



2012–2013 undergraduate financial aid application overview

The Office of Financial Aid at Framingham State helps students and their families meet the costs of a college education. Our mission is to make a high-quality education possible for students who earn admission to the University.

Framingham State participates in a wide variety of federal, state, and private financial aid programs. This document explains how to apply for financial aid.

Please read this carefully before applying for aid, and do not hesitate to contact the Office of Financial Aid if you have any questions.

We look forward to helping you make your college dreams a reality!

DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY

Framingham State follows U.S. Department of Education guidelines in administering financial aid programs. The basic principle behind financial aid is that the students and their families have the primary responsibility for meeting as much of the cost of attending college as is reasonably possible. Financial aid is a supplement to family resources if family resources are insufficient to meet college costs.

Three components determine eligibility for financial aid: cost of attendance, family contribution, and financial need. Stated simply, cost of attendance minus expected family contribution equals financial need.

The Office of Financial Aid determines the “cost of attendance budget.” Standard average budgets are used for students based on where they will be living during the academic year. Please note that the laptop computers required for students in the Day Division are included in the budget. The “expected family contribution” is based on the information supplied on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and other documents that are submitted to the Office of Financial Aid. The family contribution is calculated using the U.S. Department of Education guidelines and a process called “need analysis.”

This process takes into account components such as:

1. Family Income
2. Number of family members
3. Number of family members (excluding parents) attending college on at least a half-time basis
4. Family assets (not including the primary residence)
5. Essential family living costs

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for federal and state financial aid at Framingham State, an applicant must be a U.S. citizen (or eligible non-citizen) and be enrolled (or accepted for enrollment) in a degree program at Framingham State. Additionally, the applicant must:

1. Submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
2. Provide all requested documents to the Office of Financial Aid
3. Maintain satisfactory academic progress toward a degree
4. Be in compliance with the Selective Service Law
5. Not be in default of any educational loans or owe a refund of any federal grants to any institution

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

MARCH 1, 2012. You must file the FAFSA by this date in order to meet the priority filing deadline and to receive your award letter on time.

APRIL 1, 2012 (*Fall 2012 admission*). Any documents requested in addition to the FAFSA must be received by the college by this date.

NOVEMBER 1, 2011 (*Spring 2012 admission*). Any documents requested in addition to the FAFSA must be received by the college by this date.

Applicants should not delay filing financial aid documents while awaiting an admissions decision. Students may apply after the priority deadline but we cannot guarantee notification by April 15 for Fall applicants (December 15 for Spring applicants). **Files completed after the deadline are subject to available funding.**

To complete your financial aid file:

1. File a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or a renewal FAFSA as soon after January 1, 2012, as possible. You should file the FAFSA online at **WWW.FAFSA.ED.GOV**. (Note: The Framingham State Title IV school code is 002185 and should be included on the FAFSA application.)
2. Additional documents may be required for students who are selected for verification by the federal government. These documents include signed parent and student 2011 federal tax returns, a verification worksheet and other documents.

Framingham State University Office of Financial Aid

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FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

All programs are subject to the availability of funding.

- Federal Pell Grant: A federal, need-based grant for undergraduate students
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG): A federal, need-based grant for undergraduate students
- Federal Perkins Loan: A federal, need-based long-term low interest rate (5%) loan
- Federal Stafford Student Loan: A federal, long-term low interest rate loan
- Federal Work Study: A federal, need-based program that provides part-time employment
- MASSGrant: A state need based grant for full-time undergraduate Massachusetts resident
- Financial Aid Tuition Waiver or Framingham State Grant: A state, need-based grant or tuition waiver for undergraduate Massachusetts residents
- Massachusetts No Interest Loan: A state, need-based interest-free loan for full-time undergraduate Massachusetts residents
- Framingham State Fee Grant: A college grant for undergraduate students

FINANCIAL AID AWARDS

Once your financial need is determined, a financial aid package is prepared. The package may be a combination of grant, work, and/or loan programs.

The amount of financial aid awarded depends on the date your financial aid file is completed, your financial need, the number of eligible applicants, and the availability of funds.

After your file is complete, a Financial Aid Award Letter will be mailed to you. Please sign the award letter and return it to the Financial Aid Office by May 1 (for fall applicants), January 1 (for spring applicants), or within two weeks of the date on the award letter if later. Award letters returned after the deadline are subject to cancellation.

It is the responsibility of the student to notify the Office of Financial Aid of all financial assistance received from other sources. Types of assistance that must be reported include: private scholarships, John and Abigail Adams Scholarship, tuition waivers, veterans' benefits, Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission assistance, etc.

All forms of outside assistance must be taken into account in the financial aid package. Outside assistance received after the Office of Financial Aid has awarded aid may cause the financial aid package to be adjusted. If an adjustment is necessary, the award will be recalculated as if the outside assistance were known prior to awarding.

YEARLY EXPENSES 2011-12

FULL-TIME, IN-STATE LIVING ON CAMPUS:

Tuition and Fees	\$ 7,580
Room and Board	9,170
Total Direct Costs:	\$16,750

Tuition and fees are prorated for part-time students.

In 2011-12 approximately 84% of Framingham State students received more than \$27 million in financial aid.

OTHER TUITION & FEE RATES:

Out-of-state	\$13,660
New England regional	\$8,065

All accepted freshmen are reviewed for merit scholarship eligibility. No separate application is required.

OTHER ESTIMATED EXPENSES:

Books	\$ 1,000
Laptop Computer*	1,000
Personal	1,200
Travel	750
Total Other Costs:	\$3,950

**Required of all new students*

WHEN YOU WILL HEAR FROM US

EARLY BIRD students who complete the FAFSA by February 15, will hear from us by March 15.

If you are an incoming student who has been accepted by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and file the FAFSA by March 1, you should receive a financial aid award letter on or about April 15. Please note: If you are selected for verification, you will need to submit a verification worksheet and copies of parent and student 2011 federal tax returns. If you are a returning student and file the FAFSA by March 1, you should receive a financial aid award letter on or about June 30. Returning students also need to submit a verification worksheet and copies of 2011 federal tax returns if selected for verification.

Helpful Hints

1. Check out **www.finaid.org** for additional financial aid information and scholarship searches.
2. Keep copies of all of your financial aid records.
3. Most financial aid awards are not automatically renewable. You must reapply each year, including filing a renewal FAFSA.
4. Verification forms and worksheets are available for download at www.framingham.edu/financialaid.