



Undergraduate Financial Aid

Today, 125 years after Stanford's opening day, a **robust financial aid program stands among the university's greatest achievements.** It is possible only because of the generosity of alumni, parents, and friends.

“...keeping open an avenue whereby the deserving and exceptional may rise through their own efforts.”

Jane Stanford, cofounder of Stanford University

A Rare Promise

STANFORD IS AMONG THE FEW PRIVATE AMERICAN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES THAT PRACTICE need-blind admission, selecting U.S. undergraduates based solely on their talents, without regard for their ability to pay. Even fewer can back this commitment with generous financial aid programs that promise to meet the students' full demonstrated need.

Benefits of Stanford's financial aid policies include:

- **Supporting the best and brightest students.** A Stanford scholarship opens the door to innumerable opportunities for academic and personal growth. For those who are the first in their families to attend college, their achievements can inspire whole families and even communities.
- **Building a talented and diverse community.** Different backgrounds and perspectives create a richer educational environment for all Stanford students, who learn as much from each other as they do in the classroom.
- **Preparing leaders of the future.** When students are prepared for leadership roles in business, public service, research, and other fields, their influence is immeasurable. Stanford graduates have a positive impact on countless communities and lives beyond the Farm.

What It Takes

STANFORD'S COMMITMENT TO FINANCIAL AID IS COSTLY. ALUMNI, PARENTS, AND FRIENDS MAKE all the difference in our ability to sustain this pledge. Undergraduate scholarships remain one of Stanford's highest fundraising priorities, with endowed scholarships and annual gifts equally essential.



Endowed Need-Based Scholarships: Strengthening the Foundation

ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS ARE THE FOUNDATION OF STANFORD'S FINANCIAL AID PROGRAM.

Dedicated to supporting students in perpetuity, they generate the bulk of our resources and help carry our commitment into the future.

Funding a Stanford scholarship is a direct way to open doors for deserving students and help them become tomorrow's leaders. It also provides a personal connection to today's students and a fulfilling way to give back.

The Stanford Fund: Meeting Immediate Needs

ANNUAL GIFTS PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN FILLING THE GAP BETWEEN FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE

from endowed scholarship funds and the total need of today's students. Because the university relies heavily on annual gifts, the broad-based support of all undergraduate alumni is essential.



In some cases, The Stanford Fund meets a student's entire need; in others, Stanford Fund dollars are added to endowed scholarship funding to complete a student's financial aid package.

The impact of Stanford Fund gifts on the bottom line is immediate and significant: A gift of \$10,000 exceeds the annual payout on a \$175,000 endowed fund.

While gifts of any size truly make a difference, donors who give at least \$25,000 per year to The Stanford Fund establish scholarships that underwrite financial aid for individual student recipients. Like endowed scholarship donors, Stanford Fund Scholarship donors have an opportunity to learn about and get to know their student recipients—an especially rewarding experience.

Athletic Scholarships: Rounding Out the Experience

TOP-NOTCH ATHLETICS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE STANFORD EXPERIENCE, COMPLEMENTING

the university's world-class academics and research. Merit-based athletic scholarships are a powerful recruiting tool and often a determining factor in enabling some of the world's best student-athletes to choose Stanford. For these high achievers, the Farm is one of the only places where they can play alongside the best while learning with the brightest.

Just as with need-based scholarships, donors who establish endowed athletic scholarships have the chance to get to know the students they support over the years. Annual donors who give at least \$25,000 per year also have the chance to meet their student-athlete beneficiaries and may enjoy benefits related to athletic programming.



LEFT: Nicole Jackson, '17, Recipient, Stanford Fund Scholarship

“From amazing faculty to my classes and student-run clubs, I have enjoyed each chance I’ve had to engage with my peers and learn from my professors. I’m very thankful for the opportunities The Stanford Fund has helped make possible.”

RIGHT: Jeremy Majerovitz, '16, Recipient, Marion B. and Arthur C. Hearn Scholarship

“Being able to attend Stanford and engage with a community of research economists has been one of the most important experiences in my life.”

A Defining Commitment

FROM THE UNIVERSITY’S EARLIEST YEARS, WHEN JANE STANFORD USE HER DECEASED SON’S boyhood savings account to create the Leland Stanford Jr. Memorial Scholarship, every Stanford education has been subsidized by donations from the founders, alumni, parents, and friends.

The university continues to affirm its foundational pledge to the “deserving and exceptional” by striving to make undergraduate education accessible to all admitted students. Parents of U.S. students with incomes under specific thresholds are not expected to pay tuition and/or housing and other expenses. Families with incomes at higher levels may also qualify for assistance, especially if more than one child is enrolled in college.

Moreover, Stanford’s Office of Undergraduate Admissions uses a robust strategy to encourage prospective students from under-represented backgrounds to apply. These efforts include outreach to community-based organizations and secondary school counselors, travel to summer enrichment programs serving high-achieving, low-income youth, and travel grants for admitted students to attend Admit Weekend.

Freedom from Debt

WHILE ALL STANFORD STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO HELP FINANCE THEIR OWN EDUCATION, they are not required to take out loans. The expected student contribution is now low enough that most undergraduates are able to meet the obligation with summer jobs, part-time campus work, savings, and/or outside scholarships. As a result, Stanford students now incur far less debt than the national average, and the majority graduate debt-free.

These policies are reducing the financial burden of students and their families. They also allow Stanford to remain competitive with peer institutions and continue to attract the most promising students.



For more information, please contact:

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Undergraduate Financial Aid | At a Glance

Expenses

	2016-17 (Estimate)
Tuition	\$47,331
Room and Board	14,601
Personal	2,700
Books	1,455
Travel	varies
Health Service Fee	609
TOTAL	\$66,696

Determining Need & Awards

The financial aid process takes into account each family's unique circumstances. All students are still expected to contribute about \$5,000 from summer earnings, work during the academic year, savings, and/or outside scholarships.

Stanford has established two thresholds to help families understand their potential eligibility for aid:

EXPENSES COVERED BY A STANFORD SCHOLARSHIP	ANNUAL INCOME THRESHOLD	
	\$65,000 or less	\$125,000 or less
Tuition	✓	✓
Room	✓	*
Meal Plan	✓	*
All Costs of Attendance	✓	*

**Depends on family circumstances*

Impact in 2015-16

3,890 COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
IN THE UNITED STATES

83 meet 100 percent of demonstrated financial need

64 are the most selective (admitting less than 25 percent of applicants)

38 both meet 100 percent need *and* are most selective—like **Stanford**

79%

of graduates left Stanford **debt-free**. The median debt for the remaining 21 percent was \$14,600.

28%

of Stanford undergraduates benefited from **zero-tuition** or **zero-parent-contribution** policies.

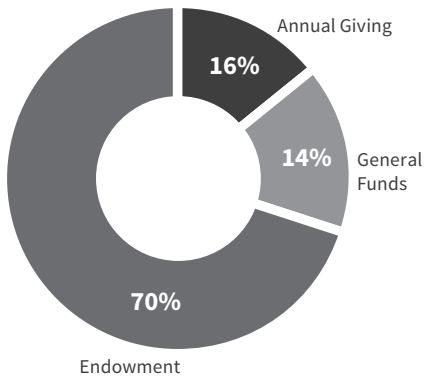
47%

of Stanford undergraduates received **need-based** aid from the university. The average aid per student was more than \$37,000.

1 in 7

Stanford undergraduates was the **first in his or her family to attend a four-year college** or university.

Need-Based Scholarships



SOURCES OF FUNDING FOR NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS
TOTAL=\$142 MILLION
(2015-16)

ENDOWED NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS

Donors who endow need-based scholarships receive annual reports with information about their student beneficiaries and the financial performance of their scholarship funds. Students are encouraged to write to their benefactors, and donors and students are invited to meet one another.

STUDENTS SUPPORTED ANNUALLY*

STUDENTS SUPPORTED ANNUALLY*	ENDOWED FUNDS
5-20	\$5 million
1-4	\$1 million
1	\$250,000

*Because scholarship award amounts vary based on each student's need, the number of recipients supported by each fund may vary from year to year.

STANFORD FUND SCHOLARSHIPS

Expendable gifts to The Stanford Fund of \$25,000 or more establish Stanford Fund Scholarships that underwrite need-based financial aid for individual students. Donors are stewarded in the same manner as endowed scholarship donors during the year in which Stanford Fund Scholarships are awarded.

Athletic Scholarships

ENDOWED ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Awarded for superior performance, athletic scholarships are often a determining factor as gifted student-athletes select a university. Donors who endow athletic scholarships receive annual reports with information about their student beneficiaries and the financial performance of their scholarship funds. Students are encouraged to write to their benefactors, and donors and students are invited to meet one another.

Buck/Cardinal Scholarships

BUCK/CARDINAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Donors who give \$25,000 or more to the Buck/Cardinal Club provide significant assistance in underwriting varsity student-athlete scholarship aid and program support. Donors are stewarded in the same manner as endowed athletic scholarship donors during the year in which Buck/Cardinal Scholarships are awarded.

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