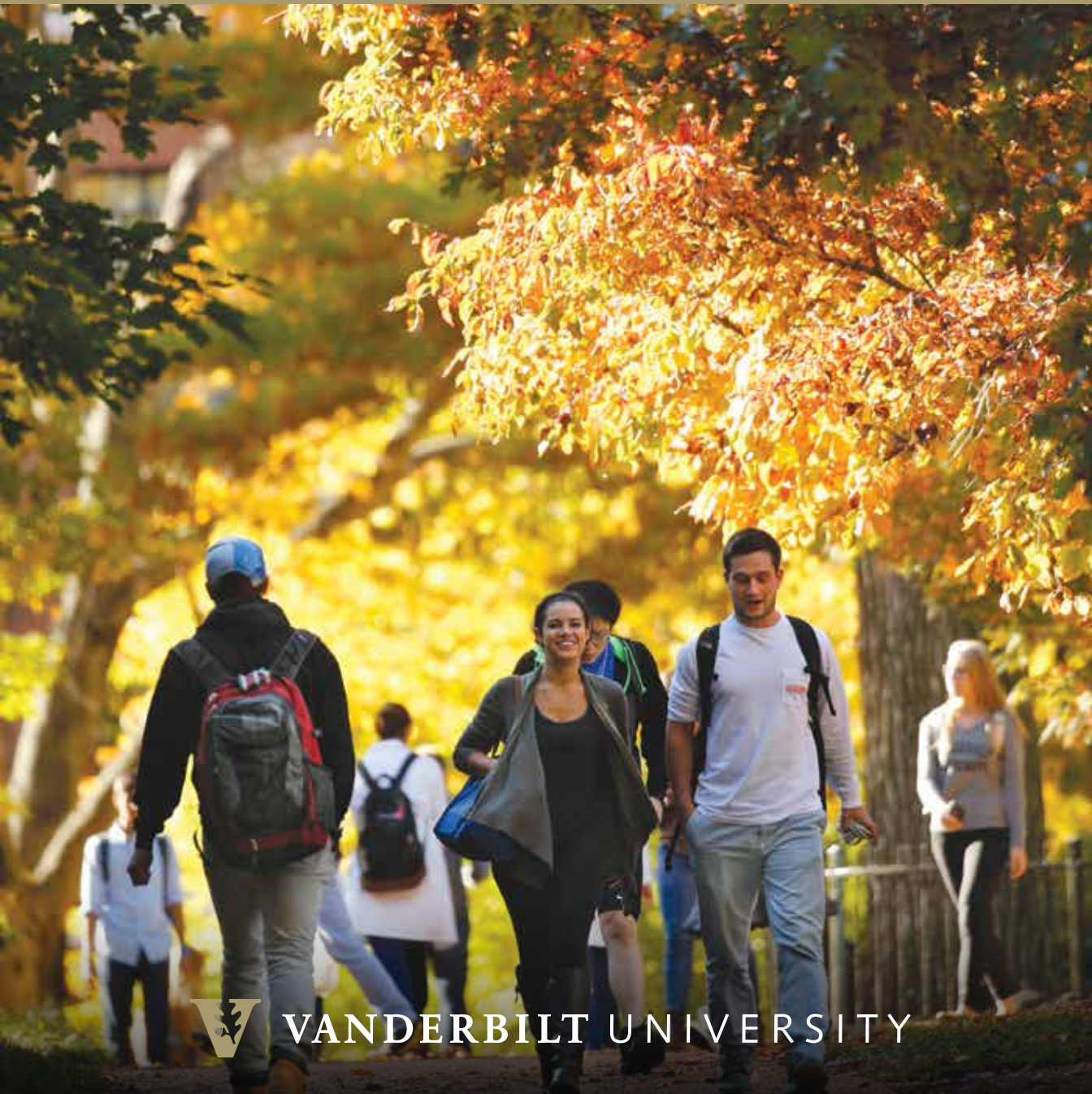


# FINANCIAL AID

Opportunity Vanderbilt Offers Greater Affordability



VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

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Accessing and Affording the Dream

INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS  
ENTERING IN THE FALL OF 2016



[vanderbilt.edu/financialaid](https://vanderbilt.edu/financialaid)

# OPPORTUNITY VANDERBILT

## Opening Doors for Future Commodores

Our resolve to make a Vanderbilt education accessible and affordable to all admitted students is stronger than ever. Opportunity Vanderbilt encompasses **Three Important Commitments** that reflect our dedication to making a Vanderbilt education possible.

Providing for a college experience is one of the largest single investments a family will make, and we strongly believe that a Vanderbilt education is worth it. As a result, we do three very important things to make it possible for students from many different economic circumstances to enroll at Vanderbilt.

1

Since talent and promise recognize no social, cultural, economic, or geographic boundaries, **our admissions process is need-blind** for U.S. citizens and eligible non-citizens. This means your family's ability to pay for a Vanderbilt education is not a factor in our admissions process. Our goal is to admit students who will be academically successful and contribute to our community.

2

**Vanderbilt will meet 100% of demonstrated financial need** for all admitted students. With the additional investment that we make in your future, many students often pay no more to attend Vanderbilt than they would pay to attend a college with a lower total cost.

3

**Financial aid awards do not include loans.** Instead of offering need-based loans to undergraduate students, Vanderbilt offers additional grant/gift assistance. This initiative does not involve income bands or "cut-offs" that impact or limit eligibility.

Opportunity Vanderbilt's three commitments place Vanderbilt among a small number of U.S. universities to adopt these philosophies and allocate the resources necessary to make a premier college education a reality for students and their families.

The average need-based financial aid package for first-year students entering fall 2015 contained

97%  
GIFT AID  
AND  
3%  
WORK



Financial aid packages do not include loans to meet demonstrated need.

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## *The Financial Aid Award*

The typical need-based financial aid award that Vanderbilt offers to eligible first-year undergraduates consists of a combination of grants, scholarships, and employment opportunities/expectations.

Grants and scholarships come from various sources including Vanderbilt, federal, state, and private sources. **These funds are considered “gift” assistance and do not have to be repaid.** Employment opportunities offer students a chance to gain valuable work experience in addition to receiving a paycheck for their hours worked.

Loans are not included in financial aid packages. Opportunity Vanderbilt provides the ability to graduate debt free. However, under certain circumstances or by request, loans from federal and other sources may ultimately be made available to students to replace any work expectation in the award or to replace some portion of the family’s expected contribution.

# Gift Assistance Awarded to

## First-Year Vanderbilt Undergraduates

**94.5%**  
**VANDERBILT**  
GIFT ASSISTANCE

**3.9%**  
**FEDERAL AND STATE**  
ASSISTANCE

**1.6%**  
GIFT ASSISTANCE FROM  
OTHER SOURCES



## Gift Assistance

Vanderbilt Grants and Scholarships

**\$38,918,654**

+ Federal and State Grants

**\$1,610,251**

+ Other Sources

**\$652,169**

TOTAL AMOUNT

**\$41,181,074**

from all sources, awarded to all first-year undergraduate students for the 2015/16 academic year.

*vanderbilt.edu/financialaid*



WE INDIVIDUALLY REVIEW  
**100%**

**of the need-based financial aid applications from students and commit to meeting 100% of each admitted student's demonstrated financial need.**

## How Need is Determined

Financial need is determined using the financial data you and your family submit. Each student's file is reviewed on a case-by-case basis in order to determine his/her Expected Family Contribution (EFC).

Once your EFC has been determined, your financial aid officer will calculate the difference between the cost of attending Vanderbilt and the contribution expected from you and your parents. This is your financial need.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{COST OF} \\
 \text{ATTENDANCE} \\
 \text{MINUS} \\
 \text{EFC} \\
 \text{(EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION)} \\
 \text{EQUALS} \\
 \text{FINANCIAL NEED}
 \end{array}$$

## Estimated cost of attendance, 2015/16

Tuition and Fees (71%)	\$45,460
+ Room and Board (23%)	\$14,670
+ Books and Personal (6%)	\$4,150
<b>Estimated Total</b> (For One Academic Year)	<b>\$64,280*</b>

*\*An allowance for travel will also be added to this cost and is calculated based upon the student's state of residence.*

*\*First-year engineering students are required to either purchase a laptop from Vanderbilt or provide their own computer that meets or exceeds School of Engineering requirements. The current estimate for the computer if purchased through Vanderbilt is \$1,500. In addition, each engineering student must pay a laboratory fee of \$650. These amounts will be added to the cost of attendance.*

# Revealing the Numbers

There is no specific income that will automatically qualify a family to receive need-based aid at Vanderbilt. Income is only one consideration when determining eligibility for need-based financial aid. Other significant factors include, but are not limited to: family size; number of children in college; private elementary and secondary tuition expenses; and family assets.

Applying for need-based aid is the only way to accurately determine your eligibility for such financial assistance.

## Need-Based Awards to First-Year Vanderbilt Students 2015/16\*

Income Range	Median Award	# of Awards	Award Range
\$0 - 39,999	\$63,014	89	\$16,559 - 67,666
\$40,000 - 59,999	\$61,786	89	\$13,049 - 66,584
\$60,000 - 79,999	\$56,862	84	\$20,534 - 64,967
\$80,000 - 99,999	\$53,029	96	\$14,499 - 63,546
\$100,000 - 119,999	\$49,259	94	\$8,800 - 64,509
\$120,000 - 139,999	\$44,976	74	\$9,692 - 61,420
\$140,000 - 159,999	\$39,486	52	\$19,809 - 54,836
\$160,000 - 179,999	\$35,863	51	\$9,337 - 49,960
\$180,000 - 199,999	\$22,953	41	\$5,155 - 54,308
\$200,000 +	\$20,757	55	\$2,966 - 44,295

\*As of June 15, 2015

[vanderbilt.edu/financialaid](http://vanderbilt.edu/financialaid)



IN 2014/15

65%

OF VANDERBILT STUDENTS  
RECEIVED SOME TYPE OF  
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM  
ONE OR MORE SOURCES

# How to Apply

Financial aid forms and instructions are available at [vanderbilt.edu/financialaid](http://vanderbilt.edu/financialaid)

## SIMPLY SUBMIT TWO FORMS:

College Scholarship  
Service (CSS)  
Financial Aid  
**PROFILE**

Free Application for  
Federal Student Aid  
**(FAFSA)**

Your FAFSA and CSS PROFILE results will be sent to us electronically.



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**PAY ATTENTION TO DEADLINES.**  
**COMPLETE THE TWO  
REQUIRED FORMS.**

**For assistance, contact us  
at (800) 288-0204 or  
[finaid@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:finaid@vanderbilt.edu).**

Upon receipt of these two forms, we will review them and if necessary, request additional documentation to verify your information. If you are admitted to Vanderbilt, we will send you an award letter detailing your financial aid package based upon the timetable listed to the right.

THE AVERAGE YEARS  
OF EXPERIENCE

**22**

shared by the **Office of Student  
Financial Aid and Scholarships**  
counseling and administrative staff.



# Merit-Based Scholarships

## at Vanderbilt

In addition to need-based assistance, Vanderbilt awards merit-based scholarships to applicants who demonstrate exceptional accomplishment and intellectual promise. These students represent the top 1 percent of all freshman applicants to Vanderbilt. Three signature scholarship programs—the Ingram Scholarship Program, Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholarship Program, and Chancellor’s Scholars Program—comprise the majority of Vanderbilt’s

merit-based scholarships. Recipients of these signature scholarships are guaranteed full-tuition awards, plus summer stipends for study abroad, research, or service projects. Additional merit-based scholarships beyond the three signature programs are also available to qualified students. For more detailed information, deadlines, and application information, visit [vanderbilt.edu/scholarships](http://vanderbilt.edu/scholarships).

# Need-Based Financial Aid

## Dates and Deadlines

### Early Decision I

November 9, 2015 . . . . . Priority filing deadline for CSS PROFILE  
December 15, 2015 . . Preliminary financial aid award notification  
February 1, 2016 . . . . . Priority filing deadline for FAFSA  
April 1, 2016 . . . . . Updated financial aid award mailed

### Early Decision II

January 4, 2016 . . . . . Priority filing deadline for CSS PROFILE  
February 1, 2016 . . . . . Priority filing deadline for FAFSA  
February 15, 2016 . . . Preliminary financial aid award notification  
April 1, 2016 . . . . . Updated financial award mailed

### Regular Decision

February 1, 2016 . . . . . Priority filing deadline for CSS PROFILE\*  
February 1, 2016 . . . . . Priority filing deadline for FAFSA  
April 1, 2016 . . . . . Financial aid award mailed

*\*For international students, priority filing date is January 4, 2016.*



# Frequently Asked Questions

## When I apply for need-based financial aid, am I also being considered for Vanderbilt merit-based scholarships?

**No, to be considered for merit-based scholarships, you must** submit the appropriate applications via your MyAppVU portal after you apply for admission. Additional information regarding scholarships, including opportunities for National Merit Finalists, can be found at [vanderbilt.edu/scholarships](http://vanderbilt.edu/scholarships).

## How can I find out about scholarships or financial aid that may be available outside of Vanderbilt?

**Vanderbilt students have been very successful in obtaining** outside sources of assistance. For example, during the 2014/15 academic year, Vanderbilt undergraduates were awarded outside assistance of more than \$6,245,000. This included more than \$2.4 million in gift assistance from the Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship program (up to \$5,500 per year, per student).

Also included was \$3,477,229 awarded to students after applying on their own to sponsoring organizations including parents' employers, religious organizations, fraternal societies, women's clubs, and veterans groups. Information and advice regarding outside sources of assistance can be obtained through your high school guidance counselor, publications, and the Internet. You may also access FastWeb, a free resource for information regarding scholarship opportunities available from a variety of entities, at [fastweb.com](http://fastweb.com).

## Can my parents secure a loan to help pay for my educational expenses?

**The Federal Direct PLUS Loan provides an opportunity for** parents to potentially borrow up to your full cost of attendance for each academic year, minus any financial assistance received. Information regarding the PLUS Loan can be found on our website at [vanderbilt.edu/financialaid/loans-payment/fedplus.php](http://vanderbilt.edu/financialaid/loans-payment/fedplus.php).

## How will outside scholarships affect my financial aid package?

**Based upon past experience, we anticipate that many of** our first-year undergraduate students will receive outside scholarships or other gift assistance to help fund their educational costs. Any outside scholarship(s) must be taken into account as part of your total need-based financial aid package and cannot be counted as part of, or as a replacement for, your Expected Family Contribution (EFC).

If an adjustment in your need-based financial aid package is necessary, the outside scholarship will be used first to replace an equivalent amount of academic year earnings expectation. Receipt of outside scholarship funds may sometimes result in a reduction of other grant/gift funds, but such reductions will be made only as a last resort and only if no other options exist.





FIND MORE ANSWERS AT

[vanderbilt.edu/financialaid](https://vanderbilt.edu/financialaid)

For questions about need-based and merit-based financial aid, please contact:

**Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships**

Monday–Friday 8 a.m.–5 p.m. CT

by phone at (615) 322-3591 or

(800) 288-0204 or by email at

[financialaid@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:financialaid@vanderbilt.edu)

### May I use my financial aid for a study abroad program/semester?

Students may use their financial aid for study abroad in approved Vanderbilt programs that are coordinated by the Global Education Office and offered during the fall and/or spring semesters.

### What types of employment opportunities are available?

There are a variety of jobs available on campus and in the surrounding Nashville area that provide part-time employment opportunities for students. Payment is dependent upon the position obtained and the type of work performed. Students earn a paycheck for the hours worked each pay period, and those funds may be saved or applied to living expenses.

### Will I receive the same need-based financial aid package every year?

While Vanderbilt's costs may increase from year to year, if your family's circumstances—particularly the number of family members, family members in college, income, and assets—remain relatively unchanged, you can expect to receive a comparable amount of aid during your upperclass years. To be considered for institutional need-based financial assistance from Vanderbilt, you must reapply each year by completing the College Scholarship Service (CSS) Financial Aid PROFILE. To be considered for federal, state, and institutional financial aid programs, you must reapply each year by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).



VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

**Office of Student Financial Aid  
and Scholarships**

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