

Financial Aid Guidelines



William James College is dedicated to assisting students in achieving their professional and career goals. Last year, William James College awarded just over \$6.3 million to students in the form of scholarships, grants, on-campus employment and teaching assistantships. William James College is also a proud participant in the Veteran's Administration Yellow Ribbon program and provides matching grant assistance to eligible Veterans. William James College is a participant in the Federal Direct Student Loan Program.

The fundamental principal of financial aid is that a student's first resource to meet educational expenses must be his or her own earning capacity and assets. William James College will make every attempt to bridge the gap between personal resources and program expenses.

Our staff is ready to assist you with all aspects of the financial aid process, including application processing, budget preparation, and management of educational loans. For questions, or to schedule an appointment, please email <code>financialaid@williamjames.edu</code>.

Institutional Scholarships

William James College offers **merit-based scholarships**. All William James applicants will be considered for a merit-based scholarship by the Admissions Committee based upon your application materials and your admissions interview. You will be notified of any merit-based scholarships on your offer of admission.

Scholarships are renewable each year (up to four years maximum) provided that you remain in good academic and financial standing and continue to make Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). Aside from the merit-based scholarships awarded by the departments, we also have the following awards—please see our website for more details.

For Graduate Students

In this economic environment many of our students have to borrow from the federal government to fund their education. We are pleased to report that William James College's 3-year cohort default rate is 0.0%, while the national average is 2.3%. We believe that this is a result of our students finding satisfaction in their employment after graduating, which gives them the ability to repay their loans.

Scholarships for Incoming and Enrolled Students

- Behavioral Health Initiative Scholarship
- Cynthia Lucero Scholarship
- HRSA-SDS Scholarship funded Leaders in Diversity and Resilience (LDR) Fellowship Program (Clinical Mental Health Counseling students)
- Mental Health Services Professional (MHSP) Fellowship
- Serving the Mental Health Needs of the Underserved Scholarship
- Specialized Training & Academic Retention (STAR)
 Fellowship Program (Clinical Psychology PsyD students

William James Scholarship Funds

The following friends and alumni of William James College have generously offered scholarship funds for the purpose of promoting increased educational opportunities for deserving students:

- Dubinsky Family Endowed Scholarship
- John D. Robinson Scholarship
- Kate Inglis Scholarship
- · Leota Long Janke Scholarship
- Margaret Gorman Scholarship
- · Marilyn R. and Edmund U. Cohler Scholarship
- Sophie and Norbett Mintz Scholarship

Federal Student Aid Programs

The Federal student aid programs available to graduate students at William James College include the **Direct Stafford Loan Program** and the **Federal Work Study Program**. To be eligible for Stafford loans, a student must be enrolled at least ½ time (as determined by the program) and making Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) toward a degree.

For "credit-worthy" students there is the **Federal Graduate PLUS Loan Program**. To be eligible for this program a credit check will be performed. As with the Stafford Loan Program you must be enrolled at least ½ time and making SAP toward a degree. It is a good idea to check your credit report(s) prior to attending to ensure that there will not be a hold up on your application.

The Stafford and the GradPLUS are loans and go into repayment after a six month grace period (interest continues to accrue) upon graduation or dropping below ½ time enrollment. The federal government offers various loan repayment programs which can be reviewed online at www.studentaid.gov.

As of July 2023, the current **interest rate** for the Stafford loan is 7.05% and for the GradPLUS, the rate is 8.05%. An origination fee will be deducted by the federal government prior to disbursement. The Stafford loan **origination fee** is 1.057% and for the Graduate PLUS loan it is 4.228%. These rates and fees will be reviewed annually by the Department of Education.

In addition to borrowing to cover tuition and fees, federal student loans may be utilized to cover reasonable cost of living expenses.

Stafford Loan Limits:

Leadership PsyD, School PsyD and **MA Programs**-\$20,500 per academic year. **Clinical PsyD Program**-\$33,000 per academic year.

GradPLUS Limits:

All Programs–Up to the Cost of Attendance (COA) as determined by William James College less other financial aid awarded for the same enrollment period.

Employment Opportunities

Employment opportunities exist under the **Federal Work Study Program** with a limited number of part-time opportunities available in library services, information technology and administration. There are also institutionally funded teaching assistantships available to all students, but positions are limited.

Job postings are announced to the student body as they become available. Positions funded by the Federal Work Study Program will be offered contingent upon financial need as demonstrated by the FAFSA. Average compensation is typically up to \$7,500 per year. Please look at the Student Employment section under Financial Aid on our website.

Military Benefits

William James College would like to thank all Veterans for their service.

William James College's Certifying Official for Educational Benefits is Debra Boyce (debra_boyce@williamjames.edu, 617-564-9334).

Post 9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33) payment rate for private schools is currently \$27,120.05 (subject to change 8/1/24).

William James College is proud to be a Yellow Ribbon School. For more information on Yellow Ribbon benefits, please visit: www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/yellow_ribbon.asp.

The following are VA forms which need to be filled out if applying for educational benefits:

- Service members: Form 22-1990
- · Survivors and Dependents: Form 22-5490
- Dependents applying for CH33: Form 22-1990e

For Federal G.I. Bill benefit eligibility, application and payment information, please visit:

US Department of Veteran Affair Buffalo Regional Processing Office 1-888-GIBill1 (1-888-442-4551) www.gibill.va.gov

Alternative Private Loans

William James College also offers a variety of private and alternative loan providers. If interested in this option, please apply online: www.elmselect.com.

Financial Aid for International Students

International students are eligible for William James College Merit Scholarships. They are generally not eligible for federal loans, but may apply for a private loan, which typically requires a credit-approved U.S. Citizen as an endorser. Students are strongly encouraged to compare and understand all repayment terms before applying for and accepting a private loan. If interested, visit our alternative loan processing partner **ELM Resources** at **www.elmselect.com**. Please contact the William James College Financial Aid Office for assistance with these programs.

Your costs could be different depending on the number of credits you will be taking.

Direct expenses are the actual expenses for tuition and fees billed by William James College. Actual tuition costs are based upon the number of credit hours for which you enroll. Indirect expenses are the customary expenses likely to be incurred while you are attending William James College. These expenses include textbooks, housing, transportation, meals and medical expenses. The 2023-2024 living expense allowance for the Boston area for 9-months is \$23,508. Your offer of financial assistance will include an allowance for these indirect expenses. Your lifestyle will greatly impact your actual indirect expenses.

Please note that Massachusetts currently requires all students attending an institution of higher learning at least ¾ time within the state have health insurance coverage. Unless a student completes a waiver of health insurance coverage, they will be automatically enrolled and billed for the school sponsored health insurance program. The waiver site will be posted in June.

BUDGET WISELY!

How to Apply for Financial Aid

To apply for a Stafford Loan

- 1. You may file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) using tax information from your completed 2022 Federal Income Tax return. Your FAFSA can be filed by logging onto www.studentaid.gov. Filing a FAFSA will determine your eligibility for the federal loan programs and your expected ability to pay for your education. When you list William James College as one of the schools to receive the results of your FAFSA, we will receive the results directly from the Department of Education. Our school code is G21636.
- 2. Complete an "Entrance Counseling Session." This can be done online at www.studentaid.gov. During this information session you will learn about the rights and responsibilities of being a student borrower.
- 3. Complete a **Master Promissory Note** (MPN) for the Stafford Loan. This can be done online at www.studentaid.gov. The **MPN** is your legal document promising to pay within terms.

To apply for an employment opportunity

- 1. File your FAFSA (step#1 above) and indicate that you're interested in federal work-study. If you're eligible, we'll include it in your budget.
- Employment opportunities will be posted on CareerLink and will be sent out to students as positions become available. You can then apply through the financial aid office once classes begin.

To apply for a GradPLUS Loan

If you require funding beyond what is allowed under the limits of the Stafford Loan program, you may apply for additional funds under the GradPLUS program.

- 1. You must have filed your FAFSA and borrowed the maximum under the Stafford Loan program
- 2. Complete the application for the GradPLUS Loan online at www.studentaid.gov.
- 3. Complete the Master Promissory Note for the GradPLUS Loan on www.studentaid.gov.

Because this program requires a current credit check, you may not apply more than 90 days prior to the start of classes. You will apply online at www.studentloans.gov where you will agree to a credit check and fill out the Master Promissory Note (MPN) and the application for the GradPLUS loan.

Frequently Asked Questions

How will merit scholarships be awarded?

Merit scholarships will be awarded by the admissions team which includes both faculty and directors from the program to which you are applying. You will be notified of any merit scholarships in your offer of admission.

Do I need to send William James College the results of the FAFSA?

No, as long as you have put William James College as one of the schools to receive the information, we will receive the results directly from the Department of Education. For this purpose, our school code is G21636.

Do I need to wait for an offer of admission to apply for financial aid?

No, you are strongly encouraged to submit your FAFSA as soon as possible.

What if my taxes are not completed or if I don't file an income tax return?

You'll be required to put in prior-prior year tax information. Therefore, if you're filing a FAFSA for 2024-2025, you'll use your 2022 tax information. If you don't file taxes, you'll indicate this on your FAFSA.

What happens after I complete the necessary applications?

We will forward an award letter to all applicants following an offer of admission provided that we have received the results of the FAFSA.

What about living expenses?

Financial aid, including federal student loans, may be used to cover reasonable living expenses such as housing, transportation, utilities, meals, textbooks, and medical expenses. The maximum limits for these expenses are based on annual research done by the College Board for the Boston area.

When are funds disbursed?

Provided your application for aid is complete and we have all of your required documents, your requested loan amounts will be disbursed in equal disbursements over the enrollment period. Students attending the fall and spring semesters will receive half of their loan disbursement after the add/drop in the fall, and the other half after the add/drop in the spring.

How do I receive my funds?

Because the primary purpose of financial aid is to cover tuition and fees, all financial aid is paid directly to the school and credited to your student account. This includes loans and scholarships. If, after tuition and fees are paid, a credit balance exists, you will be refunded shortly after add-drop period. Funds will be refunded according to your elected choice. William James College has partnered with Nelnet, formerly Tuition Management Systems (TMS) and on their web site mycollegepaymentplan.com/wjc, you can elect to receive your funds through direct deposit (the preferred method) or check.

Can my financial aid be used to pay my enrollment deposit?

No, you are required to remit payment of your deposit using a personal check or credit card. Your deposit is credited to your student account as a payment towards your first semester costs.

Where can I find the costs of attendance for my program of interest?

Please go to williamjames.edu, click on Admissions and then on Tuition and Fees.

