



FINANCING YOUR EDUCATION



OSWEGO
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

HOW TO MAKE SUNY OSWEGO AN EVEN BETTER VALUE ...

Since Oswego is part of the State University of New York system, our students receive an excellent education from a highly respected faculty for a fraction of the cost of a private college or university. Even so, most students receive some sort of financial assistance. Over \$2.5 million in merit scholarships is awarded to new freshmen and transfer students entering in the fall term. In addition, over \$65 million in financial aid is awarded annually through various grants, loans, work study programs and scholarships. This guide is designed to help you make the most of the many cost-cutting options available for your SUNY Oswego college experience. See for yourself...

Table of Contents

What Are My Costs Prior to Financial Aid?	2
What Types of Aid Are Available?	3
How Do I Apply for Financial Aid?	4
What Happens After I Apply?	5
Financial Aid Programs 2009 – 2010	6-9
What Are the Standards for Maintaining Aid?	10
What Else Do I Need to Know?	11

WHAT ARE MY COSTS PRIOR TO FINANCIAL AID?

Basic college costs are of two types, billed and discretionary. If you will be living in a residence hall, your bill each semester will include one semester's charges for tuition, various required fees, room and board. Students living off campus are not billed for room and board.

In addition to your tuition and living expenses you will incur some discretionary expenses. These are expenses over which you have some control and include books and supplies, transportation, and personal expenses. The standard allowable budget

used by the financial aid office to determine your eligibility for assistance is shown below for these items.

If you do not have enough deferrable financial aid to fully pay your bill by the due date, you must pay the balance. If you have more aid than the amount being billed you will receive a refund which can be used toward these discretionary expenses. It is sometimes several weeks into the semester before funds are available and refunds can be made, so it is wise to be prepared to pay for your books and any initial miscellaneous expenses.

This information is correct at the time of printing for new students entering in fall 2009 or spring 2010. Returning students may be eligible for reduced residence hall and meal plan rates.

2009-2010 BUDGET:	PER YEAR
Undergraduate Tuition — Full Time	
\$2,485 per semester for NYS residents.....	\$4,970
\$6,435 per semester for Out of State residents	\$12,870 (out of state)
Undergraduate Tuition — Part Time	
\$207 per credit for NYS residents	
\$536 per credit for Out of State residents	
Residence Hall — Double Occupancy	
\$3,445 per semester.....	\$6,890
Additional Residential Charges (ResNet, Laundry)	\$218
Meals in College Dining Facilities	
Full Meal Plan — \$1,990/semester	\$3,980
Any 12 meals per week — \$1,910/semester	
Any 9 meals per week — \$1,780/semester	
Any 7 meals per week — \$1,490/semester	
Other plans are available	
Fees (includes all technology, athletic, college, health and SA fees)	\$1,186
Total On Campus Fixed Cost	
(includes tuition, room, full board, fees)	\$17,244
	\$25,144 (out of state)
Books and Supplies (average \$400 per semester)	\$800
Transportation (average \$300 per semester)	\$600
Personal Expenses (average \$400 per semester)	\$800
TOTAL BUDGET (includes tuition, room, board, fees, and estimated book, travel, and personal expenses)	\$19,444
	\$27,344 (out of state)

WHAT TYPES OF AID ARE AVAILABLE?

Scholarships and Awards

SUNY Oswego's Presidential and Merit Scholarship program makes available over \$2,500,000 in merit-based aid to students entering in the fall term. Selection is made by the Office of Admissions. No additional scholarship applications are necessary. Awards include:

\$17,600 Presidential Scholarships
(\$4,400 a year for up to four years)

\$5,000 Deans' Scholarships
(\$1,250 a year for up to four years)

\$2,000 Merit Scholarships
(\$500 a year for up to four years)

Residential Scholarships
(\$6,890 a year for up to four years for students from outside New York State only)

In addition, there are a number of other scholarships and awards available through the Oswego Foundation. A *complete listing* of all the scholarships and awards is available on the Financial Aid Office website (www.oswego.edu/financial). The website even has an online service to help you find scholarships.

Civic and religious organizations, unions, local schools, foundations, and employers also are sources of potential scholarships. Libraries and guidance offices often have listings of scholarship opportunities.

Federal Aid

The federal government funds and subsidizes several need-based grant, loan, and work programs. There is also an unsubsidized loan that is not based on need. These programs are described in the center section of this booklet. Some, like Pell Grant and Stafford Loans, are available to all who are eligible for them.

The Federal Perkins Loan, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant and Federal College Work Study programs are

called campus-based programs. The government provides limited allocations to the individual colleges who then determine the awards. Colleges usually establish a deadline or priority date to assist in determining who will get these funds. Oswego priority date is March 1.



State Aid

New York's Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) is available to full time students attending a college in New York State who are state residents and who qualify financially. Aid for Part Time Study (APTS) is targeted at those studying less than full time. All of the state programs are described on pages 6-9 of this booklet.

Oswego Guarantee

SUNY Oswego also guarantees that your room and board fees will be frozen for four years. In addition, the Oswego Guarantee assures that the courses you'll need to graduate will be offered and that small classes will continue to be available.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID?

Be sure you list “**SUNY Oswego, Oswego, NY 13126**”, using the school code **002848**. We will receive your information electronically from the processor.

The FAFSA

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the first step in applying for all programs, including student loans. Filing the FAFSA also generates an application for New York’s TAP program.

FILE ONLINE

The FAFSA can be completed anytime, starting January 1 of the year you desire admission. We recommend that you apply on the web by accessing www.fafsa.ed.gov. For additional information on completing the FAFSA on the web, obtaining a PIN, or making changes to an application you have already filed, visit our website, www.oswego.edu/financial. If you prefer, you may apply using the paper FAFSA.

Oswego will give priority consideration for federal campus-based aid to those applications received by the federal processor on or before March 1 for those attending the fall semester, and November 15 for those starting their studies in the spring. You may file using estimated figures if your taxes are not completed, and update the figures later if necessary.

Be sure you list “**SUNY Oswego, Oswego, New York, 13126**”, using the school code 002848. We will receive your information electronically from the processor. A school located in New York State must be listed in order to generate a state TAP application.

When completing the FAFSA online, you will be given the opportunity to complete the TAP application. If you do not complete the TAP application online at that time, the federal processor will also send your records to the New York Higher Education Services Corporation and they will contact you to complete the application.

CALL FOR ASSISTANCE

If you have questions or problems when completing the FAFSA, you may call the toll-free federal information number printed on the application, Oswego’s Financial Aid Office, or the financial aid office at the college nearest to you. It should not be necessary to pay for a private business to assist you.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I APPLY?

Weighing All the Factors

The information on your FAFSA is used by the federal processor to determine an expected family contribution according to a formula enacted by Congress.

When SUNY Oswego receives the information, that family contribution is subtracted from our standard cost of attendance. Any Pell, TAP, scholarship or other outside resource is also subtracted. Assistance is offered from the other programs according to availability and eligibility requirements.

A student's award may be adjusted if necessary to keep the total resources from exceeding the cost of education. Families who experience prolonged illness, death, unemployment, separation or divorce, or loss of Social Security benefits that will result in a major change in the family's income may request a Special Conditions Form from the Financial Aid Office website after May 1.

Watch Your Mailbox

When you have been accepted by the Office of Admissions and we have received your FAFSA information, we will inform you as soon as possible about the financial aid you are eligible to receive. Your award letter may instruct you to respond by a certain date if you wish to accept the aid offered. It is important to meet these time requirements. There are always more students in need of funds than there are funds available, so awards that are not accepted in time are cancelled and offered to someone else. *Act quickly.*

The federal government selects 30% of all applicants for verification. If selected, you will be instructed to complete a Verification Worksheet and asked to submit copies of both parent and student income taxes. All aid processing will be held up until this information is received.

If you are eligible for a Federal Stafford Loan, prior to enrollment, you will be provided instructions on how to complete an electronic Master Promissory Note from the New York State Higher Education Services Corporation. This should be done as soon as possible after receiving the instructions so there is time for the loan to be approved before the college bill is due.

Once the state budget has passed, NYSH-ESC will start sending the actual TAP award letters to those who have applied. If the TAP award certificate is not made out for the school you are attending, make the correction using the instructions that will be included. Oswego's TAP code is 0935.



FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS 2009-2010

This information is correct as it goes to print in the fall of 2009. Pending federal or state legislation may create changes in program funding. Please feel free to contact your guidance counselor or the Financial Aid Office for current information.

Federal Pell Grant

Available to:	Matriculated students who have not received a Bachelor's degree. Must be citizen or eligible non-citizens, be financially eligible, be in good academic standing and making satisfactory degree progress. Persons required to register with selective service must do so. May not be in default or owing a repayment on any Title IV program at any institution.
Amount:	Maximum award currently \$5,350 per year.
Disbursement:	Students selected for verification must complete the verification process before funds will be ordered; awards may change as the result of verification. Students not having a valid EFC (Effective Family Contribution) by their last date of attendance during the award period forfeit any funds for which they are eligible. Transfer students must have financial aid records from each prior school on file with the National Student Loan Data Service or with SUNY Oswego before funds will be ordered. Proceeds distributed by semester.
How to Apply:	File a <i>Free Application for Federal Student Aid</i> . Be sure to list SUNY Oswego as one of the colleges authorized to receive the information. Oswego's code is 002848.

ACG (Academic Competitiveness Grants)

Available to:	Same as Pell grant except student must be eligible for Pell, a full-time student, a US citizen, completed a rigorous high school program (as defined by the US Dept. of Education) and in their first or second year. Student must have a 3.0 GPA to receive the award for the second year.
Amount:	Up to \$750 for the first year and \$1,300 for second year.
Disbursement:	Same as Federal Pell Grant.
How to Apply:	Same as Federal Pell Grant.

SMART (Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent) Grant

Available to:	Same as Pell grant except student must be eligible for Pell, a full-time student, be a US citizen, have at least a 3.0 GPA and be enrolled in a math, science, technology, computer science or certain critical foreign language programs.
Amount:	\$4,000 per year up to 2 years.
How to Apply:	Same as Federal Pell Grant.
Disbursement:	Same as Federal Pell Grant.

Aid for Part-Time Study

Available to:	Matriculated NYS residents pursuing their first bachelor's degree and registered for 3-11 credits per semester.
Amount:	Varies depending upon student income criteria, tuition charged and the funds available.
How to Apply:	Applications available each May from the financial aid office.

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant

Available to:	Same as Federal Pell Grant.
Amount:	This is a campus-based program. Awards vary by need and availability of funds, with priority to lowest family contributions and Federal Pell Grant recipients. Awards may range from \$100 to \$500 per year at Oswego.
Disbursement:	By semester.
How to Apply:	Same as Federal Pell Grant.

Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)

Available to:	New York State residents enrolled full-time in a degree program. Must meet TAP standards of degree progress and be in good academic standing.
Amount:	Awards range up to 100% of SUNY Oswego tuition; eligibility based on income.
Disbursement:	By semester.
How to Apply:	File the <i>Free Application for Federal Student Aid</i> and the pre-printed Express TAP application that will be sent to you as a result. Oswego's TAP code is 0935.

Educational Opportunity Program

Available to:	Undergraduates who have been accepted for admission as EOP students. (See the EOP section in your SUNY admissions application guidebook.)
Amount:	Dependent upon need and funding available.
Disbursement:	By semester. May be used as deferment if paperwork is in order.
How to Apply:	Same as Federal Pell Grant. Must also apply for TAP.

Federal College Work Study Program

Available to:	Same as Federal Perkins Loan.
Amount:	This is a campus-based program. Awards vary according to need and the funds available. All FCWSP jobs are paid at no less than minimum wage.
How to Apply:	Same as Federal Pell Grant.
Disbursement:	Biweekly paycheck for hours worked. May NOT be used as a deferment of Oswego costs.

Federal Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students

Available to:	Parents of dependent students. Must be citizens or eligible non-citizens. Student who is beneficiary must meet criteria under the "Available To" section for Federal Perkins Loans. Not need-based.
Amount:	Cost of attendance minus financial aid.
Disbursement:	Loan proceeds disbursed to parent borrower after proper school certification. Lenders deduct origination fee and insurance before issuing check.
Repayment:	Repayment typically begins 60 days after the loan is disbursed. Interest rate is 8.5%. Other payment arrangements can be made with lenders.
How to Apply:	Families will be given instructions in the Financial Aid Award letter.

Veterans Administration

- Available to:** Eligible veterans and children of deceased veterans or service-connected disabled veterans.
- Amount:** Varies.
- How to Apply:** Contact any regional Veterans Administration Office in your area or call 1-800-635-6534. Assistance is also available in the Veteran Services office in Culkin Hall, Room 206.

Federal Stafford Loan Limits

- Available to:** Same as Federal Perkins Loan.
- Amounts:** Dependent Students
(except students whose parents cannot borrow a PLUS loan):
- | Class | Base Amount | Additional unsubsidized loan amount |
|-----------|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| Freshman | \$3,500 | \$2,000 |
| Sophomore | \$4,500 | \$2,000 |
| Junior | \$5,500 | \$2,000 |
| Senior | \$5,500 | \$2,000 |
- Independent Undergraduate Students and Dependent Students whose parents cannot borrow a PLUS loan:
- | Class | Base Amount | Additional unsubsidized loan amount |
|-----------|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| Freshman | \$3,500 | \$6,000 |
| Sophomore | \$4,500 | \$6,000 |
| Junior | \$5,500 | \$7,000 |
| Senior | \$5,500 | \$7,000 |
- Graduate and Professional Students
Base Amount \$8,500. Additional unsubsidized loan amount \$12,000.
- Disbursement:** Loans are disbursed in two installments, at the beginning and mid-point of the loan period. The lender deducts an origination and insurance fee (currently 2%) before issuing payment.
- Repayment:** When a student ceases to be enrolled at least half-time, a grace period begins as specified in the promissory note. Payment of principle and interest begins after the grace period. The interest rate on new loans is 6.8%. Forgiveness opportunities available.
- How to Apply:** Must first file a *Free Application for Federal Student Assistance*. A separate Master Promissory Note must be submitted according to school's procedures.

Federal TEACH Grant

- Available to:** Undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in a program to prepare them to teach in a high need field (math, science, bilingual education, special education) in a low income school. See www.oswego.edu/financial/TEACH for additional program details and requirements.
- Amount:** Up to \$4,000 per year
- Disbursement:** By semester. May be used as a deferment if paperwork is in order.
- How to Apply:** Same as Federal Pell Grant and must also complete the Oswego TEACH Application.

Federal Perkins Loan

- Available to:** Same as Federal Pell Grant except also available to matriculated graduate students.
- Amount:** This is a campus-based program; awards vary according to need and availability of funds. Maximum award is \$2000 per year at Oswego.
- Disbursement:** Promissory note must be signed. Proceeds distributed by semester.
- Repayment:** Current interest rate is 5%. Repayment begins following the grace period initiated by termination of at least halftime study. Grace period is either six or nine months determined by date of first loan. Up to ten years to repay. Forgiveness opportunities available.
- How to Apply:** Same as Federal Pell Grant.

Aid to Native Americans (State)

- Available to:** Member on the official tribal roll of a New York State tribe or child of a member.
- Amount:** Up to \$1,000 per semester.
- How to Apply:** Contact: New York State American Indian Education Unit, New York State Education Department, Room 543, Education Building, Albany, New York 12234 or call (518)474-0537.

Aid to Native Americans (Federal)

- Available to:** US Bureau of Indian Affairs offers grants to needy applicants who are at least 25% American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut.
- Amount:** Varies.
- How to Apply:** Must file annually. Request application from: US Department of the Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs, Federal Building, Room 523, 100 South Clinton Street, Syracuse, New York 13202.



WHAT ARE THE STANDARDS FOR MAINTAINING AID?

Students receiving assistance from any Title IV program (Federal PELL Grant, Federal College Work Study, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, Federal Perkins Loan and/or Federal Stafford/PLUS loans) must meet the following standards of satisfactory academic progress to be eligible to receive payment from these programs:

Credit Accumulation

Undergraduate students receiving federal student aid must satisfactorily complete courses as described in the “Scholarly Standards for Degree Program Students” section of the SUNY Oswego Undergraduate Catalog.

Students may not receive federal aid for more than 150% of the credits normally required to complete their degree.

Grade Point Average

Undergraduate students receiving financial aid must maintain the grade point average required to be in good standing as defined by the “College Policies on Scholarship Standards for Degree Program Undergraduate Students” published in the SUNY Oswego catalog.

Declaration of Major

TAP recipients must declare a major by the beginning of their junior year. Those who have received four TAP payments must have a 2.0 grade point average and meet the TAP progress standards to retain eligibility.

Graduate Students

Graduate Students receiving federal student aid must satisfactorily meet the academic standards published in the “Academic Procedures and Regulations” section of the SUNY Oswego Graduate Catalog.

Additional Requirements

Males over 18 who are not registered for Selective Service, cannot receive financial aid. Students may be asked to document citizenship status.



WHAT ELSE DO I NEED TO KNOW?

Applications

All programs must be reapplied for each year.

Bills

The college bill must be paid when due unless arrangements have been made to defer your bill. Payment notification is sent by the Student Accounts Office each semester and will clearly state when payment is due, usually August for the fall semester and January for spring. It is possible to arrange with Student Accounts for confirmed grants and loans to be used as deferments. The Student Accounts Office provides a time payment plan for those desiring this option.

Borrowing

Borrowing large sums of money may be a necessity for many students if they plan to go through the traditional four-year plan of college. Loans have to be repaid. A student should not borrow more than he/she can repay, nor more than good judgement suggests.

Students receiving any type of loan will need to execute a Promissory Note. By doing this, you promise to repay the loan according to the procedures specified. Students should talk with the Financial Aid staff about loan responsibilities and repayment problems. Entrance and exit counseling are also required.

Keeping Track

Keeping a file with your complete financial records can be a savings in time and worry. In this file or folder, you should keep copies of all aid applications and the date they were filed, copies of income tax forms (these may be required by the Financial Aid office or by other offices related to special services, social services, food stamps, day care, etc.), copies of all award notices, all paid college bills, and any correspondence pertaining to those matters. Keep these records until you have repaid all your loans and until you have finished your

highest degree. Keeping receipts for loan repayments can save money and credit rating. The computers are not always right!

Payment Plans

There are several private educational and tuition payment plans. While Oswego does not require or endorse these plans, you may be sent information about them.

Oswego is pleased, however, to offer its own Time Payment Plan as an alternative for students who find it difficult to pay all charges by the payment due date. This plan is available for the fall and spring semesters at a non-refundable cost of \$25.00 per semester. Equal installments may be spread over a 4-6 month period depending upon enrollment time. You will then be billed monthly installments for the remaining balance per semester. Any past due amounts cannot be deferred as part of the payment plan. Enrollment forms for this plan are included with the billing statement.

Working While In School

The Financial Aid Office administers the centralized Student Employment Office on campus. Students interested in working should review the jobs available listed on the Office of Financial Aid website:
www.oswego.edu/financial/employment

In addition, staff is available to discuss working while in school.



Checking Accounts

Many students find that having an ATM card or a local checking account facilitates their money management and eliminates the need to keep cash in the residence halls.

Collection of Payment

Important!

Please take notice, if payment is not received for obligations due to the Institute, this agency is required to pursue other collection alternatives, pursuant to Chapter 55 of the Laws of the State Attorney General's Office, or the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance. In addition, state agencies are authorized to charge interest on the outstanding debt at the current corporate underpayment rate, compounded daily, for accounts considered past due. Chapter 55 allows State agencies to charge a fee on dishonored checks or like instruments.

In addition, the New York State Attorney General's Office and SUNY Central Administration have reached an agreement requiring the addition of any interest and collection fees. Students are liable for interest, late fees, a collection fee of up to 22% and other penalties on past due debt. Collection fees will be added to new past due debts transferred from this campus, to the attorney general or private collection agencies, effective January 1995.

These terms and rates may be modified, without prior notice, as required by legislative action or board of trustees' requirements.

Deferments

If you will be receiving a financial aid award, arrangements may be made with the Student Accounts to defer payment. The word defer means that college payment is postponed until an agreed upon time. It does not mean payment has been waived, so if the promised money does not arrive you will be responsible for the bill.

If you will be studying overseas or traveling on vacations, it might be helpful to establish a Power of Attorney at home. You will need a lawyer to do this and the person you designate can act on your behalf in all legal matters.



Federal Title IV Funding

The school figures the percentage of earned aid by taking the total number of calendar days you are registered divided by the total number of calendar days in the semester to determine the percentage of aid you will receive. If the calculated percentage is greater than 60% you will receive 100% of the aid you are approved and authorized to receive. To determine the amount of aid to be returned you subtract the amount of earned aid from the total amount of aid to be authorized financial aid. You must then determine how much the school is responsible for returning and how much is your responsibility.

Refund Policy

According to State University Administrative Policies, students who are given permission to cancel their registration shall be liable for payment of tuition in accordance with the following schedule. For refund purposes, Saturday is deemed to be the end of each week.

<i>Period of Time</i>	<i>% of Liability</i>
<i>1st Week</i>	<i>0%</i>
<i>2nd Week</i>	<i>30%</i>
<i>3rd Week</i>	<i>50%</i>
<i>4th Week</i>	<i>70%</i>
<i>5th Week</i>	<i>100%</i>

Room rent for a quarter is not refundable after a student has registered and occupied a room unless the student leaves the College for reasons beyond the student's control. Charges for board are refundable on a pro-rated basis for the number of weeks left in the quarter for which the student has paid. Full refund policy details are available from the Student Accounts Office. Students may be responsible and liable for repayment of award monies depending on circumstances. Check with the Student Accounts Office and/or Financial Aid Office about this situation.

DOLLARS & SENSE

How to make
SUNY Oswego
an even better
value . . .

Discover the Smart Ways to Pay . . .

The decision to continue into higher education is one of life's major choices. How to fund that choice may be perplexing and seemingly insurmountable, but it is possible with advanced and careful planning and a willingness to budget and manage the financial resources available. We are here to help you. If you need further clarification and/or have additional questions, please contact:

Financial Aid Office
206 Culkin Hall
SUNY Oswego
Oswego, New York 13126
315.312.2248 Fax: 315.312.3696
finaid@oswego.edu
www.oswego.edu