

FINANCING YOUR EDUCATION AT AAMU

IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

At Alabama A & M University, we are committed to making a quality education both possible and affordable. We do realize that a college education is one of the most important investments a student and family will make. And we do also realize that the financial aid process can be a sometimes daunting endeavor. Our goal is to provide you with the necessary information and guidance needed to make this process as simple as possible.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID?

The financial process at AAMU begins with the **FAFSA**; (Free application for Federal Student Aid). In order to be considered for financial aid, A FAFSA must be completed and submitted each year. You must also be sure to include the **AAMU school code (001002)**. This will allow us to access your FAFSA information to begin the process of awarding you financial aid. The fastest and most accurate way to complete the FAFSA is online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

The information reported on the FAFSA is used to calculate your Expected Family Contribution (**EFC**). This EFC is a measure of your family's financial position, as determined by the U.S. Department of Education. The EFC is used by the school to determine the student's eligibility for all types of federal student financial aid. In some cases the Federal processor may select your FAFSA for *verification*. This means that you must submit additional documentation before your financial aid file can be processed.

WHEN SHOULD I APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID?

The FAFSA should be completed and submitted **each year** as soon after January 1 as possible. Here at AAMU, we also have a **priority date of March 1** of each year. By completing the FAFSA prior to that date, we guarantee that you will be considered for the maximum financial aid package that you are eligible for.

WHAT ARE THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR FINANCIAL AID?

In order to be eligible for any form of financial aid at AAMU, you must meet the following eligibility requirements.

1. You must be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen (see <http://studentaid.ed.gov> for information on who qualifies as an eligible non-citizen)
2. You must have a valid social security number.
3. You must be admitted into a degree-seeking program. You may apply for aid before you are admitted but you must be admitted before aid can be awarded or disbursed to you.
4. If you are a male of at least 18 years of age, you must be registered with selective service.
5. To retain eligibility you must maintain satisfactory academic progress.

WHAT TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID ARE AVAILABLE? IN WHAT ORDER ARE THEY AWARDED?

There are four major types of financial aid offered at AAMU. They are **grants, scholarships, workstudy and loans**. **Grants** are forms of financial aid that do not have to be repaid. Generally, grants are for undergraduate students and the grant amount is

based on need, school cost, and enrollment status. Grants offered by AAMU include the Federal Pell Grant, the Federal **SEOG** (Supplemental Educational Opportunity) grant and the Alabama Student Assistance (Knight) Grant. **Scholarships** are funds that are awarded to students based on merit or proficiency in specific areas or concentrations. Such as academics, athletics, and music. Scholarships may also be offered from various academic areas. **Workstudy** is a need-based fund involving the student being paid directly to work a pre-determined numbers of hours per academic year. **Loans** are funds that must be paid back by the student or parent borrower. Types of loans available are the Federal Direct subsidized, unsubsidized, Parent Plus and Graduate Plus; Perkins, and Private loans. Financial aid funds at AAMU are awarded in the following order.

1. Federal Pell Grant
2. Scholarships
3. Alabama Student Assistance Grant
4. Federal SEOG
5. Federal Workstudy
6. Perkins Loan
7. Direct Subsidized loan
8. Direct Unsubsidized loan
9. Direct Parent Loan
10. Private loan

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO ATTEND AAMU?

UNDERGRADUATE STATE RESIDENT STUDENT

Tuition is \$222.00 per semester hour. Students registering for nine (9) semester hours or less are assessed mandatory fees of \$587.00 noted below. Students registering for ten (10) semester hours or more are assessed mandatory fees of \$750.00.

UNDERGRADUATE NON-STATE RESIDENT STUDENT

Tuition is \$444.00 per semester hour. Students registering for nine (9) semester hours or less are assessed mandatory fees of \$587.00 noted below. Students registering for ten (10) semester hours or more are assessed mandatory fees of \$750.00.

GRADUATE STATE RESIDENT STUDENT

Tuition is \$337.00 per semester hour. Graduate registration fee is \$5.00 per semester. Students registering for six (6) semester hours or less are assessed mandatory fees of \$587.00 noted below. Students registering for seven (7) semester hours or more are assessed mandatory fees of \$750.00.

GRADUATE NON-STATE RESIDENT STUDENT

Tuition is \$674.00 per semester hour. Graduate registration fee is \$5.00 per semester. Students registering for six (6) semester hours or less are assessed mandatory fees of \$587.00 noted below. Students registering for seven (7) semester hours or more are assessed mandatory fees of \$750.00.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

All International Students are assessed a mandatory fee of \$533.20 (Subject to change) per semester for student accident and sickness insurance.

All first time International Students are required to deposit two semesters of tuition and fees with the Bursar's Office, prior to enrollment.

HOUSING, MEALS and Related Charges, Per Semester

Room (Knight Living/Learning Complex and Foster Living/Learning Complex).....	\$2,100.00
All other Residence Halls.....	1,200.00
Access Fee.....	141.00
Board Option 21 meals a week per semester.....	1,390.00
Commuter Meal Plan (80 meals total)	394.00
Meal Card Replacement Fee.....	60.00
Housing Security Deposit Effective Fall 2011(New).....	250.00

Other Fees

Health Insurance \$73.00 Add/Drop Fee \$30.00
Student Recreation and Athletic Fee 69.00 Student Parking Shuttle Fee 45.00
Student Activity Fee 70.00 Compass Fee (Freshmen) 30.00
Yearbook Fee 24.00 Late Registration Fee 60.00
Building Use Fee 51.00 51.00 ID Card Replacement 30.00
Information Technology Fee 125.00 125.00
Wellness Center Fee 138.00 138.00
Health Center Fee 50.00 50.00
Proration Fee 150.00 150.00
Total Fees \$750.00 \$587.00

**Please note that all charges and fees are administered by the Bursar/Cashier Office.*

WHAT IS MEANT BY “COST OF ATTENDANCE”?

In order to award aid, a school must first establish an estimated cost of attendance; also referred to as a Student Budget.. This includes fixed amounts, such as tuition and fees, as well as amounts that must be estimated, such as room, board, books, transportation, and personal expenses (laundry, toothbrushes,

etc.). Based on the estimated cost of attendance and the information from the FAFSA, the AAMU Office of Financial aid processes award offers to continuing and admitted students. Federal regulations mandate that the total award offered to a particular student cannot exceed the amount shown in the *Student Budget*. The student budget (*Coast of Attendance*) for 2011-2012 is as follows:

Student Budget for 2011-12. (Undergraduate)

	In-State	Out of State
Tuition and Fees	8886	15990
Room and Board*	6980	6980
Books and Supplies	1400	1400
Personal	1290	1290
Transportation	1300	1500
TOTAL COST	19856	27160

HOW CAN I CONTACT THE AAMU FINANCIAL AID OFFICE?

- **By phone - (256) 372-5400 or Fax (256) 372-5407**
- **Via email - financialaid@aamu.edu**
- **In person - Located in Patton Hall, Room 211
Monday through Friday 8a.m. - 5p.m.**

Our mailing address is:

Office of Student Financial Aid

Alabama A&M University

P.O. Box 907

Normal, AL 35762