THE FINANCIAL AID OFFICE
• Process financial aid applications
  » Federal/state grants
  » Federal Work Study
  » Federal loans
  » Certain federal/state military programs
• Provide student employment support
• Provide financial literacy education on campus
THE COST OF COLLEGE
- Direct costs = billed by the school
- Generally includes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition</td>
<td>$8,883.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees</td>
<td>$2,783.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room/Housing</td>
<td>$9,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One-Time Fees</td>
<td>$115.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL = $21,581.50**

- Individual costs are determined by individual decisions
- **WIU Cost Estimator**
  » Online calculator to help provide a best-estimate of YOUR semester bill

- **WIU Cost Guarantee**
  » Our students pay the same per credit hour rate for four straight years!
  » Only Illinois university that “freezes” the per credit hour rate charged for tuition and fees and room, and meal plan
FAFSA
FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID
FREE online at www.fafsa.gov
Must be completed each year for the upcoming academic year
Complete as soon as possible on or after October 1 for 2020-21 school year
» Tax information from 2018
FINANCIAL AID PROCESS
- Communication is key
- **WIU Email**
  - Notifications
  - Documentation requests
- **Student/Alumni Records System (STARS)**
  - Application status
  - Financial aid award letter
- Notifications are sent to the student
• Your *award letter* will list the financial aid available to you for each semester
  » Available to view on STARS
  » WIU email notification sent
  » A copy will be mailed to home address

• Review directions

• Compare your financial aid to anticipated costs for each semester

• Notify our office of any enrollment changes, other expected aid, or special circumstances affecting your family
## WIU Net Price Calculator
### Family of Four with One in College

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adjusted Gross Income</th>
<th>15,500</th>
<th>34,000</th>
<th>58,000</th>
<th>125,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal Loan</td>
<td>5,500</td>
<td>5,500</td>
<td>5,500</td>
<td>5,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Work Study</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Grants</td>
<td>5,730</td>
<td>4,280</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Grants</td>
<td>4,700</td>
<td>4,500</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Grants/Scholarships</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL AID</strong></td>
<td>19,730</td>
<td>18,080</td>
<td>5,500</td>
<td>5,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- President’s Scholarship Application
  » ACT 30/SAT 1390 or higher: deadline is December 1
- General Scholarships
  » All ACT/SAT scores: deadline is February 15
- Students are encouraged to contact the department of declared major
- Visit [www.wiu.edu/scholarships](http://www.wiu.edu/scholarships) - all updates, resources and links posted here
- Start early and don’t stop!
- No scholarship is too small
- Avoid scholarship scams
- Don’t forget about private scholarships:
  » www.fastweb.com
  » www.scholarship.com
  » www.collegeboard.com
STUDENT PRIVACY
- **Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act**
  - Protects the privacy of student records
  - Student must provide a University release for each specific parent/guest who needs access

- **Parent/Guest Account on STARS**
  - Student specifies what information is shared
- Review our **Getting Started** section online
- Get started on your scholarship search
- File your **FREE** FAFSA at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov) as soon as possible after October 1st.
- Activate and monitor your WIU accounts
- Provide Parent/Guest access as needed
STUDENT RESOURCES
Financial Aid Office
Sherman Hall 127
P (309) 298-2446
F (309) 298-2353

- Admissions Office
- Scholarship Office
- Billing & Receivables Office
- Veterans Resource Center
- Student Development & Success Center