Making Education More Affordable As an Adult Education Student

Like most students, you’re probably thinking about where you’ll get the money to pay for your tuition. There are lots of ways that Alvernia University makes your tuition more affordable, including our tuition payment plan, a variety of financial aid options and the tuition reimbursement program. The Office of Student Financial Planning at Alvernia can help you search for opportunities that will make your education affordable.

APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID

At Alvernia, applying for financial aid is easy. We encourage you to apply, even if you feel you may not be eligible for assistance. The following guidelines should help you complete the financial aid process.

STEP 1: Apply for admission to Alvernia University. Both the admissions and financial aid applications should be submitted as early as possible. Don’t wait to apply for financial aid until you receive an admissions decision. In order to receive a financial aid offer, you must be accepted for admission.

STEP 2: As soon as possible after October 1, you should complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which can be submitted online at www.fafsa.gov. Adult Education students who are Pennsylvania residents should file the FAFSA before the May 1 state grant deadline. Be sure to list Alvernia University as one of the schools that will receive your information. Our school code is 003233. Your information will be processed and forwarded to Alvernia within approximately two weeks.

STEP 3: A financial aid package is prepared and mailed only when your FAFSA has been received, you have been accepted to Alvernia University and you are registered for classes. If you have any questions after you have reviewed your package, please contact our Office of Student Financial Planning for assistance.

STEP 4: If you are a Pennsylvania resident, you may be eligible for the state grant program. Your FAFSA application will serve as the initial application for state grant eligibility, and your FAFSA must be processed by May 1 to be considered for the award in the next academic year. If you are transferring to Alvernia University from another institution, please let the state know by logging onto your Account Access at www.PHEAA.org or by calling at 800-692-7392. Please respond to any requests from PHEAA (Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency) as soon as possible.

STEP 5: In addition to grants that may be included in your award package, you may see student loan options as well. Complete any loan applications as early as possible. The Federal Stafford Loan Master Promissory Note and Entrance Counseling can be completed at www.studentloans.gov.

STEP 6: Respond immediately to requests for information such as income or tax documentation. Missing information may delay your financial aid processing.

HOW TO FINANCE YOUR EDUCATION

GRANT PROGRAMS

Federal Pell Grant:
Pell Grants are awarded to undergraduate students who have not earned a bachelor's degree and who have financial need. The amount will depend on your cost of attendance, expected family contribution as determined by the FAFSA and your enrollment status. The maximum amount of the award can change yearly. Modules 1 & 2 are considered the fall semester, modules 3 & 4 are considered the spring semester and modules 5 & 6 are considered the summer semester. Students may be awarded Pell for up to 600% or the equivalent of 12 full-time semesters.

Pennsylvania State Grant:
The Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) offers grants to undergraduates (over 18) who are enrolled at least half-time for the semester and have established residency for at least 12 months prior to the date of application. Parents must meet domicile requirements for students under 18. The state grant application deadline is May 1 for the following academic year. State grant eligibility is limited to four semesters for associate degree programs and eight semesters for bachelor degree programs. Registration in one module only is insufficient for state grant eligibility. Taking blended PLUS and/or online courses may result in being ineligible for the PA State Grant. Please see your course description for blended and online information. A separate application is required by PHEAA to apply for the summer term. Summer applications and more information on academic progress and other policies may be found online at www.pheaa.org.

LOAN OPTIONS

Direct Federal Stafford Loans:
Direct Stafford Loans are federally regulated funds borrowed from the U.S. Department of Education. Students must file the FAFSA to determine eligibility each academic year and must be enrolled at least half-time per semester.

Direct Subsidized Loans are for students with financial need. Students are not charged interest while attending school at least half-time. Direct Unsubsidized Loans do not require students to demonstrate financial need. Interest accrues on this loan from the first disbursement paid to the institution. Students who choose not to pay interest while in school may allow it to accrue and capitalize.

Direct Loans are subject to a 1%-2% origination fee. The interest rate on the Federal Loans is determined by federal law each year by July 1. Please see more information about federal Stafford loans, interest rates and aggregate limits at www.studentloans.gov.
For Adult Education students who are still considered dependent as defined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), Federal PLUS Loans are available. For more information on this Federal Loan program, please contact the Office of Student Financial Planning.

**Aggregate Loans:**
Students may borrow up to a certain amount of federal loan funds during their education. Please check your federal loan debt and your federal loan aggregate limits under “My Financial Aid History” at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov).

**Alternative or Private Loans:**
Alternative or private loans are not federal student loans. They are consumer loans created by lenders to help students if federal loans are not enough to cover college expenses. The credit requirements vary by individual lenders and most often require a creditworthy co-borrower. Please see [www.alvernia.edu/financialaid/lenders.html](http://www.alvernia.edu/financialaid/lenders.html) for a recommended lender list and for more information.

**Payment Plans:**
The Student Billing Office offers a monthly payment plan option. Please contact the Student Billing Office at student.billing@alvernia.edu or at 610-796-8319 for more information.

### 2016-2017 COSTS

As you compare Alvernia University to other schools, keep in mind that all colleges and universities are not equal when it comes to pricing. Be sure to compare all costs — not just tuition — when you make your decision about where to earn your degree. At other schools, you may encounter “hidden fees” such as lab fees, computer service fees, library fees and more. Tuition at Alvernia University is assessed on a per-credit-hour basis.

**Adult Education Student**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuition*</th>
<th>$520/credit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Fee</td>
<td>2% of tuition</td>
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**Technology Fees**

| Web-Enhanced | $20/credit |
| Blended | $30/credit |
| Online | $40/credit |

*If your program is fully online, check the Alvernia website at [http://online.alvernia.edu/tuition-financial-aid/](http://online.alvernia.edu/tuition-financial-aid/) for more information on tuition and fees

**Tuition Reimbursement:**
Alvernia University offers students who will be receiving tuition reimbursement from their employer the opportunity to pay their tuition after they have completed their courses. To be eligible you must complete a tuition reimbursement form for each semester that you are enrolled and submit it to the Student Billing Office. Forms are available online at [http://www.alvernia.edu/current-students/forms.html](http://www.alvernia.edu/current-students/forms.html).

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Office of Student Financial Planning  
Phone: 1.888.ALVERNIA, ext. 8356 (1.888.258.3764/610.796.8356)  
financialaid@alvernia.edu