

## Financial Aid Applicants

Duke University views its financial aid program as an investment in students and their futures. We seek a diverse student body and are committed to ensuring that aided students can take full advantage of the Duke experience. To that end, Duke admits U.S. citizens, permanent residents and a limited number of foreign students without regard to financial circumstance or aid eligibility and meets 100 percent of each admitted student's demonstrated need throughout their nine semesters of potential undergraduate enrollment.

### Transfer Students

The number of terms of aid eligibility for students transferring to Duke is based on the policy of up to eight academic terms and two summer terms of aid eligibility less the amount of academic credit granted by the University. This policy will allow all transfer students the necessary number of terms of aid eligibility for their degree completion.

Students may substitute additional summer terms in lieu of one or more of the eight academic terms. Students opting to follow this path must be informed in writing of the number of academic terms that will still be available to them. The student is required to discuss with his dean, etc. regarding his ability to graduate at the end of his proposed attendance.

Students may not elect to turn his two summer terms of aid eligibility into a ninth academic semester unless he/she is out of normal sequence due to academic or health difficulties. In other words, it cannot be primarily a voluntary decision based on a student's desire to extend his undergraduate career.

### Married Students

Your marital status does not usually affect dependency status for the purpose of awarding Duke financial aid. We generally expect a parent contribution toward educational expenses as well as a contribution from your spouse, if your spouse is not enrolled in college. A single student's standard budget is used to compute financial aid eligibility for you as a married applicant. The budget will differ, however, for students living with their dependent children.

### International Students

Financial resources for international students are limited. Each year Duke University expects to enroll 20-25 foreign students whose full demonstrated need has been met with a university provided need-based aid package. All international transfer students and all international applicants admitted with "no financial aid interest" will be ineligible to apply for financial aid for any year of undergraduate study.

International applicants requesting need-based financial aid will be required to complete and submit the [International Student Financial Aid Application](#) along with a copy of their family's most recent national tax forms. Applicants should also submit an English language statement from their parent's employers stating the amount of their annual income. Required forms should be submitted with the admissions application. We encourage foreign students applying for need-based aid to detail any financial difficulties that affect their family's ability to support their educational expenses. Applicants living with their families in the United States should instead submit the College Board's [PROFILE](#).

All foreign nationals, including winners of Duke [merit scholarships](#), must document the available funding for their education by completing and submitting the Certificate of Financial Responsibility (CFR) which is sent by the [Admission's Office](#) upon admission.

Scholarship support in excess of tuition, books, and fees is federally taxable. We encourage you to file a U.S. income tax return as soon as you receive your U.S. tax statement 1042S for taxable scholarships and your W-2 forms for wages earned. An Individual Taxpayer Identification number (ITIN) is required for all international students to receive scholarship funds.

Students receiving ANY kind of University financial aid/scholarship (need, merit or athletic) are also required to complete a Foreign National Form and a payroll certification. The Foreign National Form can be completed at the Undergraduate Financial Aid Office while the Payroll Certification must be completed at the International Office.

Please note that if you are an international student admitted without financial aid you are expected to fully fund your studies while at Duke University. Financial aid will not be available to you in later years. Duke cannot assume financial responsibility for international factors such as currency fluctuations in determining financial aid. Additionally, Duke cannot make up foregone resources such as lost support from friends or relatives or your decision to decline outside aid.

### **Independent Students**

In determining financial need and scholarship eligibility, we consider parents' income and assets unless you are an orphan, a ward of the court, or have an extreme adverse home situation. We expect you and your parents (and your spouse, in the case of married students) to assume primary responsibility for your educational expenses. You will be considered independent for federal grant (Pell Grant) and loan (Stafford) purposes if you meet the following conditions:

- Born before January 1, 1986
- Active Duty member or Veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces
- Ward of the court or both parents are deceased
- Married
- Graduate or professional student
- Have legal dependents, according to federal definition.

### **Students with Divorced or Separated Parents**

Duke's policy for determining the financial need of students from divorced or separated families is based on the general principle that parents are responsible for the post-secondary education of their children to the extent that they are financially able. Analysis begins with the custodial family unit and then additional information is sought concerning the noncustodial family unit. In the case of remarriage of either or both natural parents, the standard approach would be to request information from all parents and spouses. GENERALLY, a contribution from the income and assets of no more than two parents will be expected. As with students whose parents are married to one another, ability to pay, not willingness, will be used to determine the contribution. The non-custodial parent must complete the CSS Non-custodial Profile.

If a parent or student requests that the NC Profile be waived AND/OR the counselor discerns that a waiver of the requirement may be appropriate, a waiver form must be completed. If the committee approves the waiver, the family is notified in writing.

The student's custodial parent must file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the CSS Profile Form. The custodial parent is the parent with whom the student lived with most in the last 12 months. The noncustodial parent must complete the Noncustodial Parent's Profile (online) and submit a copy of his or her 2008 Federal income tax return with W-2 forms to College Board IDOC. If the noncustodial parent owns a business and files a tax return for that business, a copy of the partnership/corporate return should also be included.