

# Understanding Your Award Letter



Orientation 2020

# Your Estimated Direct Cost

## Your Estimated Direct Cost of Attendance

Based on your FAFSA application, estimated costs assume the following housing plans:

- On-campus, double room, standard meal plan

Tuition and fee estimates assume:

- 15 Fall hours
- 15 Spring hours

You will be billed for student health insurance unless you qualify to complete the online insurance waiver at [wiu.edu/studentinsurance](http://wiu.edu/studentinsurance).

| <b>Estimated Direct Costs</b> | <b>FALL</b>     | <b>SPRING</b>   | <b>TOTAL</b>    |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Tuition & Fees                | \$5,833         | \$5,833         | \$11,666        |
| Housing & Dining              | \$4,900         | \$4,900         | \$9,800         |
| Housing Fees                  | \$105           | \$105           | \$210           |
| Health Insurance**            | \$611           | \$611           | \$1,222         |
| <b>Total Direct Costs</b>     | <b>\$11,449</b> | <b>\$11,449</b> | <b>\$22,898</b> |

# Your Financial Aid

## Your Financial Aid

### Your Grants and Scholarships (Gift Aid)

#### Federal and State Aid

FEDERAL PELL GRANT (ESTIMATED)  
STATE OF IL MAP GRANT ESTIMATED

FALL    SPRING    TOTAL

\$3,097    \$3,098    \$6,195

\$2,434    \$2,434    \$4,869

#### TOTAL GIFT AID

\$5,531    \$5,532    \$11,064

### Your eligibility for Loans

**Must be repaid -- borrow only what you need. To reduce or cancel your loans, log on to STARS.**

Federal Direct Subsidized Loan

\$2,250    \$2,250    \$4,500

Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan

\$1,000    \$1,000    \$2,000

Federal Direct Unsubsidized-Additional Loan

\$2,000    \$2,000    \$4,000

#### TOTAL LOAN AID

\$5,250    \$5,250    \$10,500

**Total Financial Aid    \$10,781    \$10,782    \$21,564**

# Your Financial Aid

*Gift Aid: Grant and Scholarships that do not have to be paid back.*

## Your Financial Aid

### Your Grants and Scholarships (Gift Aid)

#### Federal and State Aid

FEDERAL PELL GRANT (ESTIMATED)

STATE OF IL MAP GRANT ESTIMATED

#### TOTAL GIFT AID

| FALL           | SPRING         | TOTAL           |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| \$3,097        | \$3,098        | \$6,195         |
| \$2,434        | \$2,434        | \$4,869         |
| <b>\$5,531</b> | <b>\$5,532</b> | <b>\$11,064</b> |

*Loans: Funds that are borrowed for education expenses and MUST BE paid back.*

### Your eligibility for Loans

**Must be repaid -- borrow only what you need. To reduce or cancel your loans, log on to STARS.**

**To receive your loans, view the Next Steps section on the following page to learn how to complete the loan process.**

Federal Direct Subsidized Loan

Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan

#### TOTAL LOAN AID

|                |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| \$1,143        | \$1,143        | \$2,286        |
| \$1,607        | \$1,607        | \$3,214        |
| <b>\$2,750</b> | <b>\$2,750</b> | <b>\$5,500</b> |

# Estimated Out of Pocket Cost

## Your Estimated Out-of-Pocket Cost

*Out-of-Pocket Cost is the amount we estimate that you will pay WIU and is calculated as: Direct Costs minus gift aid and loans. If you decide to borrow a smaller amount your Out-of-Pocket Cost may be higher.*

|   | FALL         | SPRING       | TOTAL          |
|---|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| Direct Costs                                    | \$11,449     | \$11,449     | \$22,898       |
| - Financial Aid                                 | \$10,781     | \$10,782     | \$21,564       |
| <b>Out-of-Pocket Cost</b>                       | <b>\$668</b> | <b>\$667</b> | <b>\$1,334</b> |
| <b>Out-of-Pocket Cost</b>                       | <b>\$57</b>  | <b>\$56</b>  | <b>\$112</b>   |
| If eligible to waive Student Health Insurance** |              |              |                |

Student Health Insurance is required for all students who are taking 9 semester hours or more of on-campus classes. The amount you will be charged each semester for student health insurance will be \$795. You may request that health insurance be waived by submitting a waiver form online at [wiu.edu/studentinsurance](http://wiu.edu/studentinsurance). The waiver can be completed 48 hours after registration and must be completed by the 10<sup>th</sup> day of class.

# Suggestions for Paying Out-of- Pocket Cost

## Suggestions for Paying Your Out-of-Pocket Cost

**Payment Plan** – Optional payment plans are available each semester through the Billing Office ([www.wiu.edu/billing](http://www.wiu.edu/billing)). To sign up, select “Automated Payment Plan” from the STARS “Financials” menu ([www.wiu.edu/stars](http://www.wiu.edu/stars)).

|                       | Fall Deadline   | Spring Deadline   |               |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 6 Month Payment Plan– | May 31, 2020    | November 30, 2020 | \$716/month   |
| 5 Month Payment Plan– | June 30, 2020   | December 31, 2020 | \$859/month   |
| 4 Month Payment Plan– | July 31, 2020   | January 31, 2020  | \$1,073/month |
| 3 Month Payment Plan– | August 31, 2020 | February 28, 2020 | \$1,431/month |

**Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan or Private Loan** – Either loan option can borrow up to the Total Cost of Attendance\* (see below) minus all other aid.

*A parent PLUS loan is a loan in the parent’s name and that parent is responsible for repayment. Parents can apply online beginning May 1, 2020 [studentloans.gov](http://studentloans.gov). A student may request an Additional Direct Unsubsidized Loan for a limited amount if the parent PLUS application is denied by the lender.*

**\$12,456/year**

*A Private Alternative Loan is a loan taken by either the student or the parent through a private lending institution. The borrower is responsible for repayment. Borrowers can apply online beginning May 1, 2020 visit [wiu.edu/loans](http://wiu.edu/loans) for more information.*

# Estimated Indirect Cost

## Estimated Indirect Cost

**Indirect Costs** are estimated expenses that will **NOT** appear on your university bill. Your total cost of attendance is the sum of Indirect costs plus Direct costs. Total financial aid cannot exceed your Total cost of attendance.

| Indirect Costs                   | FALL            | SPRING          | TOTAL           |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Books & Supplies                 | \$600           | \$600           | \$1,200         |
| Transportation                   | \$250           | \$250           | \$500           |
| Other Expenses                   | \$1,086         | \$1,086         | \$2,172         |
| <b>*Total cost of attendance</b> | <b>\$13,385</b> | <b>\$13,385</b> | <b>\$26,770</b> |

### Book Award -

This amount is a line of credit you may use in the University Union Bookstore to purchase your textbooks. You will be notified via email when the credit is available to use.

|                        | FALL  | SPRING | TOTAL  |
|------------------------|-------|--------|--------|
| Leatherneck Book Award | \$600 | \$600  | \$1200 |

Books are not a direct cost to the college – they will not be included on your WIU bill. Be prepared to pay out-of-pocket for books. If you have been awarded a book award a line of credit will be made available for use through the University Union Bookstore for the purchase of textbooks. You will be notified via email when the credit is available to use. The average cost of textbooks is approximately \$400 - \$500 per semester.

# Next Steps

## Next Steps

- STEP 1** Check your WIU email account regularly for updates.
- STEP 2** Complete loan agreement (MPN) at [studentloans.gov](http://studentloans.gov).
- STEP 3** Save money for books. Average cost per semester is \$350-\$450.
- STEP 4** Notify our office of any grants, scholarships, or loans not included on this award.

If you plan to accept Federal Direct Loans you will need to do the following:

- 1) Sign your Master Promissory Note (MPN) at [studentloans.gov](http://studentloans.gov), and
- 2) Complete Student Entrance Counseling at [studentloans.gov](http://studentloans.gov).

Both must be completed prior to disbursement of funds.

If you do not plan to accept Federal Direct Loans you may cancel loans awarded to you by logging into STARS or by emailing the financial aid office at [financial-aid@wiu.edu](mailto:financial-aid@wiu.edu).



# Important Information

## Important Information

### **\*\*Student Health Insurance**

Student Health Insurance is required for all students who are taking 9 semester hours or more of on-campus classes. The amount you will be charged each semester for student health insurance will be \$795. You may request that health insurance be waived by submitting a waiver form online at [www.wiu.edu/studentinsurance](http://www.wiu.edu/studentinsurance). The waiver can be completed 24 hours after registration and must be completed by the 10th day of class.

### **State of IL Monetary Award Program (MAP) Grant (Est.)**

Your Illinois MAP Grant is estimated and can be adjusted by the State of Illinois. A MAP Grant award is based on 15 semester hours of attendance. MINIMUM ENROLLMENT FOR MAP GRANT ELIGIBILITY IS 3 HOURS PER SEMESTER. IF YOU ARE ENROLLED FOR LESS THAN 15 HOURS, YOUR MAP GRANT WILL BE PRORATED. The MAP Grant cannot exceed actual charges for tuition and university fees. Receipt of additional awards specifically for tuition and fees may reduce your MAP grant award. See [www.wiu.edu/map](http://www.wiu.edu/map) for additional information regarding eligibility and required award letter language.

### **Federal Pell Grant**

Your Federal Pell Grant will be adjusted based on eligibility and enrollment. Maximum eligibility is based on full-time (12 or more hours) of enrollment. Please review our Federal Pell Grant information online at [www.wiu.edu/fa](http://www.wiu.edu/fa) for additional details on maintaining eligibility.

### **Student Employment**

Starting August 1st, 2019 job listings will be posted at [www.wiu.edu/studentemployment](http://www.wiu.edu/studentemployment). Students can find available jobs on our electronic job site and interview for open positions with employers on campus.

### **Institutional Scholarships**

Students are encouraged to apply for university and department scholarship opportunities. Information is available at [www.wiu.edu/scholarships](http://www.wiu.edu/scholarships). Scholarships are competitive and deadlines are applicable, so apply early.

### **Satisfactory Academic Progress**

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) standards are required and guided by federal regulations to help you graduate. To receive financial aid students must earn 67% of the total hours attempted and maintain at least a 2.0 cumulative GPA. SAP is measured for all students after grades are posted on an annual basis in May. Review the SAP Policy online at [www.wiu.edu/fa](http://www.wiu.edu/fa).

### **Payment Plans**

An automated payment plan is available to divide your direct costs into several monthly payments. Payments are deducted monthly on the 5th of the month from a designated bank account. There is a \$2 per month transaction fee to cover processing. A contract must be completed on STARS by a student or individual with parent and guest access. Additional charges incurred above the contracted amount will be billed and subject to a 1% finance charge if not paid by the 28th of each month. Please see the payment plan section above for a breakdown of payment plan options/payments.

(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)

- (1) State of Illinois MAP Grant is based on 15 semester hours of attendance. Enrollment in less than 15 hours will result in a pro-rated award. MAP is a tuition and fee specific award and cannot exceed actual tuition and fee charges.
- (2) Federal Pell Grant is based on 12 semester hours of attendance. Enrollment in less than 12 hours will result in a reduced award.
- (3) Student Employment job listing will be posted online at [wiu.edu/studentemployment](http://wiu.edu/studentemployment) beginning August 1<sup>st</sup>.
- (4) Satisfactory Academic Progress standards are required and guided by federal regulations to help you graduate. To receive financial aid students must maintain standards or risk losing financial aid eligibility.

# REMINDERS!

- Less than full time enrollment can impact your financial aid.
- Actual direct costs may be different than the estimates.
- You may calculate expenses using the Cost Estimator at [wiu.edu/costestimator](http://wiu.edu/costestimator).

# Mark you calendar for October 1st each year!

- Online at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)
- File FAFSA as soon as possible on or after October 1
- Taxes are used from the prior-prior year so they are already complete, Ex. 2020-21 FAFSA use 2018 taxes

**Do you still need to submit  
information to Financial Aid?**

Get documents into our office ASAP  
so we can ensure your financial aid  
is ready to go for Fall semester

**Priority Processing Deadline is July 1<sup>st</sup> to ensure  
aid is in place prior to start of school.**

**Western Illinois University**

Financial Aid Office  
1 University Circle  
Macomb, IL 61455



**THANK YOU!**

**Contact Information**

**Western Illinois University**  
**Financial Aid Office**  
Sherman Hall 127  
1 University Circle  
Macomb, IL 61455  
Telephone: (309) 298-2446  
E-mail: [Financial-Aid@wiu.edu](mailto:Financial-Aid@wiu.edu)