HOW TO PAY FOR YOUR USF EDUCATION

It’s a life-changing investment, and we’re here to help.
Congratulations on being accepted to the University of San Francisco! We’re excited to welcome you to the Hilltop. But first, we know you and your family need to look closely at what you can afford to pay and what help is available to make attending USF possible. This is where our Offer of Financial Aid comes in.

The enclosed letter summarizes the aid being offered to you for the 2023–2024 academic year based on the financial information you provided. We’ll also cover the rights and responsibilities you have as a student receiving financial aid and additional aid resources. (Find more details at myusf.usfca.edu/financial-aid.) We want to do everything we can to help you and your family make an informed decision, so if you have questions about any part of this process, please contact us. We’re here to help.

**HOW AID WORKS**

**DETERMINING YOUR FINANCIAL NEED**

To figure out how much financial aid you’re eligible to receive, we first determine your parents’ ability to contribute to your college costs. We take into consideration the income information reported on your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act Application (CADAA), as well as any other information you provided. When you file your FAFSA/CADAA, the receiving agency looks at your family’s income, assets, total number of family members, and the number attending college. They take into account necessary expenses, like reasonable living costs, taxes, and any unusual medical expenses. And they set aside a portion of your family’s assets to account for things like family emergencies and college savings for siblings.

After they calculate what are deemed reasonable contributions from you and your parents, we deduct that “expected family contribution” from your cost of attendance; the difference equals your demonstrated financial need. USF can’t meet 100 percent of every family’s need, but we hope the aid we do offer makes it possible for you to enroll at USF.

**SOURCES OF FINANCIAL AID**

Your financial aid package may include money from a mix of sources:

1. **GIFT AID**: This can include federal and state grants (for example, a Pell Grant or Cal Grant) and USF grants, all of which are awarded based on your FAFSA/CADAA. It can also include merit scholarships that USF awards based on the strength of your admission application. Gift aid does not need to be repaid.

2. **STUDENT EMPLOYMENT**: Your package may include a Federal Work Study offer. This is part-time employment that pays you directly for hours worked.

3. **FEDERAL LOANS**: These can include subsidized loans (where the government pays the interest on the loan while you’re enrolled) or unsubsidized loans. The amount you can borrow varies, depending on your family’s financial need, cost of attendance, year in school, and other aid awarded. Please visit www.studentaid.gov for more information and the required forms to complete if you plan to accept your federal loans or apply for a Parent PLUS loan.

4. **OUTSIDE SCHOLARSHIPS**: Money from private sources—for example, tuition grants from your parents’ employers or scholarships from organizations or clubs—are coordinated with the rest of your USF aid. We use them first to reduce the gap between your financial need and total aid awarded. If your private funds exceed your total cost of attendance, any USF scholarship you had received may be reduced by the remaining portion of the outside award.

**ESTIMATED COST OF ATTENDANCE FOR 2023–2024**

Your financial aid budget is based on an estimated cost of attendance that includes both direct and indirect costs. Direct costs include tuition, fees, housing, and meals. These are the charges that will appear on your bill from the university. Indirect costs consist of estimated amounts for books, personal expenses, and travel (these are used for budgeting purposes and are not billed). The total cost of attendance is what we work from when determining the amount you and your family will be expected to contribute toward the cost of attending USF.

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<thead>
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<th>ON CAMPUS</th>
<th>OFF CAMPUS</th>
<th>AT HOME</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fees</td>
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<td>$552</td>
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<tr>
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Tuition, fees, and room and board typically increase each year. Over the last few years, annual increases have ranged from 3 to 5 percent. Our estimate of personal expenses includes things like laundry supplies, telephone expenses, and recreation. Cost of attendance may include a $56 loan fee for students who accept federal direct loans.
ADDITIONAL FINANCING OPTIONS

FEDERAL LOANS: Just as students can borrow through the federal Direct Student Loan program, parents can use the federal Parent PLUS Loan program to borrow as much as the total cost of attendance plus loan fees, minus any other financial aid or loans. A master promissory note and a credit check are required. Detailed information on federal loan programs is available at www.studentaid.gov.

PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL LOANS: We encourage you to exhaust your federal loan options before exploring private loan options. Private loans are credit tested. Students may get more favorable loan options before exploring private loan terms with a credit-worthy cosigner. Additional information on private loans is available at myusf.usfca.edu/financial-aid/loans/private-loans.

CAMPUS EMPLOYMENT: USF’s Student Employment program is not only a practical way for you to earn money to contribute toward your educational expenses, it also gives you the opportunity to gain valuable work experience, time-management skills, and, in some situations, provide vital support to local nonprofits. The Student Employment Office partners with employers on and off campus to provide a wide range of job opportunities. Visit myusf.usfca.edu/student-employment.

VETERANS BENEFITS: If you are planning to use veterans’ benefits to help pay for your degree, please contact our Veterans Enrollment Services Center by email at veterans@usfca.edu.

529 COLLEGE SAVINGS PLANS: USF accepts 529 withdrawals to pay for tuition, books, and other qualified educational expenses.

ACCEPTING YOUR FINANCIAL AID OFFER

Here’s what you need to do next:

- If you haven’t already, accept your admission by taking the required steps to enroll, including sending the required deposit to the Office of Admission.
- Use the myUSF portal to review and accept your financial aid offer online.
- If you are accepting federal student loans, complete and submit the Entrance Loan Counseling and Master Promissory Note for Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loans at www.studentaid.gov for timely disbursement.

COMPLETING APPLICATION/AID REQUIREMENTS

In some instances, “expected aid” doesn’t become “actual aid” until specific documents are completed and submitted to USF or to other grant or lending agencies. These include:

1. Verification: If you are selected by the US Department of Education or the California Student Aid Commission for verification, the procedures and documents involved must be completed before any federal, state, or university need-based funds become actual aid. The Office of Financial Aid will guide you through this process.
2. Noncitizens: Students who aren’t US citizens must provide proof of their eligible noncitizen status (for example, an alien registration card or other documents designated by the Office of Financial Aid) before they can receive federal funds.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES TO MAINTAIN YOUR AID

ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENT: To be eligible for most financial aid, you must be enrolled at USF at least half-time. To retain your aid, you must maintain satisfactory academic progress (SAP) as defined for federal student aid and as described in USF’s SAP policy. Cal Grant funding is limited to four academic years. In order to graduate in four years, you must complete 16 or more units per semester.

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS: Our SAP policy is designed to ensure that you are making adequate progress toward completing your degree program with a goal of graduating in four years. Financial aid recipients must maintain a cumulative 2.0 GPA and successfully complete 67 percent of semester credits enrolled in and attempted. Academic progress is monitored at the end of each spring semester. More detailed information can be found at myusf.usfca.edu/financial-aid/sap.

RECONSIDERATION OF AID

Some students and their families experience unique circumstances that affect their ability to pay their college costs. Families facing severe financial problems due to job loss, death of a parent, or loss of business income should contact the Office of Financial Aid for a review of their financial aid eligibility. You’ll need to provide documentation of your circumstances (for example, a letter of termination from an employer, or tax statements showing reduced personal or business income). A request submitted without documentation will not be reviewed. Visit myusf.usfca.edu/financial-aid/financial-aid-appeals.

RENEWING YOUR AID IN FUTURE YEARS

Because USF offers federal need-based financial aid as well as our own scholarships and grants, students are required to reapply for assistance each year via the FAFSA/CADAA. This allows us to assess your family’s financial need based on the most current income information available. As a result, your aid may increase or decrease each year.

To renew your financial aid, you must complete the following forms by March 1 each year:

- DOMESTIC STUDENTS: The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is required for all US citizens and permanent residents who are applying for federal student aid.
THE VALUE OF A USF EDUCATION

TOP

FOR SOCIAL MOBILITY 1 in 3 USF graduates are the first in their family to earn a degree

FOR LIFETIME EARNINGS Our alumni rank in the top 6 percent of four-year universities nationwide for lifetime earnings

2,000 Internship listings to choose from each month in and around San Francisco

80% Of undergrads land at least two internships while at USF

$78,000 Median annual income for USF grads — 60% higher than the national midpoint

USF GRADS MANAGE STUDENT DEBT WELL

USF students typically borrow at lower rates and have a lower loan balance at graduation than other new grads nationally, which means they are well-positioned to pay back student loans.

Share of students who borrow
USF Undergrads 58%
Nationwide 64%

Average loan debt at graduation
USF Undergrads $23,250
Nationwide $29,927

Loan default rate
USF Undergrads 1.5%
Nationwide 7.3%

MEDIAN STARTING MONTHLY SALARIES BY MAJOR

Source: 2022 federal College Scorecard median monthly earnings two years after graduation

ACCOUNTING $5,339
ARCHITECTURE $4,607
BUSINESS ADM. $4,550
COMPUTER SCIENCE $6,066
FINANCE $5,085
HOSPITALITY $4,342
INTL BUSINESS $4,186
MARKETING $4,129
NURSING $8,358
PR/ADVERTISING $3,938

DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS

CONFIDENTIALITY POLICY
We hold in strict confidence any sensitive financial information that families share with us as they apply for financial aid, and we use that information only for its intended purpose. All electronic and physical records are protected to prevent unauthorized access and ensure safe storage and disposal when no longer needed. No information is shared with anyone other than students and their immediate family. Organizations outside of USF must obtain permission from the student and provide a signed release before receiving aid records.

GENERAL COLLEGE INFORMATION
The University of San Francisco admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin, sex, and age to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at USF. It does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin, sex, or age in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarships and loan programs, or other programs administered by USF.

NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER FERPA
The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) gives eligible students specific rights to protect the privacy of their education records. You can find a full description on the USF website. Any complaints may be sent to: Student Privacy Policy Office, US Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202.