



Financial Aid General Information for 2009-2010

The University of Mary Washington offers financial aid to students without regard to physical ability, political affiliation, marital status, sex, color, race, religion, age, or national origin. Each year, UMW administers over \$18 million in financial assistance, including educational loans of \$14 million, for students at both campuses. Through a variety of grants, scholarships, loans and student employment from federal, state, institutional and private resources, the Office of Financial Aid assists applicants with resources to pay for college expenses. **Additional information and all forms, including student employment may be found on-line at <http://www.umw.edu/financialaid>.**

The Office of Financial Aid awards only need-based aid (requires valid FAFSA results) plus federal unsubsidized Stafford loans, parent loans and alternative loans. Students' award letters reflect all need based scholarships and grants for which they are eligible. Families requiring additional funds may consider the tuition payment plan offered through the Office of Students Accounts (<http://www.umw.edu/studentaccounts>) or parent and alternative loans. UMW Foundation scholarship recipients are determined by committee in June and require students to submit the Scholarship Information Form (available on-line) to the Office of Financial Aid on or before May 30.

Carefully read all notices and enclosures from the Office of Financial Aid! All freshmen and transfer students, as well as continuing students who are selected for verification, must submit copies of their 2008 federal tax returns, W-2 forms and the Verification Worksheet. Additionally, the above-listed dependent students must submit copies of their parents' 2008 federal tax returns and W-2 forms. In cases where no changes are made to the award, the original notification will act as the final award. First-time Stafford loan borrowers at UMW must complete Loan Entrance Counseling. **Students who do not file the FAFSA by the published priority dates or who have incomplete files on June 5 will be considered late filers and have their awards canceled.** Canceled scholarship and grant aid is awarded to other eligible students. Late filers may still receive student loans for fall provided their files are complete by November 1. The final date for completing files for spring loans is March 1. Students enrolled at CGPS should also refer to the CGPS Financial Aid Supplement located on our Web site.

Most initial awards are based on full-time enrollment. Student with changes to their awards receive notifications of the changes. Revisions are made when aid changes, the verification process has been completed, or the cost of education changes due to adjustments in enrollment or housing. All awards are estimated until the student's file is complete and all information verified. Enrollment verification occurs three weeks after the start of classes. Questions regarding revised awards may be directed to the Office of Financial Aid. **Students must be enrolled at least half-time to receive financial aid, including federal student and parent loans. Effective April 1, 2009, requirement and award letter notifications for 2009-2010 will be sent to currently enrolled students' UMW e-mail addresses with instructions to visit their EagleLink portals.** New students will start receiving these items via their UMW e-mail addresses after May 15. **Students need to print their portal pages to retain hard copies.**

Check your UMW e-mail messages and student portal regularly. You will be notified via e-mail or student portal of changes to processes and procedures. Additionally, during the fall and spring semesters, the Office of Financial Aid issues all general notices and information through UMW e-mails and student portals. These are titled "From the UMW Office of Financial Aid" or other appropriate heading. Information that requires a hard copy to be sent to students is mailed to their campus post office boxes. Students in adult programs who do not have campus mailboxes receive their mailed information at their local addresses. All general mailed and e-mailed notifications are posted to our Web page under "Communications to Current Students". Parents are invited to visit our Web page to stay informed.

Award Amounts: Types of assistance may change yearly, therefore, do not expect an award package to be the same from one year to the next. Typically, non-Virginia students with an EFC of 2000 or higher, can expect student loans, possible employment, and if eligible, Pell Grant. Virginia students are considered for state grant funds. The only aid awarded to graduate students by the Office of Financial Aid is student loans. MEd students may check with the Education Department at the College of Graduate and Professional Studies regarding the process for graduate education scholarships.

Financial Assistance and Coursework Taken at Other Institutions: Students enrolled in classes concurrently at UMW and other institutions may receive financial aid at only one institution. UMW will award financial aid only for hours taken at UMW.

Private Sources: Private scholarships are combined and listed by total, not individual amounts on the award notification. Students must notify the Office of Financial Aid of outside scholarships, grants or loans. Veteran's benefits are considered resources for determining financial assistance. These types of assistance may reduce eligibility for state and UMW scholarships and grants. Private scholarships are equally applied to both semesters, unless the donor specifies otherwise.

Loan Processing: In order to efficiently and effectively serve students, UMW provides a carefully chosen electronic lender list for Stafford and alternative loans. Loans are processed and disbursed electronically for borrowers who select a lender from the UMW list and may be processed manually for borrowers selecting other lenders. Borrowers selecting other lenders must submit a completed loan application or request that their lenders send the certification forms to the UMW Office of Financial Aid. Loan processing normally begins in mid-July. For loans processed electronically, students may check loan statuses beginning in August at www.elmresources.com. Manually processed loans are usually disbursed by paper checks to UMW and require student signatures. Additional details of the loan programs are on our Web page. (Since the PLUS (parent loan) program is changing, information will be posted as it becomes available.) Loan proceeds are not immediately available to students upon their arrival on campus for a semester. Checks are normally disbursed to students in early October for fall and in early February for spring. Therefore, students must be prepared to cover their first two month's expenditures (rent, food, books, etc.).

Bookstore Voucher Policy: Bookstore voucher requests are available in the Office of Financial Aid and are approved for students with complete financial aid files who have; a) an Expected Family contribution (EFC) under 7000 with sufficient aid awarded by UMW to cover their direct costs to UMW and their books, OR b) credit balances on their accounts at the time of the voucher request, OR c) book allowance approvals from outside agencies OR d) outside scholarships that are specified for books.

Special Circumstances: Should a family's financial circumstances change, consideration for review of those circumstances is granted if they involve one of the following situations; 1) unemployment or layoff of a parent (for dependent students) or spouse (independent students), 2) retirement of a parent or spouse, 3) reduction of income of a parent or spouse due to company downsizing; 4) divorce or separation, 5) death of a parent or spouse or 6) unusual and medical expenditures in excess of 10% of the family's income. Situations, that WILL NOT be considered; 1) tuition charges for private elementary and secondary schools, 2) independent students who voluntarily terminate full-time employment to return to school or (3) family indebtedness. All situations will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Forms are available on the financial aid Web page.

Common Definitions Regarding the Financial Aid Award: Not All Students are Eligible for All Awards

Federal Grants: Currently, Pell Grant awards range from \$400 to \$5350 depending on an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) that is under 4618. The Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG) is awarded to Pell Grant recipients with the highest needs. Academic Competitiveness Grants (ACG) are awarded to freshmen and sophomore Pell Grant recipients who meet specific academic requirements. Academic requirements are verified in September. Awards in 'Offered' status as depicted on the student portal are estimated.

Federal Perkins Loan: This federal loan program is awarded to students with the highest needs, subject to the availability of funds, with priority given to Federal Pell Grant recipients.

Federal College Work-Study and Student Employment: These programs provide on-campus employment opportunities. Students receive specific job location, maximum allowable earnings and a copy of the Student Aide's Work Agreement at a later time. Employment earnings are not credited to students' accounts since students are paid by check at the end of each payroll period. The appropriate documentation of eligibility to work and citizenship status, as well as all other required paperwork, must be submitted prior to students working.

Federal Stafford Student Loans: Students who accept funds from these programs need to understand that these loans must be repaid — promissory notes are legal documents. Visit our Web site for information and borrowing limits. Entrance Loan Counseling is required for first-time Stafford Loan borrowers at UMW before loans will be processed. Students will be prompted to complete counseling on-line during the process of selecting a lender. Go to <http://www.umw.edu/financialaid> select '*Loan Instructions & Form*', select '*Federal Stafford Loan*' and follow the instructions. Loan proceeds are normally disbursed after the third week of classes. Students living off campus must be prepared to cover books and the first two months expenses (rent, etc.) through other non-financial aid resources.

Virginia Commonwealth and Virginia Guaranteed Assistance Program (VGAP): These are need-based awards from the Commonwealth of Virginia that do not have to be repaid. VGAP is for dependent, Virginia residents who graduated from Virginia high schools, maintain continuous full-time enrollment and maintain a 2.000 cumulative

grade point average (CGPA). The Commonwealth is designated for Virginia residents with a 2.000 CGPA who do not meet other VGAP requirements. Awards are prorated for part time enrollment at the time of enrollment verification.

Virginia College Scholarship Assistance Program (CSAP): A Virginia/federal financial aid grant program for students with high demonstrated need who are Virginia residents. Awards are prorated based on enrollment.

UMW Access Awards: These awards are made to outstanding students on the basis of demonstrated academic achievement and financial need, with Pell Grant recipients considered first.

Satisfactory Academic Progression Policy (SAP), Effective Fall 2009

To receive financial aid, students must successfully complete a minimum of 75% (no rounding up) of the credit hours attempted in an academic period. An academic period is normally the academic year consisting of the fall and spring semesters, however, it may be summer sessions or just one semester. Satisfactory Academic Progress is checked at the end of every spring semester for every student. Based on those findings, individual students may be reviewed again at the end of summer sessions and the following fall. Students not meeting the requirements will be notified at their permanent home addresses, regardless of whether or not they intend to apply for financial assistance. Students who have attempted hours in excess of 150% of the hours required to complete the program are not eligible for financial aid. There are no exceptions. For example, students in a program that requires 120 credit hours will not receive any type of financial aid after attempting 180 credit hours. This includes coursework attempted at other institutions.

EXAMPLE of SAP Policy: Students enrolled for 30 credit hours during an academic year must successfully complete 23 credits. Part-time students enrolled in 6 credit hours per semester for fall and spring must complete a total of 9 credit hours. The census date to determine hours attempted is the day after the last day to drop courses without academic penalty. This is approximately three weeks after the first day of classes. The UMW cumulative grade point average standard for credits taken at UMW is as follows:

Less than 30 credit hours, minimum 1.650 CGPA

30 – 45 credit hours, minimum 1.800 CGPA

46-59 credit hours, minimum 1.900 CGPA

Over 59 credit hours: minimum 2.000 CGPA

Graduate Level: minimum 2.000 CGPA

Coursework transferred from other institutions is included in the total number of credit hours, but is not factored into the cumulative grade point average. Students who do not meet the above criteria may request reevaluation at the end of summer sessions or the fall semester if additional courses have been completed to meet these requirements. Students' financial aid awards are determined at the appropriate grade level when awards are made. For example, students with fewer than 30 credits at the end of their first two semesters are considered third semester freshmen and are awarded financial aid at the freshman grade level for the academic year. This is the case at every grade level. Priority for all scholarship and grant funds is given to students who achieve and maintain a minimum cumulative and semester 2.000 grade point average. However, many programs require a higher grade point average.

Return of Financial Aid Funds for UMW Students Who Withdraw from Classes

Students who withdraw from any or all classes after the start of a semester will have their aid reduced. Additionally, if proceeds have been disbursed it is very likely that eligibility will be pro-rated and funds returned to the appropriate programs. The Return to Title IV (R2T4) Funds policy determines the amount of federal financial aid that must be returned by UMW and the student. (Title IV refers to federal funds.) The calculation is based on the actual number of days in the semester that were completed or "earned". Unearned funds must be returned by the school and in some cases the student, to the appropriate sources. UMW uses the R2T4 software provided by the Department of Education to compute the amount to be returned. The software determines the percentage of federal aid earned by calculating the number of calendar days the student completed in a payment period and dividing it by the number of calendar days in payment period. If results are 60% or greater, no funds need to be returned; if less than 60%, then the amount of aid earned by the student and amount to be returned by the student and UMW are calculated.

The amount of federal aid earned by the student is based on the percentage (described above) of aid that was disbursed or that could have been disbursed. If aid disbursed is equal to or less than aid earned no funds need to be returned. If aid disbursed is greater than aid earned, then UMW must determine the amount to be returned to federal programs by UMW and the student. If aid disbursed plus aid that could have been disbursed is greater than aid earned the student/parent may be entitled to receive additional funds.

The amount of FEDERAL funds UMW may use to pay allowable institutional charges (AIC) of tuition, fees, books (includes room and board if student lives on campus) is the same percentage as that calculated for aid earned. For example, if a student has 'earned' 30% of the aid, then UMW may use federal funds to pay 30% of the AIC. All other federal funds used to pay the student's AIC must be returned. This may result in the student owing UMW. Likewise, if funds have been refunded to the student, he/she is entitled to keep only that same percentage of earned aid – in this example, 30%.

Funds are returned to Federal programs by UMW & students in the following order:

Unsubsidized Stafford: Student amount returned in accordance with terms of promissory note

Subsidized Stafford: Student amount returned in accordance with terms of promissory note

Perkins Loan: Student amount returned in accordance with terms of promissory note

PLUS: Parent amount returned in accordance with terms of promissory note

Pell Grant: Student amount to be returned reduced 50%

FSEOG: Student amount to be returned reduced by 50%

Other FEDERAL aid not including FCWS

Other financial assistance is returned to the programs as follows:

Virginia funds: Percentage returned based on R2T4

UMW & private scholarships: Determined by program guidelines

**2009-2010 Cost of Attendance
Undergraduate Students - Full Time Enrollment**

VIRGINIA RESIDENTS

	On Campus Housing	Living With Parents	Off Campus Housing
Tuition	\$ 3,554	\$ 3,554	\$ 3,554
Fees	3,558	3,558	3,558
Housing and Meals	7,462	-----	-----
CHARGES BILLED TO STUDENTS	\$ 14,574	\$ 7,112	\$ 7,112
Books & Supplies	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Transportation	1,296	1,500	1,500
Personal Expenses	1,630	1,628	1,530
Room/Board Allowance	-----	2,710	7,358
TOTAL COSTS	\$ 18,500	\$ 13,950	\$ 18,500

NON-VIRGINIA RESIDENTS

	On Campus Housing	Living With Parents	Off Campus Housing
Tuition	\$ 15,282	\$ 15,282	\$ 15,282
Fees	3,558	3,558	3,558
Housing and Meals	7,462	-----	-----
CHARGES BILLED TO STUDENTS	\$ 26,302	\$ 18,840	\$ 18,840
Books & Supplies	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Transportation	2,128	1,530	2,332
Personal Expenses	1,630	1,630	1,530
Room/Board Allowance	-----	2,710	7,358
TOTAL COSTS	\$ 31,060	\$ 25,710	\$ 31,060

The CHARGES BILLED TO STUDENTS are charges paid directly to UMW. The other costs listed above are additional estimated expenses that families can expect throughout the academic year and vary from student to student.

Part-time tuition and fees for Virginia residents: \$249/credit hour

Non-Virginia: \$737/credit hour

Graduate tuition and fees for Virginia residents: \$320/credit hour

Non-Virginia: \$737/credit hour

Office of Financial Aid

(540) 654-2468 Fax (540)654-1858 TTY (540) 654-1105

1301 College Avenue (Lee Hall), Fredericksburg, VA 22401-5358

<http://www.umw.edu/financialaid> E-Mail: finaid@umw.edu