

REVOLUTIONARY THINKERS EMBRACE OPPORTUNITY.

FINANCIAL AID 2021-2022

Cost is an important factor to consider when choosing a college or university, but so is understanding the return on investment that your education will provide. UMass Amherst offers need-based financial aid and merit funding to those who are eligible, and we offer a great value and a healthy return on investment to all of our students. For six straight years, Kiplinger's Personal Finance has named UMass Amherst in its "Best College Values" reports.

Our commitment to helping students and families meet the cost of a college education is underscored in the amount of aid given to students. During the current academic year, the Office of Financial Aid Services will deliver more than \$312 million in scholarships, grants, loans, and work study opportunities to almost 20,000 students. Financial aid funds are provided through federal, state, university, and private sources. UMass Amherst operates one of the most comprehensive financial aid programs of any public university. Regardless of family income or financial aid eligibility, programs are available to help finance your education.

RISE TO EVERY CHALLENGE

HOW TO APPLY

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the only application used to apply for financial aid for the 2020–2021 academic year. The FAFSA should be filed as soon after October 1 as possible and before the priority date of March 1 for maximum consideration. In completing the application, be sure to list the University of Massachusetts Amherst as one of the schools on your FAFSA form. The school code is 002221.

The FAFSA form is available electronically. You do not need to be admitted to UMass Amherst before submitting the FAFSA. The first step to completing the FAFSA is to get a Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID at fafsa.gov. If you are a dependent student, at least one parent also needs an FSA ID. Your FSA ID will serve as your electronic signature and will also allow you to make electronic corrections to your FAFSA information once you have applied. When you have received an FSA ID, you can submit your FAFSA online at fafsa.gov after October 1.

First-year applicants who meet the deadline for submitting the financial aid application are notified of their financial aid award before the May 1 Candidate Reply Date. Transfer applicants are notified of their awards before June 1.

ESTIMATED ACADEMIC YEAR COSTS 2020-2021

	IN-STATE	OUT-OF-STATE OR INTERNATIONAL*
Tuition & Fees	\$16,440	\$36,428
Room & Board	\$13,938	\$13,938
Total	\$30,378	\$50,366

We anticipate increases for the 2020–2021 academic year.

* Please see the following link for a more detailed look at the international student expense estimates:
umass.edu/admissions/international/financial-and-visa-information.

For more information about costs, visit umass.edu/admissions/cost-and-aid.

Indirect costs: In preparing a college budget, it is important to include miscellaneous expenses. The full-year estimate for books and supplies is \$1,000; the full-year estimate for personal expenses and transportation is \$1,400.

Tuition Break Program: Students who are legal residents of New England states pay reduced tuition for certain degree programs not offered by their home-state institution. For further information and a list of eligible majors, contact the Undergraduate Admissions Office or visit umass.edu/admissions/facts-and-figures/tuition-and-fees/tuition-break-program.

IMPORTANT DATES & TIMELINE FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

To apply for financial aid at UMass Amherst, you need to complete one form, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, commonly called the FAFSA.

PRIORITY DEADLINE

THE FAFSA SHOULD BE FILED AS SOON AFTER OCTOBER 1 AS POSSIBLE AND BEFORE THE PRIORITY FILING DATE OF MARCH 1.

Be sure to list the University of Massachusetts Amherst as one of the schools on your FAFSA form.

The UMass Amherst federal school code is 002221.

When will the review process begin?

If you have been admitted to UMass Amherst, review and awarding will begin once Financial Aid Services receives and processes the results of your FAFSA.

Be sure that your name, date of birth, and Social Security number are the same on your admission application and FAFSA form. An omission or error will delay processing of your financial aid award.

TIMELINE

SEPTEMBER

- Create an FSA ID at fafsa.gov.
- Start the financial aid process early by beginning your search for private scholarships.
- Talk with your high school counselor about scholarships from local businesses, employers, professional associations, community foundations, unions, and religious organizations.
- There are many free, reliable online scholarship searches, but be sure you read and understand their privacy and information-sharing policies.
- Visit umass.edu/umfa/scholarship.
- Ask if your high school offers a financial aid night and plan to attend.

OCTOBER

- Complete and submit the FAFSA online at fafsa.gov. Use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to enter income information.

NOVEMBER – FEBRUARY

- You will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR), which is a copy of your completed FAFSA.
- The federal government will direct you to a secure website to review your SAR.
- Make sure that UMass Amherst is listed on your SAR.
- Review the information on your SAR carefully and make corrections to your information so that your initial financial aid award is as accurate as possible.
- Admitted students begin receiving financial aid award notifications via email.
- Financial aid awards are viewed in SPIRE, the university's student information system.

MARCH – APRIL

- UMass Amherst Financial Aid Services priority deadline to file the FAFSA is March 1.



STUDENT STATUS

The cost estimates are based on full-time enrollment (12 or more credits per semester).

Students must be enrolled at least half-time (minimum of six credits per semester) to be eligible for most types of financial aid.

EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION

Your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) is a figure determined by combining information from your FAFSA with standardized financial analysis for federal student aid programs. It is subtracted from your Cost of Education to determine your eligibility for financial aid.

A number of factors may cause Financial Aid Services to adjust your EFC in ways that can either reduce or increase your eligibility for financial aid.

TYPES OF AID

Financial aid funds come from three major sources: the federal government, the state, and from UMass Amherst resources. Awards include grants, scholarships, loans, and part-time employment. Most students, depending on their level of eligibility, receive a combination of these types of aid in their financial aid package. Programs include:

Federal Pell Grant	University of Massachusetts Grants and Scholarships
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG)	Tuition Credits
State Scholarship Programs	Federal Work-Study
Federal Teach Grants	Federal Direct Student Loans (subsidized and unsubsidized)

ALTERNATIVE FINANCING OPTIONS

Many financing options are available to help bridge the financial gap between college costs and the traditional funding sources applied for through the FAFSA. Alternative loans provide additional funding after a borrower has maximized federal loan eligibility. Please visit umass.edu/umfa for more information.

An interest-free monthly payment plan is available to spread your payments over a ten-month period, reducing the possibility of debt. Visit umass.edu/bursar for more information.

TIMELINE

MAY – JUNE

- May 1 is the deadline for first-year students to submit their nonrefundable enrollment deposits.
- June 1 is the deadline for transfer, Stockbridge, and postgraduate students to submit their nonrefundable enrollment deposits.
- If you are borrowing a Federal Direct Loan, complete the Master Promissory Note and Entrance Counseling online at studentloans.gov.

JULY

- Enrollment begins for 10-month payment plan. Information is available on the Bursar's Office website at umass.edu/bursar.
- Fall semester bills are available from the Bursar's Office.

AUGUST

- Fall semester bills are due.
- Disbursement of completed financial aid for the fall term begins at the end of August.
- All required and requested documents must be complete, and you must be registered for classes for disbursement to occur.

SEPTEMBER

- Financial aid awards are finalized after the add/drop deadline.

OCTOBER

- Complete and submit next year's FAFSA online at fafsa.gov. Use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to enter income information.

DECEMBER

- Spring semester bills are available from the Bursar's Office.

NOTES

- You must reapply for financial aid every year by completing a FAFSA form.
- If you are transferring to UMass Amherst, your aid does not automatically transfer with you. You must request that your FAFSA form be sent to UMass Amherst.
- If your FAFSA form is selected for verification by the U.S. Department of Education or UMass Amherst, the necessary forms and documentation to complete the process will be requested on your To-Do List in SPIRE.
- Financial aid offers made prior to the completion of the verification process will be considered tentative until the requested documents have been reviewed.

OPPORTUNITY AWAITS. INVEST IN YOUR FUTURE RIGHT HERE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON FINANCIAL AID AT UMASS AMHERST, PLEASE CONTACT US.

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