



Postsecondary Education Financial Aid Chart

Going to college is becoming an increasingly expensive endeavor. In order to make the experience more financially accessible, there are a variety of funding sources offered by the state government, federal government, and other entities. The table below highlights key information about different funding sources available to Tennessee students.

	FEDERAL LOANS	TN HOPE SCHOLARSHIP	TN PROMISE	PELL GRANT	TENNESSEE STEP UP SCHOLARSHIP	TENNESSEE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION DEPARTMENT	FEDERAL WORK STUDY	FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY GRANTS
Award Amount	Through the FAFSA application, individuals with intellectual disability may qualify for the Pell Grant, Federal Work Study, or the Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant. Many awards are determined based upon individual student need. ¹	Up to \$2,250 ²	TN Promise “provide[s] two years of tuition-free attendance...” It covers tuition and fees not covered by other grants and scholarships. ³	Up to \$5,920 ⁵	\$1,750 per semester ⁶	\$2,400 per semester for two academic years ⁷	Students are paid at least minimum wage by the hour. The total work-study award depends on factors such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Time of application⁸ <input type="checkbox"/> “Financial need”⁸ <input type="checkbox"/> “School’s funding level”⁸ 	\$100 to \$4,000 per year ⁹
Basic Eligibility Requirement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> High school diploma or GED certificate¹ <input type="checkbox"/> Enrollment in an eligible program¹ <input type="checkbox"/> “Maintain satisfactory academic progress”¹ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> “Have been a Tennessee resident for one year”² <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate from an eligible high school in TN² <input type="checkbox"/> Enroll in a public college, university, or private college in TN² 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Be a TN resident, U.S. citizen, or an eligible non-citizen⁴ <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate from an eligible high school or earn a GED/HISET⁴ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Level of financial needs⁵ <input type="checkbox"/> Meet eligibility criteria for the FAFSA and complete the FAFSA⁵ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Have been a TN resident for 1 year⁶ <input type="checkbox"/> Complete high school in TN⁶ <input type="checkbox"/> Receive a regular, occupational, or special education diploma⁶ <input type="checkbox"/> Enroll in an eligible inclusive higher education program no more than 16 months after completing high school⁶ 	Contact your local VR office to learn more about eligibility requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Meet eligibility criteria for the FAFSA and complete the FAFSA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Exceptional financial need”⁹ Meet eligibility criteria for the FAFSA and complete the FAFSA⁹



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Accepted community colleges and colleges of applied technology	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Accepted by inclusive higher education programs	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Accepted by traditional 4-year colleges or universities	Yes	Yes	Yes, but only if they offer an associate's degree program. ³	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes

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Descriptions of Financial Aid Sources

The **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** is an application that students can fill out for free to access the federal student aid (e.g. federal grants, work-study, and loans) for which they qualify.¹

The **TN HOPE Scholarship** is a scholarship and grant assistance program designed to help Tennessee residents attending eligible postsecondary institutions in Tennessee partake in post-secondary education opportunities.¹⁰

TN Promise is a scholarship and mentoring program that provides two years of tuition-free attendance at a community or technical college in Tennessee. TN Promise is a last-dollar scholarship, which means that it will cover tuition and fees not covered by other sources of financial aid such as the Pell grant, the HOPE scholarship, or the Tennessee Student Assistance Award.³

Pell Grants are form of federal financial aid which do not have to be repaid with the exception of a few circumstances. To access Pell Grants, students must complete the FAFSA.⁵

The **Tennessee STEP UP Scholarship** is for Tennessee residents with intellectual disabilities who take part in an inclusive higher education program (sometimes referred to as a Comprehensive Transition Program).⁶

The **Tennessee Vocational Rehabilitation Department** offers \$2,400 each semester in Transitional Learning Services funds for two academic years.⁷

Federal Work Study is a student aid program that provides part-time employment for students enrolled in postsecondary education to help pay for their education.⁸

The **Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant** “is a grant for undergraduate students with exceptional financial need.” It is directly administered by the financial aid office at each school participating in the program.⁹



Descriptions of Financial Aid Sources

For further information about:

• The FAFSA application visit <https://fafsa.ed.gov/help.htm>

• TN Hope Scholarship awards and eligibility requirements visit <https://www.tn.gov/collegepays/article/tennessee-hope-scholarship>

• TN Promise Scholarship awards visit <http://www.tnpromise.gov/about.shtml>

• TN Promise Scholarship requirements visit <https://www.tn.gov/collegepays/article/tennessee-promise-scholarship>. (Note: Even further detail regarding TN Promise Scholarship requirements and how to maintain the scholarship can be found at this page: <http://tnpromise.gov/parents.shtml>)

• Pell Grants visit <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/grants-scholarships/pell>

• The Tennessee STEP UP Scholarship visit <https://www.tn.gov/collegepays/article/tennessee-step-up-scholarship>

• The Tennessee Vocational Rehabilitation Department Transitional Learning Services funding visit <http://tnihealliance.org/resources/paying-for-college/>

• Federal Work-Study visit <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/work-study>

• Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants visit <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/grants-scholarships/fseog>

• General TN Hope Scholarship information visit <https://www.tn.gov/thec/article/tn-hope-scholarship-program>