering all transactions related to a student’s account at the University. As an integral component of the Office of Student Financial Services, the Student Accounts Office issues monthly billing statements and processes payments, credits, refunds, and charges that students may incur during their enrollment

at the University. The fall semester Student Accounts statement is issued in July; the spring statement is issued in December. These statements list basic semester charges for tuition, fees, and room and board. Additional statements for personal charges, including bookstore charges, health services, laundry, and other miscellaneous charges, are issued on a monthly basis.

Statements for undergraduate students are typically mailed to the student’s home address. Payment for each semester is due before enrollment day and may be made by cash, check, or money order. Credit cards are not accepted. Additional information is available through the Office of Student Accounts.

# Helpful Websites

Helpful Websites	
collegeboard.com	CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE Application, Private Scholarship Search and College Planning Resources
idoc.collegeboard.com	Institutional Documentation Service (IDOC)
studentaid.ed.gov	Federal Student Aid Programs
fafsa.gov	Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
irs.gov	Hope and Lifetime Learning Credits
independent529plan.org	Independent 529 Plan
finaid.org	Private Scholarship Search, Financial Aid Calculators



# Monthly Payment Plan

The University makes available an interest-free monthly payment plan through TuitionPay. This plan allows families to make payments over either a 9- or 10-month period versus making two larger payments, one at the

beginning of each semester. With the TuitionPay Monthly Payment Plan, families can reduce the overall cost of education by paying as much as possible interest-free, instead of borrowing.

## Determining Your TuitionPay Monthly Payment Plan

<b>A</b>	Full-Year Direct Educational Expenses	
	Tuition and Fees	\$
	Room and Board	+\$
	<b>Total</b>	<b>A =</b>

<b>B</b>	Full-Year Deductions	
	Scholarships and/or Grants	\$
	Loans	+\$
	Direct Payments	+\$
<b>Total</b>	<b>B =</b>	

<b>C</b>	Total Amount of Your Monthly Plan	
	<b>A - B = C</b>	<b>C =</b>

## For 9-Month Plans:

<b>D</b>	Your Monthly Payment Will Be:	
	<b>C ÷ 9 Months =</b>	

## For 10-Month Plans:

<b>D</b>	Your Monthly Payment Will Be:	
	<b>C ÷ 10 Months =</b>	

For more information on the TuitionPay Monthly Payment Plan, or to enroll, call TuitionPay at (877) 282-5933 or visit the website at [tuitionpay.salliemae.com/nd](http://tuitionpay.salliemae.com/nd).

# Calendar of Events

Date	Event
October 1	CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE is available for 2010–2011
November 1	Early Action admission application deadline
Mid-December	Early Action admission notification period
December 31	Regular Action admission application deadline
January 1	FAFSA available for 2010–2011
February 15	Priority deadline for submission of FAFSA and CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE
March 1	Supporting documents due to College Board (IDOC)
Late March	Early Action financial aid award notifications begin
Early April	Regular Action admission notification period
Early April	Regular Action financial aid award notifications begin
May 1	Confirmation date for admitted students who wish to enroll
Mid-May	Student loan processing begins
Mid-July	Fall billing statement sent from Student Accounts
Early August	Student employment information sent to students
Mid-August	Fall payment due

