

Your Guide to Undergraduate Financial Aid 2017–18

Quinnipiac
university

Contents

Apply in Four Easy Steps

- ✓ **1. FAFSA**
Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) after October 1.
- 2. Award Letter**
Review your award letter online and submit it electronically to the financial aid office.
- 3. Federal Direct Loan**
New borrowers must complete an entrance interview and master promissory note.
- 4. Balance Due**
Students and parents can apply for a PLUS loan, alternative loan or payment plan.

5	Your Award Letter
6	How Eligibility Is Determined
8	Quinnipiac Financial Aid Policies
10	Outside Aid
	Types of Financial Aid
10	Grants
11	Scholarships
12	Loans
14	Work-Study
15	Payment Plan
15	Other Resources
16	How Much Will I Have to Pay?
16	Verification
17	Satisfactory Academic Progress
18	Special Circumstances
18	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
18	Deadlines and Fund Availability
19	Wait Lists
19	Scams–Beware!
20	Frequently Asked Questions
22	Terminology
23	Contact Information
24	Useful Websites
25	PLUS Loan Worksheet
26	Financial Aid Staff

Dear Students and Parents


Welcome to Quinnipiac University! The Office of Financial Aid is pleased to provide this comprehensive booklet designed to help you understand the financial aid process. We know the process can appear to be overwhelming and hope this step-by-step guide will answer any questions and serve as a useful reference for you throughout the year.

It's important to note that you must re-apply for financial aid each year if you'd like assistance with college expenses. Remember that you need to file your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) well before the March 1 deadline (incoming students) or the April 1 deadline (returning students) to receive all the financial aid for which you are eligible.

I'd like to emphasize the importance of reading thoroughly all correspondence you receive from our office. We have a fairly extensive communication process to keep you abreast of what's happening with your financial aid and quite often will communicate with you via Quinnipiac email. Every Quinnipiac student has an email address, and I strongly urge you to check your email inbox on a regular basis. This will ensure that you don't miss any important financial aid-related information coming from this office or news of events on campus covering issues concerning your financial aid.

Financing a Quinnipiac education is probably one of the most important investments you'll ever make and our office is available to assist you throughout the process. If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to working with you and your family to help you realize your educational goals.

Yours truly,



Dominic R. Yoia
Associate Vice President, University Director of Financial Aid

Quinnipiac University
Office of Financial Aid
275 Mount Carmel Avenue
Hamden, CT 06518-1908

Tel: 203-582-8750 or 800-462-1944
Fax: 203-582-4060

finaid@qu.edu
qu.edu

Quinnipiac school code
FAFSA: 001402

Your Award Letter

Award letter notifications are mailed to students with instructions to log onto www.qu.edu/finaid and click on the "Financial Aid Self-Service" link. Student awards are generated in the order completed applications are received, and notices are scheduled as follows:

- **Early Decision Students** Award packets are sent via U.S. mail in mid-December.
- **Incoming Students** Award packets are sent via U.S. mail beginning in mid-January.
- **Returning Students** Award packets are sent via U.S. mail to the student's home address, and also emailed to the appropriate Quinnipiac email account beginning in late May after spring grades are posted.

Submitting your award electronically confirms your understanding and acceptance of the terms and conditions surrounding all of your financial aid, so please be sure to review and confirm each fund prior to submission.

All new student and parent borrowers are directed to borrow through the federal government's "Federal Direct Loan" programs. Please refer to page 12 for further details about this process.

Beginning with the 2017/18 award year, families no longer need to estimate their income data on the FAFSA. Eligibility will be determined using "prior/prior" year data, which is already on file with the IRS. Remember that your award letter is only as accurate as the information you provide. There is a small tolerance allowed for changes in a family's expected family contribution but large changes will result in a revised award letter. Please make every effort to quickly report these changes to our office to prevent unnecessary adjustments to your award during the academic year.

Important Note—corrections and updates to your FAFSA can result in changes to your award.

Changes to an Award Letter

Quinnipiac reserves the right to change, update or modify a student's award if circumstances warrant. We make every attempt to provide the most accurate financial aid commitment to you; however, the following factors often result in a modified award letter:

- Inaccurate information reported on the FAFSA
- Error in family size or the number of children attending college

- Corrections/updates due to verification of information
- Change in housing status (i.e., on-campus to living at home with parents)
- Change in enrollment status (i.e., full time to part time)
- Change in major or satisfactory academic progress deficiencies
- Large amounts of outside aid received (i.e., tuition exchange, outside scholarships)
- Aid offered/received after initial award (scholarships, state grants, athletic, etc.)

This list is not meant to be all-inclusive, but rather to highlight some common items that result in a revised award letter.

How Eligibility Is Determined

Cost of Attendance (COA)

In determining your financial aid award, the first thing we do is calculate your cost of attendance for the academic period for which you are applying for aid. An academic period is based on a student's typical enrollment of nine months. COA components fall into two categories:

- **Direct costs.** These are charges for tuition, fees, room and board that you pay directly to the university.
- **Indirect costs.** These are estimated charges you are likely to incur that are not paid directly to the university such as books, transportation and personal expenses.

The total of the direct and indirect costs is referred to as your "cost of attendance." The cost of attendance is an estimation of the personal and educational costs you may incur for the academic year. It does not include costs outside this period, such as J-term expenses, summer rental expenses, credit card payment expenses, exam or application fees or the cost of purchasing a new car.

Students who wish to borrow funds to cover the cost of a laptop computer should contact the Office of Financial Aid for details.

The following chart illustrates basic cost of attendance categories used to determine financial aid eligibility for most undergraduate students.

	Freshman Resident	Freshman Commuter at Home	Returning Resident	Returning Commuter at Home	Off Campus
Direct Costs					
Tuition	\$44,420	\$44,420	\$44,420	\$44,420	\$44,420
Student Fees	1,680	1,680	1,680	1,680	1,680
Technology Fees	680	680	680	680	680
Room & Board	*14,190	2,200	*14,960	2,200	*14,960
Indirect Costs					
Books†	800	800	800	800	800
Personal†	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
Transportation†	800	1,300	800	1,300	1,300
Totals	\$63,770	\$52,280	\$64,540	\$52,280	\$65,040

Tuition figures in the basic budgets reflect full-time rates (12–16 credits). Part-time budgets are averaged and prorated using part time tuition rates. Budgets listed are used for financial aid awarding purposes only. Actual costs may vary due to the actual number of credits taken, housing status and other fees and expenses. Credits taken in excess of 16 are billed by the bursar at a rate of \$1,020 per credit. Amounts listed for books, personal and transportation expenses are not part of the student's bill. Financial aid is credited to the student's account following the add/drop period in each semester.

† Note: Tuition, fees, room and board are considered "direct costs" and are billable by the university. Books, personal and transportation costs are usually incurred by the student and are not billable.

Cost of Attendance—Definitions

- **Resident.** A student living in a Quinnipiac University residence hall or property owned by Quinnipiac.
- **At Home.** A student residing with parents, grandparents or other relatives.
- **Off Campus.** A student who is paying rent to a non related landlord. A signed lease and proof of rent payments may be requested if a student's residential status is in question.

Costs are based on actual charges, weighted averages or allowances for indirect expenses for the student only. These costs do not take into account credit card debt, car payments, mortgage payments and other family debt or expenses you may incur. We realize that actual costs may differ based upon personal lifestyle and will vary from student to student. To remain fair and equitable to all financial aid recipients, we use a standard cost of attendance budget when determining eligibility for financial aid.

Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

The EFC is derived from the data provided each year on your FAFSA, including income, assets, family size and number of children in college. It does not allow for consumer-type choices, credit-card debt, mortgage expenses, etc. Your EFC is an “index,” which gives the financial aid office a picture of what can be expected from your family’s financial resources during the academic year. It gives us a minimum financial expectation and may be quite different from your actual out-of-pocket contribution.

Need

Quinnipiac University determines your need for financial assistance using the following formula:

$$\text{Cost of Attendance} - \text{Expected Family Contribution} = \text{NEED}$$

Because Quinnipiac’s admission policies are “need-blind,” students are admitted without regard to need. Like most colleges and universities, Quinnipiac does not have enough resources to meet 100 percent of every student’s need. Students and families who have unmet need or do not have the funds to meet their EFC may borrow additional funds or apply for a 10-month payment plan to help finance their balance.

Important Note—Because we are unable to meet 100 percent of your need, you may need to borrow or pay additionally toward your educational costs.

Quinnipiac Financial Aid Policies

Once a student’s financial aid eligibility is established, we begin the awarding process by funding a percentage of a student’s need with grant and scholarship aid. This percentage varies from student to student and is based on several components such as major, SAT score, class rank, financial need, etc.

Grant and scholarship dollars come from a variety of sources including the federal government, the state in which you live or from Quinnipiac institutional aid funds. To get an accurate picture of the total “gift” dollars awarded for the academic year, look at the combined dollar amount on your award letter.

The names of the grants may change from year to year as we award funds from whatever sources are available.

After grant eligibility has been determined, “self-help” aid such as federal student loans and federal work-study are awarded to complete your package. Of course, you have the option of accepting or declining any or all financial aid offered to you.

Quinnipiac University makes every attempt to keep your grant dollars roughly the same each year, provided your EFC and enrollment status remain relatively constant. We also will increase your self-help component based upon your grade level to assist you in paying for your education. Upward and downward swings in your EFC will cause adjustments in your package from year to year, but it is our intent to be consistent with your grant aid if all things remain relatively equal.

Common Factors That Cause Large Changes in EFCs Are:

- A change in the number attending college or family size
- A change in family structure (divorce, legal separation, retirement, etc.)
- Large changes in income or assets
- Errors or omissions on the FAFSA

It’s important to note that the federal methodology usually assesses the parental portion of the EFC proportionally based on the number of siblings in college. For example, if a parent’s portion of the EFC is \$18,000 with one in college, it will be \$9,000 with two in college and \$6,000 with three in college, etc. This proration works both ways and will change an EFC in the opposite direction as siblings graduate or withdraw from college.

Important Note—Quinnipiac University will verify the number of siblings reported in college so it is important to correct this data immediately if an error was made.

Let’s suppose a student has a 35,000 EFC, which is based on two in college. This student likely will receive some form of gift aid because the EFC is less than the cost of attendance. Once the sibling graduates, the EFC will double to 70,000, causing little or no eligibility for grant aid in subsequent years. It’s important to take this into consideration, as it is probably the most common cause of large fluctuations in a family’s EFC from year to year.

Outside Aid

We encourage you to be resourceful and seek outside assistance. While our office usually provides students with the bulk of financial assistance, additional aid can also be obtained from outside agencies. Families often inquire about the effect that outside aid will have on their financial aid package. Very simply stated, we make every effort to fit outside aid into your financial aid package. Outside funds are coordinated with the original aid package to:

- fill any gaps in unmet need
- replace work-study
- replace loans
- replace need-based grant as required by federal, state or institutional regulations.

On rare occasions, if a student brings in a large outside resource, such as tuition exchange, we may have to remove need-based grants or scholarships from the package. This occurs because federal, state or institutional regulations require that a student have “remaining need” to receive these funds. We also can increase a student’s cost of attendance to make room for outside aid by adding in lab fees, course overloads, mandatory purchases such as the cost of a laptop computer for a freshman, housing differentials, etc.

Types of Financial Aid

A variety of financial aid funds may appear on your award letter. Listed below are many of the common funds and a brief description of each.

Grants

Grants are need-based and considered “gift aid.” Repayment is not required.

- **Pell Grants** are from the federal government and range from \$598–\$5,815* for the year. Pell Grant awards are based upon your EFC, cost of attendance and enrollment status.
* current maximum authorized by Congress for the 2016–17 year—subject to change for 2017–18.
- **Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants** are from the federal government, and Quinnipiac awards students up to \$2,000 per year. Students **MUST** have demonstrated need and be Pell-eligible to qualify.
- **Roberta B. Willis Scholarship/Grant** is from the state of Connecticut and is awarded to Connecticut residents with EFCs less than 200% of the maximum Pell-eligible EFC

who graduated from a Connecticut high school. Full-time students can qualify for up to \$4,500 annually.

- **Quinnipiac Grants** are institutional grants awarded to full-time students with demonstrated need. These funds are awarded after federal and state grant eligibility is determined.

Important Note—Quinnipiac awards grant aid as a percentage of need. If you are from a state that does not have a grant program, you will receive the same amount of total grant dollars, regardless.

Scholarships

Scholarships are a form of gift aid, based on merit or ability. Repayment is not required.

- **Trustee, Dean’s and Academic Scholarships** are awarded to incoming students by the Office of Admissions and are renewable each year provided the recipient maintains a minimum 3.0 cumulative grade-point average and a full-time status.
- **Quinnipiac Transfer Scholarships** are offered to selected transfer students through the Office of Admissions and are renewable each year provided the recipient maintains a minimum 3.0 cumulative grade point average and a full-time status.

Important Note—All academic scholarships are awarded without regard to need, and are not available to sophomores, juniors and seniors who have never received this award as incoming students, regardless of their GPA. They are awarded for tuition only and are not applicable toward other costs.

Most academic scholarships are limited to four years of undergraduate study or the completion of a bachelor’s degree, whichever comes first. The scholarship letter will contain all of the renewal parameters and/or exceptions for renewal for select graduate programs where applicable.

- **Athletic Scholarships** are available for qualifying athletes as determined by their coach, athletic director and NCAA bylaws. Athletes should discuss their eligibility with their respective coaches.
- **Quinnipiac Multiple Sibling Awards** are available to full-time, undergraduate students who have a sibling concurrently enrolled as a full-time undergraduate at Quinnipiac. Annual QSIB awards are \$2,000 per full-time, undergraduate sibling. The QSIB award ceases once the multiple siblings are no longer concurrently enrolled as full-time undergraduates. The QSIB award is used for tuition only and is not applicable toward other costs.

Important Note—Families must notify the Office of Financial Aid each year of their eligibility status.

- **State Scholarships** may be available to students who reside in a state that allows funds to be used outside of their home state. State scholarships are renewable; however, the award is not considered final until we are notified by the state scholarship agency that it has been renewed. Although the estimated scholarship may be deferred from your bill, it will not be applied to your account until it is final. Incoming students should check with their high school guidance office for further details.

Important Note—It is each student’s responsibility to follow his or her state’s renewal procedure. Failure to do so results in the cancellation of the estimated award.

• **Annual and Endowed Scholarships**

Thanks to the generosity of friends of Quinnipiac, a variety of scholarships are available to students who meet certain criteria. Most of these scholarships are for sophomores, juniors and seniors and eligibility for these awards is determined at the time we review your file for awarding. Because these scholarships are very limited, we encourage you to file your FAFSA as early as possible to be considered.

It also is important to note that by accepting an annual or endowed scholarship, basic demographic and academic information may be released to the donor and/or selection committee.

Loans

Federal Direct Loans are available for students and parents with low, fixed interest rates. Listed below are the loan programs available at Quinnipiac University.

- **Federal Direct Subsidized Loans** are available to students who have demonstrated financial need. This loan currently has a fixed interest rate of 3.76 percent. Federal regulations also allow for the deduction of a processing fee from your loan. Students have up to 10 years to repay, minimum payments are \$50 per month and begin six months after a student ceases to be enrolled at least half time. Loan amounts are based on class level as determined by the registrar. Annual loan limits are as follows:

Freshman	\$3,500	Junior	\$5,500
Sophomore	\$4,500	Senior	\$5,500

- **Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans** are available to students who have no demonstrated need. This loan has a fixed interest rate of 3.76 percent. Federal regulations also allow for the deduction of a processing fee from your loan. Students have up to 10 years to repay this loan, minimum payments are \$50 per month and begin six months after a student ceases to be enrolled at least half time. Unsubsidized loans begin to accrue interest from the time the loan is disbursed. Students have the option of capitalizing this interest or making “interest only” payments while in school. Loan amounts are based on class level as determined by the registrar. Independent students and students whose parents have been denied a Federal PLUS Loan are eligible for additional unsubsidized loans.

	Dependent students	Independent students/ Dependent students whose parents are denied a PLUS
Freshman	\$3,500	\$4,000
Sophomore	\$4,500	\$4,000
Junior	\$5,500	\$5,000
Senior	\$5,500	\$5,000

Federal Unsubsidized Loan supplements are available to undergraduate students for an additional \$2,000 on top of their regular loan award.

*Interest rates and fees are subject to change after July 1.

Important Notice for First-time Direct Loan borrowers

Entrance Interview: All first-time Direct Loan borrowers must complete an online entrance interview before their funds can be processed. This interview can be found on the website at www.qu.edu/entrance and will take approximately 10–15 minutes to complete.

Master Promissory Note (MPN): All first-time Direct Loan borrowers must complete a Master Promissory Note with your respective lender for your student loan. It needs to be completed only once and is renewable for up to 10 years. The process can be completed online at www.qu.edu/MPN.

Federal Direct PLUS Loans are available to credit worthy parents of dependent students and can be awarded up to the cost of education less any financial aid received. This loan has a fixed interest rate of 6.31 percent. Federal regulations allow for the deduction of 4.3 percent in processing fees from your loan. Payment on this loan begins within 60 days after the loan is fully disbursed or payments can be deferred up to six months after the student ceases to be enrolled at least half time. Apply online at: www.qu.edu/loan. Both parent borrowers and students can sign electronically. To calculate how much to borrow, please see the worksheet on page 25.

Important Note—To be considered for federal loans, students must file a FAFSA and meet all other eligibility criteria.

- **Private/Alternative Loans** are available to students or parents who have exhausted all other means. Although some private loans do not require a FAFSA, borrowers are strongly encouraged to complete one to apply for federal loans, which often come with lower interest rates. Alternative loans are not federally insured, usually have higher interest rates than federal loans and often require a credit worthy co-signer. Information on private loans can be found at www.qu.edu/loans.

Work-Study

Federal work-study is available to on-time applicants who demonstrate need and qualify based upon FAFSA results. Jobs are available on and off campus and usually range up to 10 hours per week. Students are paid on a biweekly basis for hours worked. A listing of jobs is available through the Office of Student Employment or on the Web after July 1 at www.qu.edu/work.

Important Note—Please note that work-study awards are not applicable toward a student's bill.

A limited number of non-work-study jobs also are available on campus. Work-study students are given first preference for on-campus employment and all others are hired on a job-available basis. Students are strongly encouraged to apply as early as possible to secure a work-study position. Job placement is NOT guaranteed.

Payment Plan

As part of our continuing effort to provide affordable and convenient payment options, monthly payment plans are available to help you meet your educational costs. These programs are available through NELNET, specialists in education financing.

The Quinnipiac University payment plan allows you to make equal monthly payments as early as May 1 to cover one academic year of college expenses. There are no interest charges. The only initial cost to you is a \$75 non-refundable application fee. If you enroll after May 1, you will need to make a proportional down payment, and then begin your monthly payments thereafter.

Families can enroll online through “e-cashier” at www.qu.edu/bursar. Once you have set up your account through this secure website, you can authorize your monthly payments to be electronically sent from your checking, savings or credit card account.

Other Resources

Students should be resourceful when applying for financial assistance. Although the financial aid office makes every attempt to provide as much assistance as possible, it is impossible for us to be aware of every scholarship, grant or loan that may be available.

An outside scholarship book is available in the Office of Financial Aid and may be viewed during regular business hours. This book has applications from outside organizations with private funds to award. The largest free scholarship database containing information on more than one million scholarships is www.fastweb.com.

Students are encouraged to research their scholarship opportunities carefully and never send money to an organization to get money. If you are asked for an application fee, no matter how nominal it may be, we strongly recommend you avoid applying. Reputable scholarship agencies never ask students who need money to pay money!

A number of other opportunities are available to assist students in paying for college. Resident assistants can receive a room and board stipend during their term of employment, and some student government positions also receive partial tuition stipends.

Parents may want to inquire about tuition benefits at their place of employment as some employers may offer tuition scholarships for children of their employees.

Please visit our “Additional Resources” website located on the financial aid home page for additional suggestions.

How Much Will I Have to Pay?

The student's bill indicates all direct charges for the semester along with a credit for all accepted or pending financial aid. Students who applied on time and completed their paperwork prior to the generation of bills will see exactly the amount due. Late or incomplete applicants will have to estimate to ascertain their "amount due" for the semester.

To be considered in good standing, students must have their financial aid in order, along with any payment arrangements, prior to the due date of the bill. "Good standing" is defined as:

- Paid-in-full by the due date of the bill.
- Financial aid is "in transit" with an approved payment plan for any balance due.
- Loan paperwork "approved," signed and in transit.

Bills are generated for all students in mid-June and are due by mid-July. Students with questions regarding their bills are encouraged to call the Office of the Bursar at 203-582-5239.

Verification

Generally, Quinnipiac University selects incoming students who are grant recipients for a process called verification. Students may be asked to provide signed copies of federal tax returns, W-2 forms, a federal tax transcript, a federal verification worksheet or other supporting documentation. We make every effort to assure the accuracy of student aid awards and ask that families provide our office with all the requested information as soon as possible.

For all other students, approximately one out of every four financial aid files is selected for verification. A student's financial aid file may be selected randomly by the U.S. Department of Education but also may be selected by our office if the file contains any unusual or conflicting information. If your file is selected, you may be asked to provide our office with tax transcripts, signed copies of federal tax returns, W-2s along with other paperwork necessary to complete this process.

Our office will verify approximately 2,000 files annually, a very labor-intensive task for our counselors. As much as we would like to verify every file immediately, this task takes considerable time to complete, so please be sure to provide us with the most accurate information to avoid untimely adjustments to your financial aid awards.

The financial aid office notifies students who are selected for verification both electronically and by U.S. mail. If the appropriate forms are not received, follow-up notices are

generated monthly. If the process is not completed prior to preregistration for the spring semester (usually in early November) and a balance exists on a student's account, the Office of the Bursar will place a "hold" on the account, which prohibits a student from preregistering until the bill has been paid. A final request is sent to the student with a prescribed deadline to complete the process. If verification remains incomplete, all pending financial aid is canceled.

When completing the FAFSA, we strongly encourage all applicants to utilize the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT) to facilitate the fastest, easiest and most secure solution for meeting federal verification requirements.

Satisfactory Academic Progress

To maintain eligibility for financial aid, it is important for each student to maintain the minimum qualitative (GPA) and quantitative (number of credits completed) standards of progress as stated in the Quinnipiac University catalog and student handbook.

Eligibility for financial aid is measured at the end of each spring semester. Continued financial aid eligibility is contingent upon students meeting the criteria set forth by the particular grant/scholarship/award they are receiving. Students who are on probation or have contingencies on receiving aid will also be monitored at the end of the fall or summer terms.

Students receiving "merit-based" aid must maintain a higher standard of progress, usually a 3.0 cumulative GPA or better, for scholarships to be renewed each year. Failure to maintain these standards results in the loss of aid until these standards are met.

Students receiving scholarship aid also may have additional criteria necessary for renewal. For example, the Quinnipiac Multiple Sibling Award requires that a student and the sibling be enrolled as full-time undergraduates for each semester for which the fund is awarded, otherwise, the award is retracted.

Academic deficiencies may be made up over the summer or may be appealed as per the university's academic appeals process. It is up to students to know and maintain the standards required for their grade level, their major or their respective scholarships to receive uninterrupted financial aid from year to year.

Important Note—Students who attend "less than full time" are not eligible for most grants and scholarships. A reduction in financial aid may occur as a result of a full-time student dropping below 12 credits.

Special Circumstances

If you or your family has had a recent change in circumstances such as the death of a parent or loss of employment that significantly reduces income, please contact the Office of Financial Aid. A counselor will discuss the merits of your circumstances with you and assess whether or not these circumstances warrant further consideration. If we take additional family circumstances into consideration, you will be asked to provide documentation to support your financial changes and may be asked to complete a Request for Review Form for us to recalculate your eligibility. Special circumstances may be taken into consideration only if funds are available. Applications normally are not reviewed until late September.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

(FERPA) Federal law prohibits our office from disclosing certain types of information to individuals other than the student. If you want us to release information to a non-custodial parent or other person who may be acting on your behalf, you may sign an information release form, which is available in our office or online at: www.qu.edu/finaidforms.

Deadlines and Fund Availability

Important Note—Financial aid application deadlines:

- **Early Decision Freshmen:** December 1
- **Freshmen and Transfer Students:** March 1
- **Returning Students:** April 1

Financial aid is awarded on a “funds-available” basis and although late applications are accepted, we cannot guarantee adequate funding after the prescribed filing deadlines. Students are awarded on a first come, first-served basis and awards are made based on the FAFSA “date received,” which is provided to us by the federal processor. We make every attempt to award eligible applicants, but all awards are subject to fund availability. Late filers who are otherwise eligible may be placed on a wait list for funds if they become available.

It also is important to note that on-time filers may need to provide additional paperwork to receive an award. We recommend that information be provided to our office as quickly as possible for fund availability to be ensured. **If continued requests for missing information go unanswered, the total aid for which the student is qualified might not be available.**

Wait Lists

We are unable to guarantee funding for students who file late or whose financial aid file remains incomplete. Under either of these conditions, your award letter may not contain all the funds for which you might have been qualified. Federal work-study, Quinnipiac grants, federal and state grant funds are some of the more common programs that are limited in nature and eventually run out. Pell Grants, Direct loans, PLUS loans and private loans are usually available regardless of filing deadlines.

Eligible students who did not receive Federal work-study or grant aid because of a missed filing deadline or fund unavailability may call the Office of Financial Aid and request to be placed on a wait list.

Students placed on a work-study wait list are considered in late September after all funds have been reconciled and are considered for funds in wait list order. Students on a grant wait list will be reviewed only if funds become available and will be given preference based on their FAFSA filing date.

Scams—Beware!

Every year, financial aid scams pop up all over the country, preying on families who are nervous about applying for financial aid. Common claims by these “less than reputable” companies may include: “...billions of dollars go unspent each year; money back guaranteed; free seminar,” and so on. Most often, these companies provide no more in services than you could have received without charge on your own.

Other times, you may hear from “financial aid consultants” who also make lots of promises or charge exorbitant fees for their services. As with any business, there are ethical ones, and unethical ones, so please be careful if you decide to use a consultant. If you are asked to pay excessive fees, if the consultant refuses to sign your FAFSA as the “Preparer,” or if you are being coerced into providing false or misleading information, run the other way!

Important Note—Remember that YOU are responsible for all information provided on your FAFSA and by intentionally providing false or misleading information, you are subjecting yourself to fines, imprisonment or both.

Financial aid assistance is absolutely free through the Quinnipiac University Office of Financial Aid. We are happy to help in assessing your financial aid options and opportunities and are well equipped to assist with any financial aid questions you have.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q/ Do I have to re-apply for financial aid every year?

A/ Yes! Financial aid is not automatic and a new application must be submitted each year. You can file anytime after Oct. 1, and our deadline to submit the FAFSA form is March 1 (freshmen and transfer students) and April 1 (returning students).

Q/ I don't remember completing this form last year. Do I have to complete it this year?

A/ Completing a FAFSA is required each year. However, based on verification selection, changing requirements and regulations, differences in your financial situation, or any inconsistency in your application, the Office of Financial Aid may request additional documentation. This may change from year to year, so it is essential to read all correspondence and respond in a timely manner.

Q/ My parent wants to borrow a PLUS loan. Do I need to complete a FAFSA?

A/ Yes. All PLUS loan borrowers must have a FAFSA on file.

Q/ How do I determine what additional amount of funds I can borrow in a PLUS loan or private loan?

A/ You may borrow up to the cost of attendance (COA) minus aid received. If your COA equals the amount of aid on your financial aid award letter, then you cannot borrow an additional PLUS or private loan. If your COA is larger than the amount of aid on your financial aid award letter, then you can borrow the difference. Please see page 25 for the PLUS loan calculation worksheet.

Q/ If I have already started a semester, may I still apply for financial aid?

A/ Yes. You may apply for financial aid once a semester has started. Keep in mind that all paperwork must be complete, your FAFSA results received by the university, and your federal loans must be certified prior to the last date of enrollment for the academic period.

Q/ Do I have to accept the full amount of the loan offered on my financial award letter?

A/ No. You may accept part of the loan offered and can make modifications online when you are accepting or declining your aid.

Q/ May I borrow additional funds for the cost of a computer?

A/ Yes. Students who need additional funds for the purchase of a computer may request that their COA be increased to allow for additional borrowing. Quinnipiac does not offer

grant aid for these purchases; however, any increase in loan funds will serve to repay you for the computer purchase. Families may be interested in adding this cost to their PLUS loan if needed. Returning students must provide proof to the Office of Financial Aid that a computer has been purchased in the academic year for which funds are being requested. *Laptop computers are required for incoming students; therefore, anyone needing additional loan funds should notify the financial aid office in writing or by phone.*

Q/ I would like to take 19 credits this semester. Can I receive additional financial aid for these costs?

A/ Students taking between 12 and 16 credits are charged a flat, full-time fee for the semester. Students are charged a per-credit rate for anything over 16 credits. Our financial aid policy does not allow institutional grants to be awarded for charges above and beyond those of a full-time student. However, if a student brings these extra charges to our attention, we can increase the COA and consider the applicant for additional parent or student loans to assist in paying for these additional charges.

Q/ The names of my grants changed but the dollar amount remained the same. Why?

A/ Sometimes the grant funds you received last year are no longer available. Our office will award grant dollars from another program to meet the grant percentage for which you are eligible.

Q/ I know another family that makes exactly what we do, and they are getting more financial aid than we are. Why is that?

A/ No two students or families are exactly alike, and therefore, no two financial aid packages are exactly the same. Families often overlook some of the mitigating factors that impact a student's financial aid package such as merit, grade level, need, family size, number attending college, special circumstances, meeting deadlines, etc., all of which will factor into a student's award.

Q/ May I keep my financial aid if I am accepted into the study-abroad program for a semester?

A/ Yes. Your educational costs and financial aid package will be re-evaluated for the abroad semester. Generally, your aid will remain the same unless there are specific policies for a particular fund that prohibit the use of aid for these purposes.

Q/ I have questions about my financial aid and don't know who to contact.

A/ Don't ever be afraid to call, email, write or simply drop in to see us in the Office of Financial Aid. We're here to help!

Terminology

COA — Cost of Attendance

EFC — Expected Family Contribution

FAFSA — Free Application for Federal Student Aid

FSA ID — Your FSA ID is an electronic code you can use to sign your FAFSA online. Parents and students can apply for an FSA ID anytime by logging onto www.fsaaid.ed.gov

FWS — Federal Work Study

GPA — Grade Point Average

Hold — This is a restriction placed on a student's account after several attempts have been made to correct a problem such as a balance due, a form needed to complete a process, a missing MPN or incomplete entrance interview. A student may not register for classes until the deficiency is corrected.

ISIR — The “Institutional Student Information Record” that results from your FAFSA

MPN — Master Promissory Note

Need — Cost of attendance less your EFC

RRF — A “Request for Review Form” is available to help us assess any unusual financial circumstances that may warrant reconsideration of your financial aid package.

Quinnipiac Contact Information

Admissions	800-462-1944
Athletics	203-582-8620
Bursar	203-582-8650
Financial Aid	203-582-8750
Registrar	203-582-8695
Residential Life	203-582-8666
Student Affairs	203-582-8735

Outside Agency Contact Information

Federal Student Aid Information Center	800-433-3243
--	--------------

Useful Websites

Quinnipiac University

www.qu.edu

Your link to everything at Quinnipiac University

www.qu.edu/finaid

Office of Financial Aid at Quinnipiac University

Entrance/Exit Interviews

www.qu.edu/entrance

To complete your entrance or exit interview requirement online

Electronic Filing

www.fafsa.gov

To complete your FAFSA electronically

www.fsaaid.ed.gov

To apply for your FSA ID, which is your electronic code for FAFSA on the Web

www.qu.edu/loan

To file a Federal Direct Loan online

Scholarship Searches

www.finaid.org/scholarships

A comprehensive website for outside scholarship searches

www.fastweb.com

FASTWEB, the nation's largest FREE scholarship search engine

Ombudsman

The SFA Ombudsman works with student loan borrowers to informally resolve loan disputes and problems. This individual helps borrowers having problems with the Stafford, PLUS, Direct and Perkins Loans and can be reached at 877-557-2575.

Financial Aid Websites

www.ed.gov

U.S. Department of Education

www.finaid.org

The most comprehensive annotated collection of information about student financial aid on the Web. This site contains information on scholarships, scams and has an EFC calculator

www.qu.edu/npc

Calculate an estimated financial aid award — New freshmen only

www.nasfaa.org

National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

www.elmselect.com

Complete listing of private educational loans

www.saltmoney.org/register

SALT is a financial literacy tool

Plus Loan Worksheet

The worksheet below will be helpful in calculating the amount you'll need to borrow for the academic year.

Direct Costs — Fall and Spring Semester

Tuition and Fees \$ _____

Room and Board _____

Total Annual Direct Costs _____

Financial Aid — Fall and Spring Semester

Less Grants and Scholarships \$ _____

Less Student Loans _____

(write in the net amount of loans)

Total Net Financial Aid _____

Total Costs – Net Aid = _____
(Net PLUS Loan)

_____ ÷ .957 = _____
*Net PLUS Loan (Total Gross PLUS Loan)**

* The Direct Loan Program will deduct approximately 4.3 percent in fees from all PLUS loan proceeds so you will need to borrow a slightly higher amount to secure the amount needed to pay your balance.

Example: Simply take your “Net PLUS Loan” figure and divide it by .957 to arrive at the total gross loan amount needed to cover your balance. For example, if you arrived at a “Net PLUS Loan” value of \$10,000, the total amount you will need to borrow on a PLUS Loan would be \$10,450 (Net PLUS Loan = \$10,000 ÷ .957). Once the bank deducts the 4.3 percent fee on your \$10,450 loan (approximately \$450), you will receive two disbursements totaling \$10,000.

Financial Aid Staff

Dominic Yoia

Associate Vice President
University Director of Financial Aid

Laurie Folsom

Director of Undergraduate Financial Aid

Elizabeth Mongillo

Associate Director of Financial Aid

Joann Celello

Associate Director of Financial Aid

Mary Ann Sola

Associate Director/Loan Coordinator

Roberta Dorso

Financial Aid Assistant/Accounting and Special Projects

Deborah Grady

Financial Aid Assistant/Data Management

Pedro Ondrush

Financial Aid Assistant/Loan Aide

Kevin Currie

Financial Aid Assistant/Receptionist





Office of Financial Aid
275 Mount Carmel Avenue
Hamden, CT 06518-1908

T 203-582-8750
800-462-1944
F: 203-582-4060

finaid@qu.edu
qu.edu