

Types of Financial Assistance and Eligibility Criteria Available at Ottawa University – Ottawa, Kansas

Ottawa University (OU) is committed to providing assistance to any student pursuing monetary aid to help cover his/her educational costs. To accomplish this mission the OU Financial Aid Office at The College employs the following policies and procedures when developing an award package. The award package attempts to meet a student's direct demonstrated need and provide funding options to cover costs through the use of all forms of assistance (federal, state and institutional; based on program limitations). Key factors in determining a student's award package are:

1. EFC = Expected Family Contribution, as determined by the Department of Education
2. Cost of Attendance (Budget)—total, average direct and indirect costs for a cohort of students attending Ottawa University
3. Need = Cost of Attendance (Budget) – EFC

Awarding Order:

Need Based Programs

1. Federal Pell Grant (see table below for amounts)
2. Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG; see below)
3. Kansas Comprehensive Grant (KCG; see below awarding criteria and eligibility requirements)
4. OU scholarships and other awards
5. Outside Scholarships and Grants
6. Direct Subsidized Loan (see table below for amounts)
7. Federal Work Study

Non Need-Based Programs

8. Direct Unsubsidized Loan
9. Direct Parent Loan (PLUS) & Alternative Loan Eligibility
10. Vocational Rehabilitation, Bureau of Indian Affairs and other countable forms of assistance (not included on award letter). Total money received, including these funds, may not exceed cost of attendance or other aid will be reduced starting with non-need based programs.

Institutional Aid

Academic Scholarships/Awards:

Presidential

Competitive scholarship awarded to selected first-year students who seek to be agents of change in their college careers and beyond. The award amount will be up to the 100% of tuition each academic year for up to four years. Unless specifically designated, institutional aid can be used to cover any direct cost (e.g., tuition, fees, room, board, etc.).

Provost's

Competitive scholarship awarded to selected first-year students who seek to be agents of change in their college careers and beyond. The award amount will be up to 80% of the cost of tuition per academic year for up to four years. Unless specifically designated, institutional aid can be used to cover any direct cost (e.g., tuition, fees, room, board, etc.).

Dean's

Competitive scholarship awarded to selected first-year students who seek to be agents of change in their college careers and beyond. The award amount will be up to 60% of the cost of tuition per academic year for up to four years. Unless specifically designated, institutional aid can be used to cover any direct cost (e.g., tuition, fees, room, board, etc.).

Scholars Programs:

Ottawa University announces its prestigious Scholars Program competition. A select group of students will be invited to compete for the awarding of the Presidential (up to 100% of tuition), Provost (up to 80% tuition) and Dean (up to 60% tuition) Scholarships. Unless specifically designated, institutional aid can be used to cover any direct cost (e.g., tuition, fees, room, board, etc.).

The competition consists of an advanced portfolio submission and judging, followed by the on-campus elements of writing of an essay and interviews with Ottawa University's president, administrators, faculty, and students.

Qualifications

To be considered to compete in this elite competition, high school seniors must have:

- a minimum ACT composite score of 24, AND
- be in the top third of their graduating class OR
- a minimum cumulative high school GPA of 3.5 (out of 4.0).

The competition begins with the submission of a portfolios which shall include:

- official high school transcript that details graded coursework through the end of the fall semester of the high school senior year. This transcript should include in-progress coursework for the high school senior year.
- single-page outline of extra-curricular activities that includes years and level(s) of involvement.
- list of honors, awards, and recognitions received.
- two (2) letters of reference:
 - one (1) from a high school official, teacher, activity director, etc. that addresses your excellence in academics, intellectual and creative work, involvement in your high school community and

- one (1) from an individual that addresses your civic involvement.
- maximum of three (3) different graded samples of work that efficiently displays intellectual range and depth (i.e., a live recorded fine arts performance, graded artistic expression, graded writing sample, graded exam, etc.).

Based upon an evaluation of the portfolios, selected students will advance to the final round of competition.

Deadlines

Deadlines for entering the OUKS Scholars Program Competition are as follows:

- Portfolio Submission — Friday, November 6, 2021
- Competition Day — Wednesday, November 18, 2021

Notification of Membership

Competitors will be notified via phone no later than the end of business on the Monday following the competition. Award and acceptance letters will be mailed out and recipients will have seven (7) calendar days from the date of notification to accept the offer or the scholarship offer will be revoked. Deadline date for acceptance will be included on the mailed letter for easy reference.

Scholar Program Member Requirements

In order to maintain scholarship and status within the OUKS Scholars Program members are required to:

- reside in University housing;
- earn a minimum of 30 semester credit hours each academic year;
- maintain a cumulative GPA above 3.0;
- impact the OUKS student body in a positive manner through active participation in student organizations;
- assist University administration in activities, such as recruitment, planning, guest speaker/conference events, Board of Trustee meetings, fundraising, community, and alumni relations, etc.;
- produce an annually published work with other OUKS Scholars Program members;
- attend a special summer course to meet the assigned OUKS Scholars Program professional mentor, as well as other members of the OUKS Scholars Program;
- work closely with an assigned OUKS Scholars Program professional mentor to complete the experiential learning component and academic tutoring equivalent to approximately fifteen (15) hours per week;
- represent self and the University in a positive manner at all times; and
- remain in good standing with the Office of Student Affairs.

OUKS Scholar Program Member

As a member of the OUKS Scholar Program, students will be challenged in a variety of academic areas throughout their membership. Scholars will interact with all levels of the OUKS Scholar Program structure and are expected to participate in Scholar activities and events above any other commitments, both on- and off-campus.

The scholar will:

- work alongside assigned professional staff member for experiential learning and tutoring for up to 15 hours weekly;
- attend and assist with a myriad of events and conferences held on- and off-campus (e.g., alumni events, scholarship competitions, fundraising, etc.);
- participate in regular colloquia events;
- attend the annual educational excursion as coordinated by the OUKS President and Scholar Program Coordinator; and

- create academic work for inclusion in the annual social issues' publication.

Ottawa University Mission

Building on its foundation as a Christ-inspired community of grace and open inquiry, Ottawa University prepares professional and liberal arts graduates for lifetimes of personal significance, vocational fulfillment, and service to God and humanity.

OUKS Scholars Program Gala

Alumni of the OUKS Scholars Program will officially welcome new members through this special fundraising gala event. New members and their families will be invited to attend, alongside alumni and friends to celebrate and install new members. The event will be held annually in early September on the OUKS campus.

Annual Academic Publication

This annual publication, *The Journal of Inquiry and Intellectual Engagement: a publication of OUKS Scholars*, will consist of research-based writing by individual scholars. These works will be academic in nature and interest, passion or program-based.

The writing process will be conducted throughout the year with the goal of distribution by Commencement annually. Detailed timelines will be distributed each year.

Academic Tutoring

All OUKS Scholars will work with the Adawe Life Plan Center to provide tutoring services to fellow students as needed. This requirement will be coordinated with the Scholar's professional mentor.

Franklin County Award:

Valued at more than \$100,000, the Franklin County High Achiever scholarship was designed specifically for high school seniors in Franklin County, Kansas. The competitive scholarship is annually awarded to select students who will be attending Ottawa University. Areas of consideration for the awarding of the Franklin County High Achiever Scholarship include academics, extra-curricular activities, school involvement, and community involvement. The competition consists of a portfolio submission and on-campus interview. The recipient will be recognized at the Senior Award/Recognition Ceremony. Unless specifically designated, institutional aid can be used to cover any direct cost (e.g., tuition, fees, room, board, etc.).

Qualifications

To be considered for the Franklin County High Achiever Scholarship, students must:

- be completing their senior year at a Franklin County High School; and
- have a minimum GPA of 3.25, cumulative ACT score of 21 or higher (or SAT equivalent).

The competition begins with the submission of a portfolio which shall include:

- official high school transcript that details graded coursework through the end of your junior year; including in progress coursework for your senior year
- single-page outline of extra-curricular activities that includes years and level(s) of involvement, list of honors, awards and recognitions received;
- one (1) letter of recommendation from a school official, teacher, activity director, etc. that addresses your excellence in academics, intellectual and creative work, involvement in your high school community, and civic involvement; and
- maximum of three (3) different samples of creative work that efficiently displays intellectual range and depth (i.e., a recorded fine arts performance, artistic expression, graded writing sample, graded exam, etc.).

Deadlines

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Non-Competitive Scholarships:

The scholarships listed below are awarded to students based on GPA and/or ACT/SAT test scores and GPA. Unless specifically designated, institutional aid can be used to cover any direct cost (e.g., tuition, fees, room, board, etc.).

Meeker	\$15,000
Taui Jones	\$13,000
Black & Gold	\$11,000
Dome	\$9,000
Foundation	\$7,500

Alumni Award \$1,000

For students whose parent (s) or grandparent (s) are graduates of Ottawa University. Unless specifically designated, institutional aid can be used to cover any direct cost (e.g., tuition, fees, room, board, etc.).

First Generation Award \$500

Awarded to a student (s) who is/are documented to be the first in their family to attend college at the request of the Office of Admission. Unless specifically designated, institutional aid can be used to cover any direct cost (e.g., tuition, fees, room, board, etc.).

Franklin County Award \$2,000

Awarded if the student is a graduate of a Franklin County High School (including home schooling) and is currently a resident of Franklin County.

Sibling Award \$1,000

Awarded to siblings who attend Ottawa University. This award is retained by the younger sibling if the older sibling graduates. Unless specifically designated, institutional aid can be used to cover any direct cost (e.g., tuition, fees, room, board, etc.).

American Baptist Church Award \$1,000

For students who are documented members of an American Baptist Church (ABCUSA). Unless specifically designated, institutional aid can be used to cover any direct cost (e.g., tuition, fees, room, board, etc.).

Regional American Baptist Church Award

This scholarship is awarded to active members of American Baptist Churches of the Central Region (Kansas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas) or Rocky Mountain Region (Colorado, New Mexico, Wyoming, and Eastern Utah). Students may receive this award in addition to the American Baptist Church award. Unless specifically designated, institutional aid can be used to cover any direct cost (e.g., tuition, fees, room, board, etc.).

Phi Theta Kappa \$1,000

This transfer scholarship is awarded to members of Phi Theta Kappa who are in good academic standing. The award is renewable for two additional consecutive years. Proof of membership is required. Unless specifically designated, institutional aid can be used to cover any direct cost (e.g., tuition, fees, room, board, etc.).

Activity Awards:

Ottawa University's activity awards are available to students who have demonstrated significant skill or potential in an extra-curricular or co-curricular activity. A student may receive only one activity award, although they are encouraged to participate in other activities if they wish. Amounts vary and continued participation in the activity is required to keep the award.

Athletic Scholarships

Student-athletes seeking athletic activity awards at Ottawa University should contact the Office of Admissions to learn more.

Non-Athletic Scholarships

Students seeking non-athletic activity awards at Ottawa University should contact the Office of Admissions to learn more.

Pathways

This scholarship is available to all students and provides recipients with the opportunity to experience a variety of professional development elements, as well as mentorship and is available to first-year and transfer students. Students who receive the Pathways Scholarship will be active on campus through campus clubs and organizations, as well as within the classroom. This scholarship is not stackable. Unless specifically designated, institutional aid can be used to cover any direct cost (e.g., tuition, fees, room, board, etc.).

For a complete list of requirements, please speak with the Family Financial Planner or your Enrollment Advisor.

Project Lead the Way (PLTW) <https://www.pltw.org/>

PLTW is the nation's leading provider of K-12 STEM programs. PLTW's world-class, activity-, project- and problem-based curriculum and high quality teacher professional development, combined with an engaged network of educators and corporate partners, help students develop the skills they need to be successful in post-secondary education and beyond. Scholarships range from \$1,000 to \$5,000. Unless specifically designated, institutional aid can be used to cover any direct cost (e.g., tuition, fees, room, board, etc.).

Ottawa University is committed to preparing tomorrow's leaders for lives of significance. For that reason, The College is offering a scholarship designed specifically for high school seniors who have taken a course from or completed the PLTW curriculum (use above link). Please [contact the Admissions Office](#) or your [Enrollment Advisor](#) for additional details or to recommend a student.

University-Wide Scholarships:

Ottawa Indian Award Full Tuition and required fees/Room and board if on campus

This scholarship is awarded to documented members of the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma. Double occupancy room and board charges are covered if the student resides on-campus. Reduced meal plan charge is covered if student resides off-campus. Students residing in university-owned off-campus housing should see the [Tribal Agreement](#) for full details. Incoming tribal students are asked to complete and submit the [BIA Higher Education Scholarship application](#).

Tuition Waiver Award Full tuition

Full tuition to faculty/staff and their dependents. These students are not eligible for SEOG & KCG unless all other eligible students have been awarded. See [Employee Policy Handbook](#) for eligibility details.

Tuition Exchange Reciprocal agreement schools

Full tuition award for students whose parent (s) are employed by a university with a reciprocal agreement with Ottawa University. OU reserves the right to limit the number of these awards. These students are not eligible for SEOG & KCG unless all other eligible students have been awarded.

Need Based Gift Aid

Federal Pell Grant:

Full Time/Full Year Pell Grant will be awarded based on the Pell chart provided by the Department of Education. Factors affecting the award amount are the EFC (from the FAFSA) and the student's enrollment status.

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)

FSEOG will be awarded only to Pell Grant eligible students. Funds will be set aside for both fall and spring starts. Students with 0 EFC's will be awarded \$375/semester as long as funds remain available. Students will then be placed on a waiting list sorted first by lowest EFC, then by application (FAFSA) receipt date and will be awarded \$375 after the semester add-drop period if funds remain.

Kansas Comprehensive Grant (KCG):

KCG is available to Kansas residents (residency must have been established one year prior to beginning college) attending full-time if their FAFSA is received by the US Department of Education on or prior to April 1 (date may vary if April 1 falls on a weekend). A 2.0 cumulative GPA is required to be eligible for the award. Students may be awarded a maximum of eight (8) semesters during their college career. Qualified students with need may be awarded the KCG as follows:

Fixed Cost Budget (tuition, regular fees, Martin Hall double room, Full Access Meal Plan, \$600 for books)

less EFC

less OU Aid

less Pell Grant awarded

less SEOG awarded

Equals Remaining Need

20% of remaining need rounded down to nearest \$500 increment is awarded in KCG (minimum \$500/maximum \$3,500). Students with EFC's less than Cost of Attendance, but who do not have remaining need after the above calculations may receive KCG if funds remain after all other eligible students are awarded.

Outside Scholarships:

Ottawa University does not reduce institutional aid when a student receives a scholarship/grant from an outside source unless total gift aid from these and other (federal/state) sources exceeds Ottawa's cost of attendance. Receipt of outside scholarships may affect the student's eligibility for self-help aid depending on the student's total aid and financial need.

Need-Based Self-Help Aid

Direct Subsidized Loan:

Students with remaining need may receive a Direct Subsidized Loan as outlined in the table below:

<u>Hours Completed</u>	<u>Maximum Annual</u>	<u>One semester</u>
Less than 24	\$3,500	\$1,750
24-53.5	\$4,500	\$2,250
54+	\$5,500	\$2,750

In addition, students may request up to \$2,000 in a Direct Unsubsidized Loan annually. Students who increase a grade level during the academic year may request the corresponding annual increase in Direct Subsidized/Unsubsidized funds. The student's total financial aid package will be recalculated and other aid may be adjusted.

Federal Work Study:

If the student has remaining need after all other need-based aid has been awarded they will be awarded eligibility up to \$2,000 for the academic year. Award does not guarantee employment. Hours worked determines actual award. Increases to Federal Work Study eligibility will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Non Need-Based Self Help Aid

Direct Unsubsidized Loan:

Students with no remaining need at the time of awarding the Direct Subsidized Loan funds may still receive a maximum Direct Unsubsidized (interest accruing) Loan in the following amounts:

Less than 24 hours completed	\$5,500 per academic year
24-53.5 hours completed	\$6,500
54+ hours completed	\$7,500

Independent students and students whose parents are denied a Direct Parent Loan may receive additional Direct Unsubsidized Loan funds as follows:

Less than 54 hours completed	up to \$4,000 per academic year
54+ hours completed	up to \$5,000

Direct Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS):

PLUS eligibility will be listed on award letters for dependent students, but as a separate item, independent of other aid elements. The maximum PLUS eligibility is the difference between Cost of Attendance and other aid the student is receiving from all sources.

Alternative Loan:

Alternative Loans are private loans that are borrowed by students and are usually school certified. When Ottawa University certifies the loan, it will be listed on the student's award letter. The maximum eligibility is the difference between Cost of Attendance and other aid the student is receiving from all sources.

Other Awarding Issues:

- Requests for additional institutional aid will be accepted by the Financial Aid Office and must be approved.
- Only award letters sent from the Financial Aid Office are considered official.
- Review of Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) will occur after each term of enrollment. See SAP policy for more information.
- Special Conditions/Professional Judgments and SAP appeals will be handled only by the Financial Aid Office.
- Estimated award letters will be sent by the Financial Aid Office without waiting for completion of verification or C-code resolution. Verification and/or C-code resolution may result in changes to the financial aid package.
- Students selected by the Department of Education for verification must be verified. Students not selected for verification will be reviewed for consistent data, and may be internally selected. Students who estimate tax information will be verified if selected by the Department of Education or if data appears inconsistent, but not automatically.
- Total financial aid (from all sources) **CANNOT** exceed cost of attendance (COA). If gift aid is in excess of COA, OU gift aid will be reduced first, except for full-tuition scholarships, in which case campus-based funds will be reduced as determined by the Financial Aid Office
- If total aid (including self-help aid) exceeds COA, self-help aid will be returned in the following order:
 - a. Alternative Loan
 - b. Direct Parent (PLUS) Loan
 - c. Direct Unsubsidized Loan

d. Federal Work Study eligibility

e. Direct Subsidized Loan

- Unless specifically designated, institutional aid can be used to cover any direct costs.
- Federal Work Study (FWS) rate of pay for 2021-22 will be \$8.00/hour unless otherwise noted.
- Campus Based funds (FWS, FSEOG) may be awarded for summer depending on availability of funds.
- Qualified dependents of OU employees will not be awarded institutional aid (other than the tuition waiver) and will be subject to the guidelines in the Employee Handbook.
- A reduction in institutional aid of \$2,000/semester will occur if an awarded student is permitted to move off campus and (s)he does not meet at least one of the off-campus housing requirements:
 - a) Minimum 21 years of age (by date determined by Office of Student Affairs)
 - b) Full-time student with senior-class standing and an approved Educational Plan for Graduation (contract).
 - c) Married
 - d) Has dependent children

This aid reduction will not be restored to the student unless they move back into university-owned housing. The decision to adjust aid will be made by the Office of Student Affairs.