

2018 - 2019 FINANCIAL AID POLICIES AND INFORMATION

❖ *Parent Responsibility*

Williams believes that parents have the primary obligation in meeting the costs of undergraduate education. Consequently, the College normally does not acknowledge a student's financial independence and expects both natural parents, whatever their marital or legal status, to finance undergraduate costs according to their financial ability as determined by our analysis

❖ *Changes in Family Circumstances*

We expect you to report significant changes in your family's financial circumstances in the Special Circumstances section of the CSS PROFILE, or via mail or email. Failure to update or report this information may result in a reduction of aid.

Examples include:

- Increase in income or assets of greater than \$3,000
- Changes in reported college attendance of a sibling
- Outside scholarships not previously reported

Additionally, if you encounter unexpected financial difficulties, with timely notification and proper documentation, we can conduct a review of your family's situation that could result in an increase in grant aid.

❖ *Student Contribution Expectations for 2018 – 2019*

The college believes that all students receiving financial aid also benefit from contributing to their Williams education. This can include a student's own assets, summer and campus earnings, and in some cases a student loan. Following are our standard expectations for the coming year based on the class in which you were admitted:

	Summer Income*	Campus Job	Student Loan*
Class of 2019	\$1,950	\$2,700	\$4,000
Class of 2020	\$1,950	\$2,700	\$4,000
Class of 2021	\$1,950	\$2,700	\$4,000

* *These amounts are reduced for students with low parent contributions.*

Students may increase their student loan for various reasons, such as the purchase of a computer; to replace their campus employment, (especially if studying away); to make up a short-fall in summer earnings; or to assist with paying their parent contribution. Please contact your financial aid officer to learn more about increasing your student loan.

❖ *Federal Verification*

If your FAFSA is selected by the Department of Education for federal verification, you may be required to submit additional documentation. Please use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool, if you are eligible, to transfer income data from the IRS database into the FAFSA (and make no changes after data is transferred). We will contact the student by email if additional documents are required.

❖ *Summer Earnings Relief*

A one-time reduction in the summer earnings expectation may be possible for students involved in:

- On-campus research, travel / language fellowships, or competitive Williams (e.g. Mead, Mellon, Alumni) or external internships
- Course deficiency make-up
- Volunteer public service positions at non-profit organizations

Detailed information regarding these opportunities and the application form are available on our website at <http://finaid.williams.edu/?p=4831>.

Please submit the application by May 21, 2018, the last day of finals.

❖ *Study Away during the 2018 - 2019 Academic Year*

Study abroad programs such as Williams-Exeter Programme at Oxford, Williams-Mystic, Twelve College Exchange, or any other program approved by the Committee on Academic Standing can be funded with Williams and federal financial aid.

Students planning to study away MUST attend at least one of the upcoming Information Sessions in the Weston Hall First Floor Presentation Room:

- **Thursday, February 8, at 7:00pm**
- **Tuesday, February 20, at 5:00pm**

The Information session will cover requirements to receive financial aid while studying away, the most important of which are to complete and submit the following items to the Office of Financial Aid:

1. Study Away Budget Form, available for download at the Office of Financial Aid website
2. Program acceptance letter
3. Official documentation of program expenses – printed from the program's website or requested directly from them.

More information and specific deadlines are available on our website at: <http://finaid.williams.edu/study-abroad/>

❖ *Other Scholarships or Grants*

All applicants are expected to initiate or renew all local, regional, or national scholarships. Residents of Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Vermont must make certain that their state scholarship applications are filed by the appropriate deadline. **It is your responsibility to notify the Office of Financial Aid directly of all outside scholarships, prizes, and/or grants you receive.**

Federal Pell and state grants are considered entitlements and, as such, will be subtracted from your Williams grant. Outside scholarships and prizes will first reduce your student loan and/or campus employment and/or summer earnings contribution, then the Williams grant. **No student's total award may exceed his/her established need for assistance. This is a federal regulation.**

❖ *Living Off Campus or in College Co-op Housing*

Your financial aid budget includes a living allowance equal to standard room and board charged by the college. Consequently, your financial aid award will be the same regardless of your meal or housing selection. Contact, the Office of Student Accounts, at studentaccounts@williams.edu, with any questions regarding the impact this will have on your student account and possible credit balances.

❖ *Award Notification*

Assuming your application is complete by the deadline we expect to notify you via your Williams email in early July. Once complete, your award is available for viewing on your Williams Student Records account.

❖ *Special Circumstances and Contact Information*

If you need to send materials directly to the Office of Financial Aid, *please write your name, class year, and Williams ID on everything you submit.* It is not necessary to send any documents by overnight mail or special delivery.

If you have any questions about forms or would like help completing them, please contact the Office of Financial Aid:

Office of Financial Aid
Williams College
995 Main St.
Weston Hall, Third Floor
Williamstown, MA 01267-0037

Tel (413) 597-4181
finaid@williams.edu
<http://finaid.williams.edu/>