Student Aid Recipients
Regulations require that recipients of federal, state, and institutional student aid programs must meet requirements for admission, enrollment, and satisfactory academic progress (SAP).

Admission
All admission requirements must be complete before you can receive financial aid funds. In addition, you must be a degree-seeking student enrolled in an aid-eligible program.
- Students with an incomplete, provisional, temporary, special, non-degree-seeking or visiting student admission status are not eligible financial aid funds.
- Most UALR certificate programs are not aid-eligible programs.

Financial Need
A student applying for federal financial aid, as well as some sources of assistance from the state of Arkansas, must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). FAFSA results are used to determine financial need.

Financial Need Calculation
Financial need is the difference in a student’s Cost of Attendance and Expected Family Contribution:

\[
\text{COST OF ATTENDANCE} - \text{EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION} = \text{FINANCIAL NEED}
\]

Cost of Attendance
A student’s Cost of Attendance is an estimate of the student’s educational expenses for the period of enrollment, and includes the following components: Tuition and fees, books and supplies, room and board, transportation and personal expenses. The UALR Cost of Attendance is based on average expenses for students with similar academic workload and living arrangements, rather than actual expenses.

Expected Family Contribution
The Expected Family Contribution (EFC) is the result of the information you report on the FAFSA, and is calculated according to a formula established by federal law. Your family’s income (taxable and untaxed) and assets are considered in determining your EFC. Your family size and the number of family members who are attending a college at least half-time also are considered.

Overawards
- For students applying for need-based funds, the total amount of all sources of aid cannot exceed financial need, or an overaward occurs. Need-based financial aid programs include federal grants, federal work study, and the subsidized direct student loan program.
- Even if a student has no need-based awards, the total amount aid received from all sources cannot exceed the student’s Cost of Attendance, or an overaward occurs.
- An overaward requires federal, state, and/or institutional aid to be reduced. You must notify UALR Financial Aid of any assistance you expect to receive that is not listed in your Award Information.

Enrollment and Financial Aid Awards
- If a student is enrolled (registered) in classes when federal financial aid funds are awarded, then award amounts are based on the actual number of hours enrolled.
- If a student is not enrolled when federal financial aid funds are awarded, then awards are made with the assumption that the student will enroll full-time at UALR. Once a student has completed the enrollment process, federal and state financial aid awards will be adjusted based on actual enrolled hours.
- Part-time students are eligible for some types of aid. The dollar amount awarded and paid to the student will depend upon the number of hours enrolled. Most Title IV federal financial aid programs require a minimum of half-time enrollment. Some programs require full-time enrollment.

Enrollment and Financial Aid Disbursement
Financial aid funds are credited to the student’s UALR student account at the beginning of each semester (term), or when the student begins class attendance, whichever is later.

Final eligibility for federal financial aid awards is based on the number of hours enrolled as of the term census date. The census date varies according to the type of aid the student is receiving and the part(s) of term in which the student is enrolled.
For students enrolled in at least one hour in the 16-week semester for the regular fall and spring terms, the student's enrollment for federal financial aid purposes is based on the student's enrolled hours as of the end of the schedule adjustment period on the 5th class day.

Students enrolled in a 5-week, 8-week or 10-week part of term for either the fall or spring semester may be subject to the adjustment of financial aid funds throughout the term.

Final eligibility for ADHE financial aid awards is based on the number of hours enrolled as of the end of the 11th class day for the fall or spring term.

The 11th class day enrollment requirement for ADHE awards is based on the 11th day of the 16-week semester and applies regardless of the part or parts of term in which a student is enrolled.

Financial Aid eligibility in the summer term varies throughout the semester. The final date of financial aid adjustment is based on the part(s) of term in which the student is enrolled.

Financial Aid Enrollment Hours

Hours taken for Audit, College Level Examinations Programs (CLEP), Department Credit, Proficiency Examination Program, or Advanced Placement are not counted when determining enrollment for financial aid purposes.

Repeat Coursework: Federal financial aid will pay for a previously passed course to be repeated only once.

You must be enrolled at least half-time to receive federal loan funds. Dropping below half-time status after receiving loan funds may cancel eligibility for future loan disbursements.

Students who are enrolled in coursework at a different level (for example, graduate students enrolled in undergraduate coursework), must document that the coursework is a requirement for their degree program. If the classes are not a requirement for the student’s program, the enrollment will not be counted for financial aid eligibility.

Drops and Withdrawals

Consult the Office of Financial Aid before you drop or withdraw from classes. Different types of financial aid programs have different requirements. You should understand how a change in enrollment could impact each of your financial aid awards before you make your decision.

The Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy requires that you make academic progress to receive financial aid. Dropping classes or withdrawing from the semester may prohibit you from receiving financial aid in future semesters, may result in a repayment owed to UALR and/or may exhaust your financial aid eligibility before you are able to graduate and earn your degree.

Review UALR’s Return of Title IV Funds Policy, to better understand if withdrawing from the semester may cause you to owe a repayment of federal funds.

If you are a student loan recipient, you are also required to complete loan exit counseling when you graduate or complete your program of study, withdraw from the semester, or drop to less than half-time enrollment.

Student Success

We want you to be successful. If you encounter difficulties, it's important that you let us know. Many support services across campus such as academic advising, personal counseling, health services, and tutoring work together to assist you in being academically successful. Remember: if you need help, please ask.

Your Privacy

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education.

Policies and procedures regarding student records are published in the UALR Student Handbook.

We cannot discuss your financial aid record with anyone other than you without your written permission.

Campus Safety Summary

Campus security and safety are of paramount importance in UALR's ability to accomplish its mission to extend higher education opportunities.


Contact Us

The UALR Office of Financial Aid is located in the Charles W. Donaldson Student Services Center, Room 219, on the UALR main campus.

Email: financialaid@ualr.edu
Telephone: 501.569.3035
FAX: 501.569.8956