

# 2025-26 UNDERGRADUATE AWARD INFORMATION

ALL INFORMATION PROVIDED WITHIN YOUR FINANCIAL AID OFFER IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

## Accessing Your Award Information

If you are a continuing student, please log into [Workday](#) using your AU email address and select the Financial Aid & Billing Information hub.

If you are an entering student and do not yet have access to your Workday student account, your financial aid offer is viewable in your [Financial Aid Portal](#). You must sign in using the personal email address that you used on your admission application. Once you complete your enrollment confirmation with the Admissions Office, you will then receive access to your Workday student account and any award action items.

## Cost of Attendance (COA)

The amount and type of financial aid you have been awarded is based on your COA. Your housing status is determined from the information on the FAFSA. **COA is not a bill.** Instead, COA is an **estimate** of all the expenses you could incur during the academic year. Your COA is viewable on your financial aid offer letter. **These two types of costs comprise the COA:**

**Direct Costs:** These are **included** on your AU bill and paid directly to AU. Direct costs are billed on a semester-by-semester basis and include tuition, fees, and on-campus housing & food (including meal plan).

**Indirect Costs:** These are **not included** on your AU bill. Indirect costs are based on average expenses and are included in the COA for financial aid purposes only. Your actual expenses may vary, depending on your living arrangements and other obligations. Indirect costs include off-campus housing and food, books (other than textbooks included in the cost of tuition), supplies, transportation, and personal expenses.

A student's total financial aid (institutional, state, federal, loans, outside aid) can be awarded up to the COA each semester. After your **Direct Costs** (charges) are covered, you **may** be eligible for a refund from excess financial aid (federal, outside scholarships, or loans) up to your COA. Please see the **Refunds & Credit Balances** section on the next page for more details.

## Needs-Based Award Information

**Federal Pell Grant:** This subsidy by the federal government provides financial assistance to undergraduates with exceptional financial need. Eligibility amount is determined annually via the FAFSA. The Pell Grant is **subject to change** based on financial need and your Program of Study (POS). By federal regulation, your POS only includes courses that fulfill your major, minor, or general elective requirements.

**South Carolina Tuition Grant (SCTG):** This award is provided to S.C. residents who demonstrate financial need as determined by their FAFSA. This award is estimated, **subject to change**, and contingent upon final funding approved by the S.C. General Assembly. To be considered for eligibility each year, students must submit a completed FAFSA to AU no later than **August 1**.

**Gold Grant:** This is a need-based award provided directly from AU. This award is **subject to change** if (1) your financial need changes by other institutional scholarships subsequently added to your award package or (2) updates/corrections are made to your FAFSA.

**Federal Work Study:** This provides part-time employment (paid hourly based on hours worked) while you are enrolled in school. To qualify, students must complete the FAFSA and have financial need. AU also offer non-federal work-study opportunities to **all students** who seek on-campus employment – regardless of financial need. Please contact the [Student Employment Office](#) to learn more.

## Federal Direct Loans

To accept your federal loans in Workday, select the Financial Aid and Billing Information hub > **Accept/Decline Awards** > select preferred option from the drop down > select OK and Done. Your award will include the maximum loan amount for which you are eligible, but we recommend you borrow the least amount possible. Every student who completes the FAFSA will be eligible to receive Federal Direct Loan funding, as follows:

<u>Dependent Students:</u>	Freshmen = \$5,500	Sophomores = \$6,500	Juniors/Seniors = \$7,500
<u>Independent Students:</u>	Freshmen = \$9,500	Sophomores = \$10,500	Juniors/Seniors = \$12,500

**Subsidized Loans:** Eligibility is determined by the FAFSA and **subject to change**, based on financial need and POS requirements. The federal government pays the loan interest if you maintain full-time enrollment status. Interest does not accrue for you until after you graduate or fall below half-time enrollment status. For the most current rates and fees, click [here](#).

**Unsubsidized Loans:** Eligibility is not based on financial need. Interest accrues as soon as the money disburses to your student account. Interest rates and origination fees for Federal Direct Loans are set once annually. For the most current rates and fees, click [here](#).

## Additional Payment Options

**Federal Parent PLUS Loans** are available to parents of dependent students. Applications are available at <https://studentaid.gov>, and eligibility is determined by a **credit check**. For the most current rates and fees, click [here](#). Keep in mind that the origination fee for a PLUS loan is deducted from the loan amount. If a parent is denied the PLUS loan, the student automatically becomes eligible for additional federal student loan funding.

You may also explore **private student loan** options: <https://choice.fastproducts.org/FastChoice/home/341800/1>.

You can email [Anderson Central](#) to discuss monthly payment plan options, state prepayment and 529 plans, or receive guidance on how to utilize personal funds toward direct costs. You can learn more about payment plan options at <https://mycollegepaymentplan.com/andersonsc/>.

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### Financial Aid Renewal Requirements

Undergraduate students are required to make Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to retain their financial aid. **SAP includes a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA, a 67% course completion rate, and full-time status (12-18 credits per semester).**

Some financial aid awards have **requirements beyond SAP**, such as a higher minimum GPA, credit hours, and on-campus residency. You may email the [Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships](#) for more information regarding your specific renewal requirements.

### When is Payment Due?

	<u>Fall 2025</u>	<u>Spring 2026</u>	<u>Summer 2026</u>
Traditional/Fast Track (Semester)	August 8, 2025	January 7, 2026	May 8, 2026
Adult Studies/FLEX (7 Week A & Semester)	August 8, 2025	January 7, 2026	May 8, 2026
Adult Studies/FLEX (7 Week B)*	October 10, 2025	March 13, 2026	June 26, 2026

**The above dates are subject to change**

**\*\* Class schedules will be deleted if payment is not made or a payment plan is not set up by 5 pm on the due date \*\***

Tuition charges can be viewed within your Workday student account's Financial Aid and Billing Information hub. A list of tuition & fee expenses can also be located on the AU website. For additional information, you may email [Anderson Central](#) to speak with an office representative.

\*This date applies if you are registered for 7 Week B only. If you are registered in (a) a Semester and/or 7 Week A and (b) 7 Week B, payment is due based on the date for Adult Studies/FLEX (7 Week A).

### Refunds & Credit Balances

To select your refund option within Workday, navigate to the Financial Aid and Billing Information hub and then Select Refund Method. Your options are: (1) Direct Deposit to a checking or savings account or (2) Prepaid Debit Card that can be used to make purchases at most retail stores.

**Refunds cannot be made a personal banking debit card**

**\*\* Credit balances remaining after all direct costs are paid will be available beginning \*\***

**Fall 2025:** September 17, 2025

**Spring 2026:** February 9, 2026

**Summer 2026:** June 8, 2026

You must begin attendance in each class to establish financial aid eligibility. If your refund is based on an enrollment status that includes hours for a term that has not begun, you must attend class when the term starts, or you will owe a repayment.

Students cannot receive a refund from any **institutional or state awards**. However, you may receive a refund from **federal aid** (Pell Grant, SEOG, federal loans), **private loans**, or **outside scholarships** (unless explicitly denied by donor) that exceed your semester charges. Per compliance guidelines, **athletes** may not receive a refund from Pell or SEOG.

**\*\* SCTG, LIFE, and HOPE for Adult Studies & FLEX students cannot be disbursed until after enrollment is confirmed for 7 Week B \*\***

### Return to Title IV (R2T4) Policy

Federal financial aid includes the Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG), Federal Direct Loans, and Federal TEACH Grant. Your federal financial aid eligibility must be recalculated if you completely withdraw, drop out, are dismissed, or take a leave of absence **prior** to completing 60% of a semester. The below dates represent the 60% point of each semester. You must attend **through** the below dates to earn 100% of your federal aid:

	<u>Fall 2025</u>	<u>Spring 2026</u>	<u>Summer 2026</u>
<b>Semester</b>	October 15, 2025	March 12, 2026	July 7, 2026
<b>7 Week A only</b>	September 16, 2025	February 10, 2026	June 8, 2026
<b>7 Week B only</b>	November 12, 2025	April 14, 2026	July 27, 2026
<b>7 Week A &amp; 7 Week B</b>	October 17, 2025	March 12, 2026	July 7, 2026

**\*\* If you do not complete at least 60% of a semester/term, you will owe a repayment to AU and/or the federal government for the amount of unearned financial aid \*\***

### Summer 2026 Financial Aid

Financial aid is limited in a Summer semester and based on the 2025-2026 FAFSA. For instance, the SCTG cannot be awarded for a Summer semester. Also, if you borrowed the annual loan limit during the Fall 2025 & Spring 2026 semesters, you will not have any Direct Loan eligibility.

**\*\* If you plan to enroll in a Summer 2026 semester, please plan accordingly and budget for your costs \*\***

Prior to the start of the Fall semester, **Traditional students** may elect to have a Direct Loan divided evenly between the Fall 2025, Spring 2026, and Summer 2026 semesters. **Post-Traditional students** automatically have Direct Loans divided evenly between the Fall 2025, Spring 2026, and Summer 2026 semester. You are welcome to email the [Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships](#) for more information.