

What do we mean by that?

A UVA financial aid glossary

Cost of Attendance (COA): an estimate of the cost of education, which includes tuition, fees, room, board, books and supplies, personal expenses and transportation costs

CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE: an application to apply for and determine eligibility for Virginia state grants and institutional aid, only completed by undergraduate students

Demonstrated financial need: the difference between the cost of attendance and the calculated expected family contribution

Dependent student: a student who cannot answer yes to one of the thirteen dependency questions on the FAFSA and generally, would be required to report parent data to apply for financial aid

Direct Costs: These are COA items that are billed directly to the student, such as tuition or fees. For students living on-Grounds, housing would be a direct cost; for those living in an apartment, housing would be an indirect cost.

Federal aid: financial aid items funded by the federal government; Federal Pell grant, Direct Subsidized loan, Direct Unsubsidized loan and Direct PLUS loan

Federal eligibility: the amount of federal aid for which a student qualifies as determined by the federal EFC

Federal Work Study: This is a need-based financial aid item. Students who receive the work study financial aid item are eligible to apply for and obtain on-Grounds jobs that are listed as work study jobs. Students are paid through the University's payroll system, and the amount of their work study offer is the maximum they can earn between the first day of classes in the fall term and the last day of finals in the spring term. There is no work study for summer session.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA): an application to apply for and determine eligibility for federal aid

Entering student: student who is applying for admission to UVA and has not previously attended a post-secondary institution as a degree-seeking student

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Expected Family Contribution (EFC): a measure of the financial strength of a student's family used to determine demonstrated financial need; calculated according to a formula established by law in order to determine eligibility for federal aid and for undergraduate students, calculated according to an institutional formula to determine eligibility for institutional aid

Independent student: a student who can answer yes to one of the thirteen dependency questions on the FAFSA and generally, would not be required to report parent data to apply for financial aid

Indirect Costs: These are COA items that are not billed directly to the student, such as personal items or travel to and from home.

Institutional aid: financial aid items provided by Student Financial Services; includes but is not limited to: Federal Work-Study, Institutional Loans, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG), Access UVA grants and scholarships

Institutional eligibility: the amount of institutional aid for which a student qualifies as determined by the institutional EFC

Late applicant: student who did not submit the required information before the application deadline and is no longer eligible for state and institutional aid

Need-based aid: financial aid items for which a student must demonstrate financial need in order to qualify; total amount of need-based items may not exceed demonstrated financial need

Net Direct Price: This is the estimated "out of pocket" cost of attending the University, once all forms of financial aid (excluding federal work study) have been accounted for.

Non need-based aid: financial aid items for which a student is not required to demonstrate financial need in order to qualify (for example, Direct Unsubsidized loan)

Official financial aid offer: the financial aid offer provided after the review of submitted application materials, generally available beginning in June; subject to change if information is received by SFS or if there are changes to the student's record

Preliminary financial aid offer: an estimated financial aid offer provided to entering and fall transfer students prior to the admission commitment date in the spring

Returning student: students who have attended UVA previously

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State aid: financial aid items funded by a state government; includes but is not limited to: Virginia Guaranteed Assistance Program (VGAP) and Commonwealth Award

Transfer student: student who is applying for admission to UVA and has attended another post-secondary institution as a degree-seeking student

Verification: a federally mandated process to confirm the accuracy of information reported on the FAFSA or other submitted documents; for more information about verification, [click here](#).

100% of demonstrated financial need: an financial aid philosophy that provides need-based aid up to the amount of demonstrated financial need as determined by the institutional formula for calculating the EFC