You are making preparations for one of the most rewarding and challenging experiences of your life, a Union University education. At Union, we recognize the great responsibility and privilege that accompanies your decision to become part of our family. One of those important responsibilities is our commitment to serve you throughout the financial aid process. Recognizing that the financial obligations associated with your college education rests with the family, we want you to be assured that the associates working in our financial aid office are available to help you successfully navigate this sometimes confusing process.

Union commits very competitive scholarships and grants to qualified students. In addition we help connect students with other financial resources such as loans, student work programs, privately funded scholarships, and a host of state and federal educational assistance programs. Since each student comes to us with unique experience and background, the process of identifying resources to complement your family’s contribution is personalized. We want to offer you the benefit of our full attention, resources and experience as you prepare to pay for college.

There are four core values that shape our work at Union University. They are to be Excellence-Driven, Christ-Centered, People-Focused and Future-Directed. As you work with our enrollment and financial aid staff, you can be certain of our desire to embody these core values. Knowing of our commitment to serve, please feel free to call or visit anytime.
“The lasting value of a Christian Education makes it one of the most important investments a parent can make. After all, who can put a price tag on your young adult’s character being influenced by a biblical worldview?”

- Larry Burkett, Christian Financial Concepts
  “Principles for Financing a Christian College Education”
  www.ChristianCollegeSearch.com

How am I going to pay for college?

We realize that for many families navigating the waters of financial aid can be a daunting task. Over the years, families have asked certain questions when beginning the financial aid process. We have compiled a list of those frequently asked questions. If you reach the end and find you have a question we have not addressed, please don’t hesitate to call our office.

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WHY UNION UNIVERSITY

What is the benefit of a private Christian Education?

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

A Christian worldview shapes our view of education, pedagogy, and the social sciences, for all must answer the question: What is it that motivates humans? This is at the root when we talk about the nature of men and women.

Faculty and students at Christian colleges and universities should be better teachers and learners because our motivation for learning is different. We want to learn more about God and his world, his purpose, and his activities as they impact our areas of focus. The purpose of learning is different. It is shaped by values different from just wanting to get a job, as important as that is.

Education that integrates faith and learning can help restore the loss of morality and accountability. It can help us be better people, better citizens, better employees. It gives us standards and ideals for which we can aim in order to be better people because it is an education concerned not only with content but also with character. Then we can know what is right and do what is right. So a Christian worldview not only impacts and shapes the mind, but the will as well.

Education shaped by a Christian worldview can better prepare someone for his or her vocation. This is not vocational education, but it helps us see that our own unique vocation is a calling from God, a holy thing from God.

The goals of Christian education are: to enable men and women to be prepared for their chosen vocation in such a way that they can be salt and light in the marketplace; to help students become servant leaders and change agents in our world; and to help us be prepared for work and to see it from God’s perspective in a way that will bring glory to him- preparation for vocation- not just job training or careers, but work, calling, vocatio.

The apostle Paul calls us to work as unto the Lord with excellence as our standard (Col. 3:23-24). We are responsible to plan and prepare well, to utilize and mobilize the resources, the capacity, the intellect, the drive, the ambitions, and all that God has given us, use them to the fullest, and perform them with the highest degree of excellence. Or, as the wise preacher said almost three thousand years ago: "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might." And we would add with the apostle Paul – do it all for the glory of God!

David S. Dockery
How do we begin the financial aid process?

Union makes financial aid applications available in late fall. You can request an application from our Financial Aid Office by phone, or you can go online: www.uu.edu/admissions/financialinfo/financialassistance/forms

Union’s policy is to process incoming financial aid applications only after the student is accepted to the university through the enrollment process. You can contact the Enrollment Services Department for an application at 1-800-33UNION, or apply online. You should also file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon as possible after January 1 of the year in which you will be starting school.

**TIMETABLE** For the Financial Aid Process

**SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER**
Talk with your high school counselor about local community and organizational scholarships. Investigate other scholarship sources including your church, you employer, your parents’ employers and your Union University Enrollment Counselor. Make a note of the deadlines and materials required for each scholarship.

**DECEMBER**
Pick up the 2002-2003 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) from your high school counselor, Union University’s Enrollment Services Office or the Financial Aid Office. You may also access it electronically at www.fafsa.ed.gov after December 31.

**JANUARY**
Obtain the Scholars of Excellence Application from your Union University Enrollment Counselor if you have met the minimum requirements (see page 5 of this brochure for requirements). The deadline for submittal of this application to Union is February 1.

**FEBRUARY**
Complete the Union University Traditional Undergraduate Application for Financial Assistance and submit to the Financial Aid Office. Priority deadline is February 15. Students who have been accepted for admission and have completed the financial aid process will be mailed an award letter on March 15. Students who apply after February 15 will be awarded on a rolling basis as funds are available.

**MARCH**
Union will receive the results of your FAFSA electronically in approximately four to six weeks from the date you filed it. Make sure you have been officially accepted for admission in order to be awarded any type of financial assistance. Award letters will be mailed March 15 to students who have everything completed by the February 15 priority deadline.

**MAY**
If you accept the award offered, please check yes and return the acceptance form to the Financial Aid Office by May 1. Send your $200 tuition pre-payment to the Enrollment Services Office to reserve your place in class.

*If at any time your financial situation changes from what you filed on the FAFSA, contact the Financial Aid Office.*
What is a FAFSA?
The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the federal form students and families complete when applying for financial aid. This form determines federal funds eligibility and is also required if a student is applying for any type of student loan. The information students and parents provide on the FAFSA is used to determine their Expected Family Contribution (EFC). The FAFSA can be submitted after January 1st of the year in which a student is starting classes. Students must submit this form every year to determine eligibility for that year. You can obtain a paper copy of the FAFSA by calling the Union Financial Aid Office, or you can file it electronically at: www.fafsa.ed.gov. After the Department of Education processes your FAFSA, you will receive a copy of the results in a form called the Student Aid Report (SAR). The SAR will include all of the information you submitted and your EFC.

What is an EFC?
The Expected Family Contribution (EFC) is the amount of money the federal government determines the family of the college student is expected to contribute (out-of-pocket) toward the cost of education in a given year. Families may be required to pay more depending on the cost of education and the amount of financial aid received. The FAFSA requests certain key financial information from both the student and parents in order to determine this amount. It is based on the previous year’s income, numbers from tax returns and W-2, and assets that the family has (including real estate, stocks, mutual funds, etc).

When a student files the FAFSA there is a section that requests a list of schools to which the student would like their information sent. It requires the student to place the school code in the appropriate box. Union’s school code is 003528.

What is the COA?
Based on information submitted by the schools, a Cost of Attendance (COA) is established for every school across the country. When a student files the FAFSA and an EFC is determined the EFC is then subtracted from the COA to determine that students need to attend that specific school. The COA is determined based on a school’s tuition, room and board, miscellaneous other fees associated with the school, as well as allowances for certain living expenses.

Union attempts to meet a student’s need with a variety of awards including federal grants and loans, and institutional grants and scholarships.
Scholars of Excellence - The following scholarships require students to have a 30 ACT or 1320 SAT and rank in the top 15 percent of their graduating class. A separate application is required. The deadline for submitting a Scholars of Excellence application is February 1, 2002. Applicants must have completed the Admission requirements of the University before submitting an application. National Merit Finalists and Semifinalist automatically qualify to compete for awards in the Scholars of Excellence award program. Finalists must complete the application process by the February 1, 2002 deadline. No student will be awarded beyond the cost of attendance through a combination of institutional and non-institutional sources.

Presidential Scholars Award - Tuition for up to 128 total credit hours (total needed to graduate with a degree), and room and board for the two regular semesters (fall and spring) each year. Students taking less than 12 hours in a regular semester will not receive room and board. Overload hours and winter and summer term hours may be taken as part of the 128 hour total, but room and board will not be covered during those mini-terms. Room and board charges covered will be for a kitchen or non-kitchen room, and a maximum 12-meal plan. This award will not cover student service fees or other school fees. Students wishing to appeal the maximum credit hour limit may do so in writing to the Financial Aid Committee. Presidential Scholars are expected to maintain a 3.25 GPA to retain this scholarship.

Dean's Scholars Award - Tuition for up to 128 total credit hours. Overload hours and winter and summer term hours can count towards the 128-hour total. Dean's Scholars are expected to maintain a 3.25 GPA to retain this scholarship.

Provost Scholars Award - Three-quarters tuition for up to 128 total credit hours. Overload hours and winter and summer term hours can count towards the 128-hour total. Provost Scholars are expected to maintain a 3.25 GPA in order to retain this scholarship.

University Scholars Award - One-half tuition for up to 128 total credit hours. Overload hours and winter and summer term hours can count towards the 128-hour total. University Scholars are expected to maintain a 3.0 GPA to retain this scholarship.

Collegiate Scholars Award - $200 per credit hour for up to 128 total credit hours. Overload hours and winter and summer term hours can count towards the 128 hour total. Collegiate Scholars are expected to maintain a 3.0 GPA to retain this scholarship.

Academic Scholarships - Awards are made based upon ACT/SAT scores, High School Grade Point Average, and High School Rank in Class. Amount of award varies ($3,500 maximum).

Fine Arts Scholarship - Students planning to major in voice, keyboard, or instrumental music, may audition as required by the Department of Music. There are also scholarships available in art, theater, and communications. Contact the appropriate department for requirements in these areas.

Leadership Scholarship - Available to students who have held positions of leadership in clubs and organizations in school, church and community. A limited number of awards are available. A separate application is required. Applications are located online at: www.uu.edu/admissions/financialinfo/financialassistance/forms
**Athletic Scholarship**- Scholarships are available in men's and women's basketball, men's and women's tennis, men's baseball, soccer, golf, women's softball and volleyball, and cross country. Contact the Athletic Department or the individual coach in each sport.

**Servant Leadership Award**- Various service opportunities are available on campus to help students pay a part of their education. Students awarded a SLA will work a portion of each week in a certain area of campus to complete the requirements for this award.

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**ELIGIBILITY-BASED FINANCIAL AID**

**Alumni Dependent Scholarship**- If one of your parents attended Union University for a minimum of 48 hours, you are eligible. This award is for $200 per academic year.

**Church Endowed Scholarship**- Scholarship is available to students whose Southern Baptist church participates in this program. Be sure your church knows of your intention to attend Union. Amounts vary.

**Institutional Endowed Scholarships**- Restricted scholarships are available through the generosity of individuals who have supported Union University through the years. Monies given have been invested and the interest earned is available for scholarships. Award amount varies. Contact the Financial Aid Office for additional information. Funds are listed in the current catalog.

**Church and Convention Ministry Scholarship (CCMS)**- Students who have committed to full-time Christian ministry, are members of a SBC church and plan to major or minor in the Department of Christian Studies, or are granted an exception by the Office of Campus Ministries and Church Services, will receive $1,000 per academic year. A separate application is required. Applications are available on Union's web page at: www.uu.edu/admissions/financialinfo/financialassistance/forms

**Minister’s Dependent Grant**- Available if you are a dependent child or spouse of a full-time Southern Baptist Minister of SBC Agency employee. This award is $1,600 per year for Tennessee residents and $800 for residents of other states.

**Junior College Transfer Grant**- Junior college graduates or those who have the equivalent of 60 semester hours with the last 30 completed at a community college and a 2.5 GPA (on a 4.0 scale) may apply. Awards up to $1500 are available based on GPA. Students receiving Junior College Transfer money must maintain a 2.5 GPA to retain the scholarship. This scholarship is awarded for four semesters.
Tennessee Baptist Convention - Full-time students who have been a member of a Tennessee Baptist Convention church for the previous twelve months are eligible. Certification from your church is required. This award is for $150 per year. Applications are available online at: www.uu.edu/admissions/financialinfo/financialassistance/forms

Second Member Discount - Full-time students who already have a member of their immediate family enrolled at Union full-time as well are eligible. This award is for $800 per academic year.

FEDERAL AND STATE GRANTS

What is a Pell Grant?
The Federal Pell Grant is a federal grant that is awarded based on a students calculated EFC on the FAFSA. This award is given to students who demonstrate exceptional financial need. The amount varies from year to year, but this current school year, qualifying students received up to $3,750. Grants are monies that a student does not have to pay back.

Students who qualify for the Pell Grant may also be eligible for Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant monies (S.E.O.G). This is additional grant money that is available at many schools, reserved for students who demonstrate exceptional financial need. Availability of SEOG money is limited.

Am I eligible for State Grant Money?
Tennessee residents who qualify for Federal Pell Grant may be eligible for a Tennessee Student Assistance Award (T.S.A.A). This current school year, students who were eligible for T.S.A.A. received up to $4,530. Awards vary based on the EFC. To be considered for this award, a student should the FAFSA prior to February 15th.
Should I borrow money to cover educational costs?
There are many things that should be reviewed before a person assumes debt for educational purposes. In every instance, loans should be the last option in financing an education. But with the rising cost of a college education, loans are becoming necessary. Here are a few questions a student or family should ask themselves when determining the level of funds to borrow.

- What will an estimate of my monthly payments be?
- What is my (or my child’s major)? Could the chosen area of study produce a job that could sustain a substantial loan payment?
- Will I need to borrow for multiple years?
- How long is the repayment period?
- When would I enter repayment?

Which loans are available?
Union has a variety of loan options available to families. They consist of both federal and non-federal loans.

FEDERAL LOANS

The Federal Stafford Loan
Federal Stafford Loans are loans made available by the federal government. The amount that may be borrowed under this loan program is different for each of the years a student is in school. For a freshman the loan amount is $2,625, for a sophomore it is $3,500, and for each of the junior and senior years it is $5,500. A student must file the FAFSA in order to be eligible for a Stafford loan. Students wishing to apply for a Stafford Loan must also complete the Master Promissory Note (which can be obtained through the Financial Aid Office). This is a Serial Note (a note that is valid for up to 10 years). Once a student has signed an original Master Promissory Note at Union, a new loan application will not be required for subsequent years unless there is a change in the lenders. Students will be notified in an Award Letter of the proposed loan amount each academic year, and the student is only required to take action if he or she wants to reject or make adjustment to the type and/or amount of the loan. The acceptance letter should be signed and returned to the Financial Aid Office, and any changes, if needed, should be indicated in the Award Acceptance Letter. Transfer students will be required to complete a new Master Promissory Note the first time a loan is applied for at Union, even if one has been signed at a previous school. Award amounts are subject to change if the Financial Aid Package is adjusted. Federal Regulations do not allow a student to be over funded.

The loan period for the traditional programs normally will be Fall and Spring. Disbursements of loans generally will be the second week after the beginning of each semester provided the loan is awarded prior to the beginning of the term. The
lender will send notification of the anticipated disbursement dates and loan amounts to the student’s home address.

Union prints a Preferred Lenders List that is highly recommended for use to select a lender. The advantages of selecting one of these lenders are that the loans are guaranteed through the State of Tennessee, and Union receives the funds by electronic means. This expedites the processing and receiving of loans.

What is the difference between a subsidized and an unsubsidized Stafford Loan?
There are two types of Stafford loans: subsidized and unsubsidized. The government pays the interest on the subsidized loan while the student is enrolled at least half time.

The student is responsible for the interest on the unsubsidized loan. The payment of the principle is deferred until the student graduates (as in the subsidized portion). The interest can be paid while the student is in school, or can be capitalized (that is rolled into the principle). The interest rate is variable, but capped at 8.25 percent. Rates are set each year in July for the following academic year. Repayment begins six months after the student’s last semester in school. For the 2001-2002 school year the in-school rate is 5.39 percent, and the repayment rate is 5.99 percent.

The Federal Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS)
The Federal PLUS Loan is an educational loan that the parent is able to borrow to help in covering their student’s cost for attending college. The loan is made in the parents’ name and the parent assumes responsibility of repayment before their child graduates. The amount that can be borrowed will vary. The amount is determined by taking the COA and subtracting any aid that the student is receiving (in loans, grants, and scholarship). The difference is the maximum dollars that a parent may borrow.

Federal PLUS loans are disbursed in the same manner as a Stafford loan, half of the requested amount in the Fall and half in the Spring. Repayment begins 60 days after the second disbursement (at Union this will be in April of the school year for which you borrowed the loan).

Applications for the Federal PLUS Loan are available in the Financial Aid Office at Union.

Federal Perkins Loans
The Federal Perkins Loan is a loan awarded based on eligibility determined by the FAFSA. These loans are limited. Students must demonstrate financial need through the FAFSA. Loans may be awarded for up to $2,500. The interest rate on the Perkins Loan is five percent. A student enters repayment nine months after the last semester has ended. To apply a student should complete the 2002-2003 FAFSA.
NON-FEDERAL LOANS

Alternative Loans
Many lending institutions are now offering alternative loans. Alternative loans are educational loans. They work on the same basic premise as a Stafford Loan. The loan is borrowed in the student’s name, but it does require a co-signer. Alternative loan repayment is deferrable until the student graduates, but interest will accrue on the loan during that time. The interest rates for Alternative Loans also fluctuate from lender to lender. There are several different Alternative Loan applications available in the Union Financial Aid Office.

CAMPUS-BASED STUDENT EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

How can I get an on-campus job?
Union has two work programs that are available for students to take advantage of while attending the university. One is Federal Work Study, the other is Institutional Workship. There are numerous areas on campus that employ student workers. The Library, the Activities Center, the Wellness Center, The Learning Center (tutoring), Facilities Management, and numerous departments on campus frequently employ students workers.

Federal Work Study:
This is an eligibility-based work program. Students wishing to apply for Federal Work Study must submit the FAFSA. Eligibility is based on an established need determined by the FAFSA. Jobs are not guaranteed.

Institutional Workship:
This is a general on-campus work program that is not determined by federal eligibility.

Students may apply on-line for both of these work programs at: www.uu.edu/admissions/financialinfo/financialassistance/studentemployment.htm

Submission of an application does not guarantee a job. Applications will be forwarded to supervisors in the area for which a student applies, and the supervisors will then make selections.
OTHER FINANCIAL AID OPTIONS

Where should we look to find other scholarships not tied directly to Union University?

The Internet has provided numerous web sites that make the search for scholarship monies a little easier. There are hundreds of sites now available, but not all are helpful. As a general rule of thumb, stay away from web sites that ask you to pay a fee for their services. There are plenty of free sites on the web that give you the same information that you pay for on others. Below is a list of resources which that you may find useful in searching for additional money or answering additional financial aid questions.

FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES

www.college-scholarships.com/free_scholarship_searches.htm
This is a free scholarship search page that links to nine free scholarship sites. These sites enable you to enter personal and academic information and conduct a search through hundreds of thousands of scholarships to identify those for which you might qualify. One important suggestion, start early because it is very competitive.

This site is a free resource available to you to identify scholarship competitions that could possibly assist in your financial planning for college.

www.fafsa.ed.gov
This site provides information and advice on completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). You can also complete the FAFSA and submit it online.

www.finaid.org
This site has no frills, but it is one of the most complete financial aid sites we’ve found. You can receive general financial information, read advice for students with special interests, and link to a variety of admissions and scholarship search sites. You can even “Ask the Aid Advisor” any questions you may have and receive a response via e-mail.

www.nasfaa.org
This site is made available courtesy of the National Association for Student Aid Administrators. Parents and students may access some very helpful information for completing the financial aid process successfully.
SAMPLE AID PACKAGES

The following sample aid package is designed to help you determine how to calculate the amount of money you will owe for a given semester and/or school year. Although the tuition will change from school year to school year, the basic premise of the example will remain the same.

In the example that follows, the student lives on campus in a room without a kitchen, with a 12-meal plan, and is enrolled for 15 hours each semester. The cost for attending Union for the 2001-2002 school year under the previously stated conditions is $16,780. You may obtain a cost sheet that outlines the costs of the 2002-2003 school year after January 1, 2002. Call the Financial Office for that information.

Union University’s Financial Aid Office awards financial assistance based on the total cost of education, not just the fixed cost of attending. The following example shows how the partnership of family, University and federal resources is combined to meet the fixed cost of attending Union. The student’s name and hometown have been changed, but the award reflects an actual scholarship package for the 2001-2002 academic year.

Union’s Business Office policy is that a student’s bill for each semester be paid in full by the first day of class or that the balance is arranged to be covered through the FACTS Tuition Payment Plan.

Scenario:
Jackie is a student from California, Scored 25 on her ACT, was 1st in a class on 178, with a 4.0 GPA. There are three people in her family with one in college. Both parents work. Based on the FAFSA, Jackie is not eligible for Pell Grant. Her EFC is $9,000.

Tuition, fees, room and board, and book charges: $16,780

Financial Aid Package
Academic Scholarship: $ 3,000
Servant Leadership Award: $ 1,000
Alumi Leadership Scholarship: $ 1,500
Union University Grant: $ 1,000
Outside Scholarships: $ 2,000
Stafford Loan: $ 2,625

TOTAL FINANCIAL AID: $11,125

BALANCE LEFT DUE ON ACCOUNT: $5,655

FACTS PAYMENT PLAN: 8 Monthly Payments
(four in fall, four in spring) $ 708.67 each