



## **Financial Aid Guide for Undergraduate Students 2019-2020**

Office of Student Financial Aid

Located in Student Administrative Services (SAS)

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(Summer hours will vary slightly. Please see our web page during the summer for up-to-date hours.)

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*Updated 11/27/2018*

## FINANCIAL AID GUIDE

Goucher College recognizes the importance of offering financial aid to students who demonstrate financial need. To that end, we offer various types of financial support to assist families with tuition, fees, and living expenses. The Office of Student Financial Aid seeks to bridge the gap between the cost of attending Goucher College and the family's resources.

This guide contains information regarding the financial aid process and programs, including eligibility requirements, a description of the various aid programs, information on financial aid adjustments and the disbursement process, as well as alternative financing options. This guide does not represent all policies regarding financial aid at Goucher College. For additional information, visit Goucher's financial aid website at [www.goucher.edu/financialaid](http://www.goucher.edu/financialaid). Contact the Office of Student Financial Aid if further assistance is needed. The financial aid staff is available to assist students on an individual basis. No appointment is necessary. However, to ensure staff availability, we recommend that you e-mail [finaid@goucher.edu](mailto:finaid@goucher.edu) prior to your planned arrival to ensure staff availability.

## DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY FOR AID

### COST OF ATTENDANCE

The cost of attendance (COA) is an estimate of the expenses incurred by students during the nine-month academic year (fall and spring). The cost of attendance includes direct institutional charges (tuition, fees, and on campus room and board) and estimates of *indirect* expenses (transportation, books, supplies, miscellaneous living expenses, off campus room and board, and loan fees). The cost of attendance is a tool used to help determine an applicant's eligibility for need-based aid.

### EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION (EFC)

The data provided on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is analyzed according to federal formulas to determine the expected family contribution (EFC). The EFC is most often comprised of a student and parent contribution. The EFC is a measure of the financial strength of a family. It provides an estimate of the amount your family is expected to contribute toward educational expenses for the academic year.

On occasion, families experience circumstances that warrant basing their financial aid eligibility on their projected income information rather than the federally required 2017 income information. This is usually due to the loss of a job, untaxed income benefits, death or other unusual expenses. If you feel that you have extenuating circumstances not addressed on your 2019-2020 FAFSA, you may complete a Professional Judgment Request (found on [our website under Financial Aid Forms](#)) and submit the required documentation to request a reevaluation of your financial aid eligibility.

### FINANCIAL NEED

Financial need is the difference between the cost of attendance (COA) and the expected family contribution (EFC).

Goucher offers need-based aid to students with demonstrated financial need. According to federal guidelines, your total financial assistance (including outside resources) cannot exceed the COA. Need-based aid may include Federal Work-Study, Federal Direct student loans (subsidized or unsubsidized), and need-based grants or scholarships (from federal/state government or institutional sources). Outside financial resources may include tuition remission, employer tuition benefits, private outside scholarships, veterans educational benefits, or other kinds of private/federal/state sources.

Goucher is not always able provide enough financial assistance to meet every student's full financial need. All students who complete the FAFSA and meet eligibility requirements are able to borrow an Unsubsidized Federal Direct Student loan (not need-based). In addition, students may consider other financing options such as a Private Educational loan or payment plan to assist with the cost of a Goucher education. For information on the payment plan option, please visit the web page for our Billing Office at <http://www.goucher.edu/billing>.

## THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Goucher recommends that all students who wish to be considered for financial assistance to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by the priority filing deadline (see chart below). Please note that if a student only wishes to accept their merit aid, then we can waive the FAFSA. Please e-mail our office if this applies to you. ([finaid@goucher.edu](mailto:finaid@goucher.edu))

File the FAFSA online at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). Goucher’s Federal code is 002073. The FAFSA is for federal, state, and institutional aid consideration. **Maryland applicants must submit the FAFSA by March 1<sup>st</sup> every year. If you are meeting Goucher’s deadlines, then you are also meeting the Maryland deadline.**

Some students may be required to submit additional documents such as an IRS Tax Transcript, citizenship documents, etc. Prospective students who have not yet deposited can review financial aid needs in the Admissions and Financial Aid Status Portal: <https://apply.goucher.edu/account>. Returning and expected students can track the status of required documents in Goucher’s financial aid system (called Net Partner) at [www.goucher.edu/net-partner/](http://www.goucher.edu/net-partner/).

### Undergraduate Students Priority Filing Deadline Chart

Entrance Plan	Financial Aid Application Due	Award Notification Date	Deposit Due
Spring Admit	Rolling	Rolling	Rolling
Early Decision (Binding)	November 15	Late December	Jan. 15
Early Action or Goucher Video App [GVA] (Non-Binding)	December 1	Early/Mid-March	May 1
Regular Decision (Non-Binding)	January 15	Early April	May 1
Fall Transfer	May 1	Rolling	Rolling
Returning	March 1 for FAFSA May 15 <sup>th</sup> for any additional documents	Late June	Apr. 1

### Note on the Timing of Notifications for New/Prospective Students

Depending on the specific timing of your Admissions application and completion of your FAFSA, you may receive your Admissions notification letter first, and then receive your full financial aid package from our office approximately 2 weeks after.

## FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

### NEED-BASED GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

**Please note that the availability of federal funds is based on appropriations from Congress and is subject to change.**

Grants and scholarships are available through federal, state, institutional, and private programs. Grants and scholarships typically do not have to be repaid.

#### FEDERAL PELL GRANT

The Federal Pell Grant is a need-based grant available from the federal government to undergraduate students with exceptional need. Students may be enrolled full or part-time. Eligibility for the Federal Pell Grant is determined by a strict federal formula and is awarded to students with lowest EFC. The maximum amount for the Federal Pell Grant for 2018-2019 is \$6,095 (2019-2020 amount to be set by Congress shortly). The amount of Federal Pell Grant funds you may receive over your lifetime is limited to be the equivalent of six years of Federal Pell Grant funding.

#### FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY GRANT (FSEOG)

The FSEOG is awarded to undergraduate students with exceptional financial need. Priority is given to Federal Pell Grant recipients who have met the priority filing deadline and have the lowest EFC. FSEOG awards are awarded up to \$1000 depending on campus-based fund availability and financial need.

#### FEDERAL TEACH GRANT PROGRAM

Current students, former teachers, or retirees enrolled in a Federal TEACH Grant eligible program may be eligible to receive the Federal TEACH Grant. Post-baccalaureate teacher credential programs are also eligible. Students must be completing, or intend to complete coursework necessary to begin a career in teaching. All applicants must complete initial counseling and sign an "Agreement to Serve," which specifies that you must teach in a high-need field within a low-income location for at least four within the first eight years after graduating. Failure to fulfill the "Agreement to Serve" will result in Federal TEACH Grant funds being converted to Unsubsidized Federal Direct loans. A grade point average of 3.25 or qualifying scores on a national standardized admissions test is required to receive the Federal TEACH Grant. Grants of up to \$3,736 are awarded. The TEACH Grant is prorated for part-time enrollment.

#### GOUCHER GRANT

The Goucher Grant is a need-based grant awarded to undergraduate students with demonstrated financial need. Full-time enrollment is required to receive a Goucher Grant. The grant is limited to eight semesters.

#### MARYLAND STATE SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

The Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) offers and administers a variety of state scholarships and grants. To be considered for need-based Maryland aid, students must be Maryland

residents and must submit the FAFSA by March 1. MHEC also awards merit-based scholarships. For more information, visit [www.mhec.state.md.us](http://www.mhec.state.md.us).

#### OTHER STATE SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

Some states provide state funding for residents who attend an out of state school. Students who are not Maryland residents should check with the higher education agency for their state of residence for eligibility requirements.

#### **GOUCHER COLLEGE MERIT-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS**

All students admitted to Goucher, who submitted a high school transcript, are automatically considered for a merit scholarship. The selection process for these scholarships is competitive and is based on academic performance, with awards going to high-achieving students. Goucher students must maintain good academic standing and (if applicable), the GPA mentioned in their admissions acceptance letter to maintain a scholarship; scholarships are renewable and awarded for up to eight semesters.

Financial need is not a factor in determining eligibility for merit-based awards. However, merit-based awards are counted as a resource when need-based aid (including institutional grant) eligibility is determined. Students who *only* wish to be considered for merit-based scholarships do not need to complete the FAFSA. More information about Goucher College merit-based scholarships can be found on the web at [www.goucher.edu/admissions](http://www.goucher.edu/admissions).

#### **STUDENT LOAN PROGRAMS**

Loans are available to students and parents. Loans must be repaid.

#### FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN PROGRAMS

Federal Direct Loans are made available to students through Goucher College regardless of financial need. Students must file the FAFSA and enroll as degree-seeking students with at least six credits per semester. Students who demonstrate financial need are eligible for a Subsidized Federal Direct Loan. Students who do not demonstrate need are eligible for an Unsubsidized Federal Direct Loan. First time borrowers are required to complete Entrance Loan Counseling and a Master Promissory Note. Both must be completed online at [studentloans.gov](http://studentloans.gov). A loan fee (subject to change by Congress) is deducted from the loan prior to disbursement. Current information on loan fees may be found at <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/loans/interest-rates>.

#### SUBSIDIZED FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN

Interest is paid by the federal government while the student is enrolled on at least a half-time basis and during deferment. Repayment begins six months after the student graduates, leaves school, or falls below half-time status (6 credits). The standard repayment period is 10 years. Visit <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/loans/interest-rates> for the current interest rates.

Beginning with new Direct Loan borrowers on or after July 1, 2013, a student may only receive a subsidized loan for 150% of the published length of the academic program enrolled.

**UNSUBSIDIZED FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN**

The student is responsible for the interest from the date of disbursement. The interest payments can be deferred while the student is in school. Repayment begins 6 months after the student graduates, leaves school or falls below half-time status (6 credits). The standard repayment period is 10 years. Visit <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/loans/interest-rates> for the current interest rates.

**ANNUAL BORROWING LIMITS FOR DEPENDENT STUDENTS**

	Subsidized and Unsubsidized Grade Level Maximum
Freshman (0-26 credits)	\$ 5,500
Sophomore (27-56 credits)	\$ 6,500
Junior/Senior (57+ credits)	\$ 7,500

An additional Unsubsidized Federal Direct loan is available to dependent students whose parent applies for a Federal Direct PLUS and is denied. For freshmen and sophomores the additional amount is \$4,000 per year; \$5,000 per year for juniors and seniors.

**ANNUAL BORROWING LIMITS FOR INDEPENDENT STUDENTS**

<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Subsidized Maximum</u>	<u>Subsidized and Unsubsidized Combined Maximum</u>
Freshman	\$3,500	\$ 9,500
Sophomore	\$4,500	\$10,500
Junior/Senior	\$5,500	\$12,500

**LIFETIME BORROWING LIMITS: MAXIMUM**

	Subsidized and Unsubsidized Combined Maximum
Dependent	\$31,000
Independent	\$57,500

### Tips on Borrowing

Your award notification lists the maximum amount you are eligible to borrow. Borrow only what you need to cover your educational and living expenses for the academic year. If you choose to borrow less than the amount you are offered, you must notify the Office of Student Financial Aid, in writing, of the amount you wish to borrow.

Please remember to:

- Set a realistic budget and stick to it.
- Exhaust all alternatives before borrowing.
- Borrow what you need for the year, not the semester.
- Understand your rights and responsibilities as a loan borrower.
- Keep records of all correspondence with your loan servicer.
- Contact your loan servicer about your options if you cannot make a payment.

## **STUDENT WORK OPPORTUNITIES**

### FEDERAL WORK-STUDY (FWS)

FWS provides students with the opportunity to earn wages through on-campus and off-campus employment. An FWS award represents the maximum amount a student may earn during the academic year. The maximum FWS award is \$2,000. For consideration, students must meet the priority filing deadline. FWS award amounts are NOT deducted from the student's bill. Instead, students receive biweekly paychecks for hours worked. Earnings do not have to be repaid but they are considered taxable.

Hourly wages begin at minimum wage (\$10.10 per hour effective 7/1/2018). Students typically work between 8 and 10 hours per week although students are permitted to work up to 20 hours per week during the academic year. There are some limits on the number and type of job students can work.

Jobs are not assigned to students and on-campus positions are limited, thus Goucher does not guarantee jobs on campus. Students are encouraged to attend the annual Student Job Fair held at the beginning of the fall semester to assist with finding employment opportunities. For additional information about on-campus jobs, visit the web page for the Career Education Office (CEO): <https://www.goucher.edu/career-education-office/>.

### OTHER WORK OPPORTUNITIES

Students may work on campus regardless of their eligibility for Federal Work-Study. The Career Education Office (CEO) has a website that serves as the central source for all student employment opportunities available at <https://www.goucher.edu/career-education-office/>.



## **OUTSIDE SCHOLARSHIPS**

Outside scholarships provide an additional source of funding for students. Students are encouraged to research and apply for outside sources of funding. Begin by contacting your high school, civic, professional or religious organizations to which you or a parent may belong. Goucher has an [outside scholarships web page](#) with helpful suggestions on researching private outside scholarships, and which also includes a spreadsheet of scholarship opportunities.

Students should never pay a fee for a scholarship search. If in doubt about the integrity of an agency, check it out first with the Better Business Bureau. There are a variety of free scholarship search engines which provide reliable and accurate information, including but not limited to the College Board's Scholarship Search (<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>), Fast Web Scholarship Search ([www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)), the U.S. Department of Education's Federal Student Aid on the Web (<http://studentaid.ed.gov/types/grants-scholarships/finding-scholarships>).

Students must report all outside scholarships that you expect to receive to the Office of Student Financial Aid when you become aware of them. New students may report outside scholarships by e-mail to [finaid@goucher.edu](mailto:finaid@goucher.edu). Expected or returning students should report outside scholarships using the [online form linked from our forms page](#). Your financial aid award will be reviewed and may be adjusted according to institutional policies and federal regulations. You will be notified of any adjustments. Total financial aid, including outside scholarships, cannot exceed the COA.

Outside scholarships include (but are not limited to): tuition waivers/remission, other employer tuition benefits, merit-based state (non-Maryland) scholarships, and scholarships from private organizations. ROTC and Tuition Exchange are not considered outside scholarships. (Receipt of ROTC or Tuition Exchange will result in a direct reduction of the Goucher Grant.)

## **AWARD NOTIFICATION**

### **FINANCIAL AID AWARD**

Most newly-admitted students will receive their initial financial aid award letter at the time of admission or within 2 weeks of receiving their official admit letter from Admissions. If additional documents are required, they will need to be submitted in order to finalize the estimated aid.

Prospective students may be able to review financial aid information on the Admissions and Financial Aid Status portal: <https://apply.goucher.edu/account>.

Returning undergraduates who have submitted their FAFSA and all required documents by mid-May will receive an email notification that their financial aid award for the upcoming academic year is available to view on Net Partner. All students are notified via email when a revision to the financial aid award has occurred.

Initial awards are based on the assumption of full-time enrollment for the fall and spring semesters. In addition the housing status (as answered on the FAFSA) is used to determine the COA. The amount and type of aid offered is based on financial need and the availability of funds. Priority consideration for

institutional funds and Federal Work-Study is given to students who file the FAFSA by the priority filing date.

#### NET PARTNER – GOUCHER'S ONLINE FINANCIAL AID PORTAL

Returning students and new students who have deposited and declared intent to enroll may track the status of their financial aid documents, review their financial aid award, view any messages associated with their award, and accept or decline financial aid online through Goucher's Net Partner website, [www.goucher.edu/net-partner/](http://www.goucher.edu/net-partner/). All first-time users must create a password using the first-time users link. After a password has been created, users will be prompted to enter the assigned Goucher ID and password.

#### **ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE/FINANCING OPTIONS**

Even with our best efforts, families sometimes need additional financial support. To calculate your estimated payment, you may access the undergraduate cost calculator located at [www.goucher.edu/billing](http://www.goucher.edu/billing).

#### FEDERAL DIRECT PLUS LOAN

Parents of dependent students enrolled at least half-time are eligible for Federal Direct PLUS Loans. Parent(s) may borrow the full COA minus any financial aid annually.

In order to comply with Social Security Administration data matches, the FAFSA must be completed to process a Federal Direct PLUS Loan application. Parents must also apply online every year by logging in at [studentloans.gov](http://studentloans.gov). Please see [our tip sheet located on the financial aid forms page](#).

The Federal Direct PLUS Loan fixed interest rates (subject to change by Congress) have varied between 6.41% and 7.9% in recent years. Current information on interest rates may be found at <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/loans/interest-rates>. Eligibility is determined by credit history. The credit check is valid for only 180 days; therefore we recommend waiting until June to apply if you wish to borrow for the academic year beginning with the fall term. We also recommend applying for the full academic year rather than by semester. Loan funds are disbursed directly to the student account. A loan origination fee (subject to change by Congress) is deducted from the loan prior to disbursement. Current information on loan fees may be found at <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/loans/interest-rates>.

The borrower is responsible for the interest that begins accruing 10 days after the date of the first disbursement. Repayment of principal begins no later than 60 days after the loan is fully disbursed unless the parent borrower has requested a deferral. Deferrals may be requested during the period the student on whose behalf the loan was borrowed is enrolled at least half-time. Deferrals may also be requested during the six month period beginning on the day after the student is no longer enrolled at least half-time. If a parent is denied a Federal Direct PLUS loan due to an adverse credit history, the parent may appeal the denial with the Federal Direct Loan Origination Center or reapply with a credit-worthy endorser. Additional information may be found at <http://studentaid.ed.gov/types/loans/plus>.

## PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL LOANS

Students may borrow funds up to the COA minus financial aid (including outside resources) through a private educational loan. Private educational loans, offered by banks, savings and loans, and credit unions, are not federally guaranteed. They are typically the most expensive borrowing option and therefore, should only be considered after eligibility for all federal student and PLUS Loan options have been determined. Most students will need a credit-worthy co-signer to obtain a private educational loan. All private educational loans are divided into equal disbursements for each semester.

The interest rate, terms, and repayment options of these private educational loans vary according to the lender. For this reason, students are encouraged to thoroughly research private educational loans and clearly understand the terms of the loan prior to borrowing. Additional information may be found at <http://www.goucher.edu/financial-aid/loans>.

Many states have their own private educational loan programs. We recommend that students and parents check with their state higher education agencies about the availability of loans in these states.

## MONTHLY PAYMENT PLAN

Goucher participates in a monthly tuition payment plan through a third-party servicer. Families can spread payments over 9 or 10 months (annual plan) or 5 months (semester plan). For more information, visit <https://tuitionpay.higherone.com/TuitionPay/Enroll/SelectPlan.aspx?ficeNo=002073>.

## **RECEIVING YOUR AID**

### GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND LOANS

Grants, scholarships and loan funds disburse directly to your student account after the drop deadline for each semester if you have accepted the awards on Net Partner, are enrolled in the required number of credits and all required forms have been received and processed. Financial aid awards are revised after the end of the drop period for students who are no longer enrolled full-time. Outside scholarships and resources will be applied to the student account upon receipt of the check or electronic funds transfer (EFT) to Goucher.

### FEDERAL WORK-STUDY (FWS) AWARDS

FWS does not disburse to your student account. Students are paid biweekly for the hours worked.

### STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT

The Billing Office provides online access only to students' billing statements, as paper statements are not issued. Students and their authorized billing parties will be emailed each month that their current billing statement is available online, unless there is a zero balance. Parent(s) and other billing parties will be emailed notification when a new billing statement is available for viewing if their student has granted them access to their E-billing. Students can grant access through their myGoucher account. For more

information on E-Billing, granting access, and online payments visit the Billing website at <http://www.goucher.edu/billing/e-billing-and-online-payments>.

The first statement of account for each semester will display financial aid applied to your student account as *anticipated aid*. Anticipated aid is replaced with actual financial aid at the beginning of each semester if the awarded aid has been accepted on Net Partner and all required financial aid documents have been received and processed. Private scholarships, tuition benefits, and other aid from outside sources, are applied to the student account upon receipt of a check or electronic funds transfers (EFT). Fall semester statements are available in early July with a payment due date of early August (see statement for specific dates). Spring semester statements are available in early December with a payment due date of early January (see statement for specific dates). Detailed billing information is available on the billing website. Specific billing questions should be emailed to [billing@goucher.edu](mailto:billing@goucher.edu).

#### REMAINING CHARGES AND FINANCIAL AID REFUNDS

Any remaining charges after all financial aid is applied must be paid by the billing statement due date. The Billing Office can send a refund to students or parents (if credit is the result of a PLUS disbursement) after the add/drop period when the account has a credit balance and upon completion of a refund request form, available at [www.goucher.edu/billing](http://www.goucher.edu/billing). Refunds may also be applied to the Goucher One Card.

### **RETAINING YOUR FINANCIAL AID AWARDS**

#### MAINTAINING REQUIRED ENROLLMENT

To retain each type of award, you must maintain enrollment for the required number of credits with regular or pass/fail grading options through the end of the add/drop period. Dropped, audited, wait-listed, and retroactively dropped courses cannot be counted toward required enrollment.

**Only credits that are required for your degree will be eligible for financial aid.** If you are taking optional courses for personal enrichment, then they are not counted in your enrollment status for determining financial aid eligibility. This is a federal regulation, and not a Goucher policy.

To be eligible for the FSEOG, FWS, Goucher Grant, Goucher Endowed Scholarships, Sellinger Grant, MD Rawlings Educational Assistance Grant, MD Rawlings Guaranteed Access Grant, MD Senatorial Scholarship\*, and MD Delegate Scholarship\* you must be enrolled full-time (12 credits). The minimum enrollment required for the MD Part-Time Grant, Federal Direct Loans, Federal Perkins Loan, and Federal Direct PLUS Loan is 6 credits.

\* The Maryland Senatorial and Delegate Scholarships may be received for part-time enrollment (6-11 credits) with special permission from the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC).

The following awards are prorated for part-time enrollment:

Award	Required Enrollment (credits)	Percentage of Award
Federal Pell Grant	12+	100%
Federal Pell Grant	9-11	75%
Federal TEACH Grant	6-8	50%
Federal TEACH Grant	1-5	25%

### SECOND SEVEN WEEKS CLASSES

If full-time enrollment is dependent on courses registered in the second seven weeks, loan funds will not be disbursed until after the start of that session. If for any reason courses are dropped, aid for the entire semester will be adjusted. More information about policies regarding enrollment in second seven week courses may be found in the Return to Title IV Policy on the web at [www.goucher.edu/financialaid](http://www.goucher.edu/financialaid).

### WITHDRAWING, DROPPING, CANCELING, OR AUDITING CLASSES

It is extremely important that you speak with the Office of Student Financial Aid before reducing your enrollment or changing your course-grading options to audit. Your awards will be canceled or reduced if you fail to maintain the required enrollment. Courses that are audited, canceled, dropped, or retroactively dropped do not count toward required enrollment levels.

### RETURN OF TITLE IV FUNDS

When a student withdraws, drops out, is dismissed or suspended, or takes a leave of absence before completing over 60% of the semester, Goucher must determine the withdrawal date and the amount the Federal Title IV aid the student earned, which includes the amounts that were or could have been disbursed. Federal work study is not included in the amount of Federal Title IV aid earned. The institution is responsible for returning unearned funds to Federal Title IV programs. Note that the student may owe a debit balance to the institution when Title IV funds are returned. The complete Return to Title IV policy is available on the web at <http://www.goucher.edu/financial-aid/policies/return-of-federal-title-iv-funds>.

### SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (SAP)

Students must maintain SAP in order to be eligible for student financial aid. The SAP policy defines minimum standards for grade point average, ratio of completed credits to attempted credits, and maximum time frame for completing a degree. SAP is reviewed at the end of each semester. Students who are not meeting SAP standards are notified in writing. The complete SAP policy is published in the *Academic Catalogue* or online at <http://www.goucher.edu/financial-aid/satisfactory-academic-progress-policy>.

## ANNUAL REAPPLICATION REQUIREMENT

Students must reapply for federal, state, and institutional need-based financial aid annually by completing the FAFSA. The priority filing date for returning undergraduate students is March 1<sup>st</sup>.

## ALL AWARDS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

All need-based financial aid awards are subject to change. The most common reasons for aid adjustments are enrollment changes and overawards due to receipt of aid from outside sources. Awards may also be adjusted based on verification, receipt of additional financial information, and failure to complete additional requirements, maintain degree-seeking status, make satisfactory academic progress, or comply with other federal or institutional aid regulations. Merit-based scholarships may be reduced or canceled for failure to maintain good academic standing or (if applicable) the required GPA.

## **SPECIAL ENROLLMENT OPTIONS**

### ONE-SEMESTER ATTENDANCE

Eligibility for aid must be re-evaluated if you will attend Goucher for only one semester of an academic year due to graduation, LOA or other reasons. Please notify us as soon as possible so the office can promptly make any required adjustments to your financial aid award.

### PERMISSION TO ENROLL AT ANOTHER INSTITUTION

It may be possible to take courses at another institution while receiving financial aid from Goucher. In order to qualify, you must have approval from your academic adviser. To apply, complete a Consortium Agreement, available from the Office of Student Financial Aid. The Consortium Agreement must be signed by the host school and Goucher's Registrar before it can be submitted to the Office of Student Financial Aid. If your request is approved, we will disburse limited aid to your account and you will be responsible for paying the tuition at the other school.

## **STUDY ABROAD**

### GOUCHER-SPONSORED PROGRAMS

If you participate in a Goucher-sponsored semester program, your financial aid is processed in the same manner as when you study at Goucher. However, if you choose to study abroad for more than one semester, even if you are participating in Goucher-sponsored programs, your institutional funds are not available for the second semester.

### NON-GOUCHER-SPONSORED PROGRAMS

If you participate in a non-Goucher-sponsored semester or yearlong study-abroad program, you will need to take a leave of absence and financial aid will not be processed.

For more information about financing study-abroad programs, visit the financial aid website at <http://www.goucher.edu/financial-aid/forms-and-resources/financing-study-abroad> or the international study website at <http://www.goucher.edu/learn/study-abroad/program-costs/financial-aid-and-scholarships/>.

Students who are enrolled in a study-abroad program are responsible for completing the renewal application process for financial aid by the priority filing deadline.

### CONSUMER INFORMATION

Per the U.S. Department of Education, Goucher College must provide information about financial aid and its campus, facilities, and student athletes, as well as information to promote campus security and fire safety and prevent drug and alcohol abuse. Consumer information may be found at <http://www.goucher.edu/about/consumer-information>.

### FINANCIAL AID TERMINOLOGY

COA	Cost of Attendance (Also referred to as “Budget”)
EFC	Expected Family Contribution
FAFSA	Free Application for Federal Student Aid
FWS	Federal Work-Study
MHEC	Maryland Higher Education Commission
MPN	Master Promissory Note
NET PARTNER	Goucher’s online financial aid portal
SAP	Satisfactory Academic Progress
SAR	Student Aid Report
FSEOG	Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant

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