APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID

In partnership with you and your family, we are committed to making a Harvard education affordable for all students. We consider carefully your family's financial circumstances and construct an aid package of jobs, loans, and scholarships to fill the gap between your resources and the annual cost of attending the College. Harvard awards financial aid on the basis of demonstrated financial need; there are no merit-based or athletic awards.

Our policy is to meet students' financial needs in full, and our determination of your family's contribution is based on a variety of financial considerations, not just income levels. Thanks to the strong commitment of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and the continuing generosity of donors, we are committed to providing the financial resources necessary to make the College fully accessible to students of promise.

If you qualify for aid, you will receive financial support for four years according to your need. You will reapply for aid each year; your award may be adjusted if family circumstances or resources change significantly.

If you do not qualify for aid as a freshman, you may re-apply as an upperclassman.

You may request a reconsideration of your aid package at any time, particularly if your family encounters unexpected financial difficulties.

If you wish to apply for scholarship, job, and loan assistance from Harvard, we must receive the following documents from you by February 1, 2003.

THE CSS PROFILE
This form should be filed with the College Scholarship Service. You may register by telephone (800.778.6888) to receive the CSS PROFILE or go on-line at www.collegeboard.com. Be sure to designate Harvard as one of the recipients of the CSS analysis. (Our code number is 3434.)

THE FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)
This form, available from your high school guidance office (or on-line at www.fafsa.ed.gov), should be filed with the appropriate federal processor. To identify our office as a recipient, use our federal code number: E00468, and include the designation “Harvard College, Cambridge, MA 02138.”

COMPLETE COPIES OF YOUR OWN AND YOUR PARENTS’ 2002 FEDERAL INCOME TAX RETURNS (INCLUDING ALL SCHEDULES AND W-2s)
If the 2002 form is not yet available, you should send the 2001 form initially, and send the 2002 return as soon as it is filed. For purposes of easy identification, the applicant’s name should be included at the top of the tax return(s).

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR STUDENTS FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES (INCLUDING CANADA)
All financial aid applicants who are not citizens or permanent residents of the United States should submit Harvard’s Financial Statement for Students from Foreign Countries instead of the CSS PROFILE and FAFSA.

SEPARATED OR DIVORCED PARENTS
In the case of separated or divorced parents, we require the custodial parent to submit the PROFILE/FAFSA and the non-custodial parent to submit the Non-custodial Parent Statement. We require a complete copy of the most recent federal income tax return for each parent. You will receive the Non-custodial Parent Statement with the CSS PROFILE or you may request a copy from our Financial Aid Office, or go on-line at http://adm-is.fas.harvard.edu/FAO/index.htm. If either parent has remarried, information about the spouse’s income and assets and dependents residing with the family unit must be included. The financial statement from the non-custodial parent should be mailed directly to Harvard instead of to the College Scholarship Service.

BUSINESS/FARM SUPPLEMENT
If either parent is self-employed or owns any part of a business or farm, he/she should submit a Business/Farm Supplement (included with the PROFILE or available on request from our Financial Aid Office or on-line at http://adm-is.fas.harvard.edu /FAO/index.htm) for each business or farm in which any interest is held. If there are corporations or partnerships, please include copies of the most recent business tax returns (Forms 1065, 1120, 1120-S, K-1).

NOTE: You should keep photocopies of all forms and documents submitted as part of your financial aid application.

You should know that each year a number of families receiving financial assistance are selected for a verification process, and will be asked to provide IRS certified copies of their tax forms. Should your family be selected, finalization of your award will be contingent on our receipt of those forms, and funding will be subject to our verification of the financial information you have provided.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
We recommend that you and your family submit a letter to our office if you wish to make us aware of unusual circumstances or information that will help us understand your family’s financial situation.
THE COLLEGE ACCESS PLAN

The College Access Plan is designed to help families pay the costs of a Harvard education by combining the elements of our traditionally strong financial aid program with a number of other components. First, for students who qualify for need-based financial aid, we guarantee to meet their full need with aid packages that are supportive and comprehensive, using a full range of jobs, loans, and scholarships. Second, the Plan offers all families flexible payment plans and long-term parent financing programs, including an option for families to prepay four years of tuition at current rates. Third, the Plan will provide part-time employment to all students who choose to work during the academic year. Finally, Harvard offers myriad research opportunities that enable interested students to initiate and to participate in research projects under the mentorship of Harvard faculty members.

The financing of a college education will vary from family to family, but most students receiving need-based aid will use the following sources:

Your Parents

It is our expectation that your parents will provide financial support for your entire undergraduate career to the extent that they are able. We determine an expected family contribution by analyzing the financial information your parents provide on required financial aid forms, using guidelines established by Congress, the College Scholarship Service, and the Harvard College Committee on Financial Aid. We assess each family’s financial situation with care and attention to individual circumstances, such as the ages of your parents, family size, the number of children your parents are supporting in college or graduate school, extraordinary medical bills, and other unusual expenses.

Yourself

You are expected to assume a realistic share of the responsibility for paying college costs. We will ask you to contribute some portion of your own assets toward freshman year costs, then a portion of the remainder in each successive year. We will also expect you to contribute approximately $2,000 from your summer earnings toward your first year costs and a similar amount in subsequent years.

All financial aid awards offered to meet demonstrated need of admitted students contain a self-help offer in addition to any scholarship assistance. For the 2002-2003 academic year, this self-help expectation is $3250, and can be met through term-time earnings and/or a low-interest student loan. We monitor carefully both annual borrowing and term-time job expectations to be certain you are not asked to borrow more than you can reasonably repay, or to work too many hours per week. More than 50% of our undergraduates use student loans to help finance their educations, and more than 70% hold term-time jobs. Jobs at Harvard or off campus are plentiful, and students work in labs, libraries, hospitals, and social agencies, to name just a few options.

Our recent financial aid initiative has enabled students to reduce their loan and job expectations, allowing them to spend more time pursuing their academic and extracurricular interests, and to incur less educational debt. These new policies benefit all current and incoming students.

The College

Scholarships awarded by the College come from a wide range of Harvard sources, including graduates, their families, and philanthropic organizations. All institutional scholarships are awarded on the basis of need, and in 2001-2002 individual scholarships range from under $500 to more than $35,000.

Outside Sources

Among scholarship granting institutions are federal and state agencies, parents’ employers, corporations, civic organizations, schools, and the National Merit Corporation. Any outside scholarships you receive will be used to help meet your financial need, and will reduce your loan and term-time job expectation dollar for dollar. Outside awards are considered additional resources and may not be used to replace part of your family contribution.
LOAN PLANS FOR PARENTS
For families who need or want further flexibility in meeting college costs, parent loan plans may provide substantial reductions in monthly cash outlay. Three educational loan plans are available to parents:

Federal Direct PLUS Program
Amount: Up to the full cost of education, less any financial aid received, for each dependent child in college.

Eligibility: No income ceiling, but loans are subject to credit check.

Terms: Repayment period is up to 10 years; the minimum monthly payment is $50.

MEFA Loan
Amount: Up to the full cost of education, less other financial aid.

Eligibility: No income restrictions, but loans are subject to credit checks and debt-to-income analysis.

Terms: A 15-year repayment period.

Bank of America GATE Undergraduate Loan
Amount: Up to the full cost of education, less other financial aid.

Eligibility: No income restrictions, but loans are subject to credit check.

Terms: Interest and principal repayments may be deferred until six months after a student’s graduation. A 20-year repayment period.

PAYMENT ALTERNATIVES
The University charges tuition and fees by semester. Under the standard plan, payments are due in early August and late January. The following alternative payment plans are also available.

Monthly Payment Plan
Families may opt to pay term bills with eight monthly payments, for a small service charge.

Tuition Prepayment Option
Families not receiving Harvard scholarships may participate in this plan, which protects against future tuition increases. Families prepay tuition at the rate in effect at the time they enter the plan. Contact the Financial Aid Office for further details.

EXPENSES
In 2002–2003, the basic tuition and fees at Harvard are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition</td>
<td>$24,630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Services Fee</td>
<td>1,798</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health Services Fee</td>
<td>1,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room</td>
<td>4,461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board (Meal Plan)</td>
<td>4,041</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SUBTOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$35,950</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Estimated personal</td>
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<tr>
<td>expenses, including</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>books and supplies</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL BUDGET</strong></td>
<td><strong>$38,450</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*An allowance for travel expenses to and from Cambridge will be added to your budget, and every student not already covered by a family health insurance plan is required to enroll in the University Blue Cross/Blue Shield Insurance Plan.

NOTES ABOUT EXPENSES
Tuition: the charge for a regular program of courses, normally four courses per term.

Student Services Fee: includes the costs of advising, social, and academic support programs, as well as campus security and building expenses.

Health Services Fee: covers outpatient use of the University Health Services.

Room and Board: includes the cost of living in campus residences. All students must take a meal plan, unless medical or religious considerations warrant exceptions.

Personal Expenses: includes the estimated costs for a typical student: books, supplies, lab fees, clothing and laundry, telephone charges, and additional needs such as recreation, entertainment, medicine, and local transportation. These expenses vary, of course, according to individual preferences and circumstances.