

# Financial Aid



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*Financial Aid Director*



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*Financial Aid Advisor*

Trinity College seeks to assist every student in furthering their education and strengthening their relationship with God. In order to do so, Trinity College offers many options to help students fund their education. Financial Aid was first established in the 1600s with a single act of kindness by a widow named Lady Anne Radcliffe Mowlson. Her giving spirit and love for the students of Harvard University opened up the door to a rarely thought of concept: student financial educational support. In 1867, the creation of the Department of Education was authorized, and slowly, schools began to adapt programs to help fund students' education.

Students can complete the FAFSA beginning on October 1 for each upcoming school year. For the 2023-2024 school year, students and parents should use 2021 tax information when completing the FAFSA.

Financial assistance went nationwide with the Higher Education Act of 1965, which allowed students to take out school loans and qualify for federal and state scholarships and grants. Most degree-seeking students are eligible to receive financial assistance. Each student is encouraged to apply for financial assistance through the Financial Aid Office. Students should complete all documents required for receiving financial aid at least four weeks prior to the beginning of the current semester in order for an award notification letter to be expedited in a timely manner. It is recommended that students apply early and complete the FAFSA. Some types of aid are limited and priority is given to students who have filed all documented paperwork by January 1st.

## **Forms Needed**

1. Completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Go to [studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov) to complete, and submit the application. It is highly recommended that students and/or parents (of dependent

students) use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to import their tax information into the FAFSA application. In order to authenticate the FAFSA, students and their parents must have a verified Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID (user name and password). You can register for your FSA ID at: [studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/filling-out/fsaid](http://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/filling-out/fsaid). TRINITY'S SCHOOL CODE IS 030282.

2. Other forms as needed to determine eligibility by the FAO. Students will be notified by email and their financial aid portal if additional forms are needed.

*Priority deadlines* for submission of forms are January 1st (Fall semester start) and August 1st (Spring semester start). It is first come, first served with some types of aid.

### **Eligibility for Aid**

To be considered for financial assistance under the Title IV programs listed below, a student must:

1. Be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States with a high school diploma or its equivalent.
2. Have been accepted as a regular student by the Admissions Office or be currently enrolled as a regular student in a degree-seeking program at Trinity College.
3. Not be in default on a Perkins or Federal Student Loan.
4. Not owe a refund on any Title IV financial aid.

To remain eligible for assistance from federal, state, or institution sources, students must maintain satisfactory academic progress as outlined under "Satisfactory Academic Progress." To qualify for any of the programs of financial assistance provided by the U.S. Department of Education, it is necessary for the student to fill out the necessary forms listed under "Forms Needed" in the Financial Aid Office section above.

Students desiring not to receive any financial help, or who do not want all aid awarded to them, may decline any or all aid listed on their Trinity College Award Notification Letter. However, students are still responsible for their educational costs.

### **Types of Aid**

There are many types of aid for which a student may be eligible based on the FAFSA application. Awarding of grants, scholarships, and loans depends upon a variety of factors, primarily the student's demonstrated financial need. The most common forms of federal assistance include the Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG), Federal Work Study, and Loans. There are state programs such as Florida Student Assistance Grant (FSAG), Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program, and Florida Work Experience Program. There are also Trinity College's Institutional Grants and additional sources of funding such as Veteran's Benefits and State Rehabilitation. A student will receive an award letter directing them to log onto their student portal to view their financial aid offers. Through this online portal, students will have the ability to accept, decline, or adjust their award offers. Adjustments can also be made through the Financial Aid Office. Please note that students are still responsible for their educational costs, regardless of any adjustments made to the award offer.

*It is recommended by the Financial Aid Office that a student only accept the amount needed to cover their actual cost and therefore limit the amount of loans they have to pay back.*

### **Federal Pell Grant**

This grant is provided by the U.S. Department of Education and is based on need. This is a grant and does not require repayment. Those receiving a Pell Grant may be eligible for an early refund in order to purchase books. Students may see the Business Office to see if they qualify. Awards are based on financial need and enrollment status.

To apply for a Pell Grant, it is necessary to complete and submit all the forms listed under Financial Aid Office forms needed.

Pell Grants have a Lifetime Eligibility Used (LEU) of 600%. Once a student has reached 600% they have reached their maximum lifetime limit. Please see [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov) for Pell eligibility used.

### **Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG)**

This program provides limited assistance for students of exceptional financial need, who, without the grant, would be unable to continue their education. Pell Grant recipients with the lowest "EFC" (Expected Family Contribution) are given priority consideration. Eligibility is determined by completing the FAFSA. The Financial Aid Office administers FSEOG according to Section 676.10 of the Federal Regulations.

### **Federal Work Study Program (FWS)**

This program provides a limited number of jobs for students who have great financial needs. The College arranges on-campus or off-campus jobs, such as tutoring for elementary-age students in reading or math programs, as well as other community service jobs. These jobs are provided for students who will accept the responsibility of working faithfully at assigned tasks.

A student should make an appointment with the supervisor of the department in which he or she is interested in acquiring a position. Trinity has a very limited number of jobs available on campus. Offices on campus with possible positions are (but are not limited to) Admissions, Business, Student Services, Library, and Maintenance. The supervisor notifies the FAO (Financial Aid Office) via email and FAO determines if the student is eligible for FWS program. FAO notifies the supervisor of the eligibility. If approved, FAO will add it to the student's Award Notification Letter and process the FWS contract. The FWS contract should be signed by the supervisor and student. If it is not approved, FAO will notify the supervisor and the supervisor will notify the student.

### **Loans**

Loans are a common source of financing a college education, and students should enter into them carefully. The Financial Aid Office recommends that students discuss each loan option with them prior to deciding to borrow. Federal law requires all borrowers to complete a Master Promissory Note and to complete an Entrance Counseling Session prior to receiving the first loan and an Exit Counseling Session prior to leaving the College.

Both the Entrance and Exit Counseling Sessions will provide students with their rights and responsibilities as loan borrowers. The Department of Education will notify the school when these are complete. For assistance please contact the Financial Aid Office.

*You may complete the Master Promissory Note and Entrance Counseling Session and the Exit Counseling session at [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov). You will need your FSA ID and password to access the site.*

The Department of Education requires students who are first-time borrowers to have their loans held for 30 days into the academic year before they are deposited against the student's account. Loans must also disburse evenly across semesters of attendance. Therefore, a student will receive half of their loan amount in the fall and the other half in the spring. If a student is attending fall only or spring only, they would receive one disbursement at the beginning of the semester and the remaining amount halfway through the semester.

### **Federal Direct Subsidized Loan**

This program allows the student to borrow money from the Department of Education to help pay for college. A Federal Direct Subsidized Loan is one in which the U.S. Government pays the interest on the loan while the student is currently enrolled in at least six credit hours in a college. Interest generally does not begin accruing until six months (grace period) after the student has graduated or is not enrolled in a college, or drops below half-time (six credits); however, starting July 1, 2012, interest will accrue during the grace period for loans disbursed on or after July 1, 2012.

You are limited to the amount you can borrow. It is based on your dependency status (dependent or independent), enrollment status (i.e., freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior), and your yearly and lifetime aggregate loan limits. To check your aggregate loan limits go to [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov). You will need your FSA ID and password to access your information.

Eligibility is determined by completing and submitting the FAFSA. You must also complete and submit to the Department of Education the Master Promissory Note and Entrance Counseling Session (see above for directions). (See instructions for completing under LOANS.)

### **Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan**

An Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan is one in which the interest is not paid by the U.S. Department of Education under any circumstances. Eligibility is determined by completing and submitting the FAFSA. You must also complete and submit to the Department of Education the Master Promissory Note and Entrance Counseling Session. (See instructions for completing under LOANS.)

You are limited to the amount you can borrow. The limit is based on your dependency status (dependent or independent), enrollment status (i.e., freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior), and your yearly and lifetime aggregate loan limits. To check your aggregate loan limits go to [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov). You will need your FSA ID and password to access your information.

### **Federal Parent Plus Loan for Undergraduate Students**

This program enables parents of dependent undergraduate students (24-years old) and up are considered to be independent) to borrow in order to finance their child's education. By default, payments are required 60 days after the loan is fully disbursed. However, a parent may request deferment during the course of the application. The Parent Plus Loan is limited to parents who do not have an adverse credit history. If the parent is denied the Plus Loan, they will still be given several options on how to proceed, including an additional student loan being awarded to the student. Parents may apply at [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov).

### **Florida Student Assistance Grant (FSAG)**

The Florida Student Assistance Grant (FSAG) is a grant that is awarded to full-time, degree-seeking students who are Florida residents. Award amounts vary based on financial need. In order to continue to receive funding, a student must meet all renewal eligibility requirements, which can be accessed at [floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/factsheets/FSAG.htm](http://floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/factsheets/FSAG.htm). Student must provide proof of residency according to Florida statutes for financial aid purposes (once you apply FAO will contact you about this.)

### **Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program**

This scholarship is awarded in high school to Florida students who meet the specific GPA, SAT/ACT test scores, and other general requirements which can be accessed at [FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/bf/acadrequire.htm](http://FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/bf/acadrequire.htm). High School students apply for this scholarship by submitting a Student Florida Financial Aid Application during the last year in high school (after December 1st and prior to graduation). The application can be accessed at [FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org](http://FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org), under State Grants, Scholarships & Applications. The application gives the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) permission to evaluate the student's high school transcript and standardized test scores for eligibility for a Bright Futures Scholarship and other state scholarships and grants. In addition, a student must meet all renewal eligibility requirements in order to be considered for future funding. Proof of Florida residency is required.

The Academic Top Scholars Award (ATS), announced by the Florida Department of Education before the end of the fall term after all Term One disbursements are reported, is awarded to the Florida Academic Scholar with the highest qualifying SAT/ACT test score.

Bright Futures are based on a per credit hour amount established by the General Appropriations Act each year. Institutions are required to recalculate the Bright Futures award when a student withdraws or drops one or more classes after the Drop/Add period ends.

### **The Student and Financial Aid**

#### *Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)*

According to federal regulations, in order for a student to remain eligible for financial aid, they must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress. Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) is a way to show that students are progressing at a reasonable rate toward achieving their degree. There are two components of SAP:

1. *Qualitative*: Minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) - maintaining a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher. Cumulative GPA includes transfer work if applicable.
2. *Quantitative*: includes both the completion ratio (pace) and the maximum time frame—The completion ratio means maintaining a 67% semester credit hour completion ratio. For example, if the student signed up for 12 credits, they must earn at least 9 credits in order to be in compliance. Nine divided by twelve is 75% (over the minimum 67%). The maximum time frame is completing all required courses and graduating within the 150% maximum time frame. For example, if your degree requires you to complete 120 credit hours, those credits must be completed before the student reaches 180 credit hours. Students cannot receive financial aid for more than 150% of the credit hours required to complete their degree.

Only grades A through D- will be considered as credits completed. SAP will be reviewed at the end of each semester/term. Financial Aid Warning/Probation/Suspension Students will be officially evaluated for SAP at the end of each semester. Students will be placed on Financial Aid Warning if they have not maintained Satisfactory Academic Progress as outlined above for a period of one semester.

Students may receive financial aid during the warning period. If the student does not meet Satisfactory Academic Progress by the end of the warning semester, he/she will be placed on Financial Aid Suspension unless an appeal is submitted and approved by the stated deadline. During the suspension period, the student will be ineligible to receive any Federal or State aid. Institutional aid is given at the discretion of the college.

If the student chooses to appeal the suspension, and it is approved, then the student will be placed on Financial Aid Probation and receive an appeal agreement. Students on probation will remain eligible to receive financial aid as long as they adhere to the terms of the appeal agreement. If the student fails to adhere to their agreement, they will be placed on Financial Aid Suspension again and will be ineligible to receive financial aid until the above SAP requirements are met.

(Note: Some Federal, State, and Institutional programs may have more stringent policies than those listed above for Satisfactory Academic Progress.) Financial aid can be reinstated upon meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress in any subsequent semester, regardless of whether or not the student filed an appeal.

### **Financial Aid Appeals**

Students who have a question about their Financial Aid Suspension have the right to appeal to the Financial Aid Director. This appeal should be made in writing within thirty days after the date of the student's suspension notice. The student must submit a Trinity College SAP Appeal Form, including a detailed explanation of how their circumstances kept them from meeting SAP requirements in the past, and what has changed that will enable them to meet SAP guidelines in the future.

If the student had extenuating circumstances, such as a medical condition or serious illness, a learning disability, the death of an immediate family member, an involuntary call to active military duty, a documented change in conditions of employment, or other extraordinary/emergency circumstances (such

as natural disasters), the student must provide legitimate documentation to support their explanation along with an appeal form. Letters from family and friends may not be considered legitimate documentation. Appeals submitted without a detailed explanation and necessary documentation may not be approved. Successfully submitting an appeal does not guarantee approval, however, not successfully submitting an appeal could lead to continued ineligibility for financial aid. You can request a Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) appeal form from the Financial Aid Office or download it through the Financial Aid Portal.

## Veteran Benefits and State Rehabilitation

### **Trinity College's VA Certifying officials:**

Karly Dooley, Financial Aid Director

Corry Moore, Financial Aid Advisor

### **Veterans Benefits or State Rehabilitation**

Trinity College is approved by the Florida State Approving Agency for Veterans' education and training. Veterans qualify for educational assistance according to their length of military service. Widows and children of veterans who died or were disabled as a result of a service-connected injury or disease may also be eligible for educational benefits. Information may be obtained from the Veterans Administration or from a Veterans Service Officer.

### **A Pending Payment Compliance**

Facility Name/Address: Trinity College of Florida, 2430 Welbilt Blvd., Trinity, FL 34655. VA Facility Code: 319B2110.

In accordance with Title 38 US Code 3679 subsection (e), this school adopts the following additional provisions for any students using U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Post 9/11 G.I. Bill® (Ch. 33) or Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment (Ch. 31) benefits, while payment to the institution is pending from the VA. This school will not:

- Prevent the student's enrollment
- Assess a late penalty fee to the student
- Require the student to secure alternative or additional funding
- Deny the student access to any resources (access to classes, libraries, or other institutional facilities) available to other students who have satisfied their tuition and fee bills to the institution

However, to qualify for this provision, such students may be required to:

- Produce the VA Certificate of Eligibility (COE) by the first day of class
- Provide a written request to be certified
- Provide additional information needed to properly certify the enrollment as described in other institutional policies

## Military Tuition Assistance (TA)

Trinity College of Florida is approved to accept Military Tuition Assistance. Students using military tuition assistance should first check with their Education Service Officer (ESO) within their military unit or command for approval.

## Scholarships and College Grants

### Scholarship Awards

#### *Endowed Scholarships*

A limited amount of financial assistance is also available through the Trinity College Scholarship Fund for traditional students. Supported through gifts of interested donors, these funds provide assistance for worthy students in the form of scholarships. It is administered by the Trinity College Scholarship Committee. Awards are made annually and are divided over appropriate fall and spring term enrollments. The number of awards and quantity of awards are determined by the Committee and may vary from year to year. Some scholarships may be added to this list (as funds are available) or others may be deleted from this list (as funds are limited).

*Established scholarship funds include the following:*

- Abe Brown Memorial Scholarship
- Academic Excellence Scholarship
- Alumni Scholarship in Honor of Gary Williams
- Art Yohner Mission Fund Scholarship
- Bill and Janice Lanpher Endowed Scholarship
- Bragg Mission
- Charles and Emily Massey Memorial Scholarship
- E. C. Bragg Endowed Memorial Scholarship
- Dennis E. Cox Memorial Scholarship
- International Student Scholarship in Honor of Merten and Lola Fogleboch
- Gordon and Bernadine Ford Memorial Scholarship
- James Whitman Memorial Scholarship
- Jan Jendrynski-Rosser Memorial Scholarship
- Jean H. Binnion Education Scholarship
- John Minder Memorial Scholarship
- Joseph Koch Memorial Scholarship
- Lewis W. Smith Memorial Scholarship
- Lillian Seymour Endowed Scholarship
- Melvin and Kathleen Carter Endowed Scholarship
- O. C. Clark Memorial

Phillis O'Farrell Memorial Scholarship  
 Rockenhaus Memorial Scholarship  
 Ruth Munce Memorial Scholarship  
 Sammie Burress Hess Memorial Scholarship  
 Sid Williams Memorial Scholarship  
 Thomas E. and Ann C. Wade Endowed Scholarship  
 Vince Shaffer Memorial Scholarship  
 W. T. Watson Memorial Scholarship  
 Wilma R. Saling Memorial Scholarship

In some categories of institutional aid, students may receive only the highest award for which they are eligible. Institutional awards cannot create a credit on a student's account. In such instances, the award will be the balance remaining on the account prior to the application of student loans. Personal charges are not eligible to be paid by institutional aid. In the case of questionable charges, the Financial Aid Director and the Business Office Manager will make the final decision.

### Academic Merit Scholarship

*(amounts are per year)*

		<b>GPA 2.20 - 2.99</b>	<b>GPA 3.00 - 3.49</b>	<b>GPA 3.50 - 4.00</b>
<b>ACT</b>	<b>SAT</b>			
0-17	0-970	0	0	0
18-20	980-1050	0	\$1,000	\$2,000
21-25	1060-1220	\$1,000	\$4,000	\$6,000
26-36	1230-1600	\$2,000	\$6,000	\$7,600

- Renewable if the student maintains at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA or higher. If a student drops below 3.0, they will be on probation for the scholarship, during which they must demonstrate positive academic progress. If this is demonstrated by GPA increase, the scholarship can be retained. If GPA decreases, the scholarship will be removed and cannot be regained.
- 9-11 credit hours = 3/4 of original scholarship amount
- 6-8 credit hours = 1/2 of original scholarship amount
- Below 6 credit hours = scholarship removed

### Trinity College Grant

The Trinity College Grant is need-based and awarded as funds are available to full-time students who are attending TCF for the first time, either as freshmen or transfer students. Eligibility is based on FAFSA information as well as GPA.

### **Christian Workers Grant**

Dependent Students who are enrolled full time and whose parents are in full-time pastoral ministry or missions will be eligible for this institutional grant of \$1,000 per school year. Independent students (not spouses) who are enrolled full time and are full time pastors or missionaries, will be eligible for a grant of \$1,000 each semester, documentation of employment is required.

### **Church Matching Grant**

If a student's church provides him/her with a scholarship to attend TCF, then that scholarship can be matched up to \$1,000 per semester. Payment must be made to TCF directly. Matching funds will not be applied until payment is received.

### **Life Change Scholarship**

This scholarship is awarded to first-time students who are enrolled full time and living on campus. It is awarded to eligible students by the Financial Aid and Admissions offices.

### **General Eligibility Requirements**

Any student who is in default on a student loan or who owes a refund for any previous federal award is ineligible for any federally funded financial aid until it is satisfied.

Trinity College of Florida does not over-award students receiving institutional aid. Any institutional aid will be capped at the amount of the student's balance owed plus a \$350 allowance for books if funding allows. If a student is not receiving institutional aid, then he/she may receive a refund through other types of funding, ie. federal loans/grants.

### **The Federal Refund Policy (R2T4)**

A statutory schedule is used to determine the amount of federal funds a student has earned when he or she ceases attendance based on the period the student was in attendance. When a student who is determined to be a recipient of a Title IV grant or loan program withdraws from an institution during a payment period or period of enrollment in which the student began attendance, the institution must begin the Title IV Refund (R2T4) process to determine the student's eligibility of Title IV funds based in accordance with the calculations prescribed by regulations. There are several factors used to determine Title IV Refund (R2T4) calculations: official or unofficial withdrawal date, payment period or period of enrollment, amount of aid that was disbursed, amount of aid that could have been disbursed, percent of Title IV earned, post-withdrawal or late disbursement, institutional cost, amount of Title IV aid to be returned (if applicable), time limits, and reporting requirements.

Up through the 60% point in each payment period or period of enrollment, a pro-rata schedule is used to determine how much federal funds the student has earned at the time of withdrawal. After the 60% point in the payment period or period of enrollment, a student has earned 100% of the federal funds. Upon the completion of Title IV Refund (R2T4), a school is required to determine if a post-withdrawal disbursement is necessary for funds earned and not disbursed to students and/or parents. Recent regulations state that all withdrawals must undergo Title IV Refund (R2T4) if federal monies apply. The Federal Refund Policy (R2T4) is very encompassing and this is intended to be an overview of the policies and procedures that

govern regulations pertaining to Title IV Refund (R2T4). For further guidance on Title IV Refund's (R2T4) policies and procedures, please see the reference material found in Volume 5 of the Federal Student Aid Handbook under Withdrawals. You may access a copy in the Financial Aid Office.