

Frequently Asked Questions about International Financial Aid

Am I considered an international student?

- *Students who are not U.S. citizens, U.S. permanent residents, do not have refugee/asylee status, or who are undocumented residents without DACA status are considered international students.*
- *U.S. undocumented residents with DACA status are considered domestic students for financial aid purposes.*
- *Applicants who have dual U.S. citizenship are not considered international students for financial aid purposes.*

Is financial aid available to international students?

- *Cornell University provides need-based financial aid to admitted international students who have applied for financial aid and have demonstrated financial need. We do not offer merit, athletic, or talent based aid to students.*

Is Cornell need-blind for admission for international students?

- *Beginning with the class enrolling in fall 2017, admissions decisions for international applicants and undocumented applicants without DACA status will be need-aware. This means that they will be evaluated for admission with consideration of the ability of students or parents to pay educational costs.*

Will applying for financial aid affect my chances of admission?

- *If your family has the financial means to afford educational costs, we urge you not to apply for financial aid, as the offer of admission for international students is directly linked to the ability to meet expenses.*
- *If your family cannot afford the total cost of Cornell, then you should apply for financial aid. Please note that you will be in competition for very limited funds.*

What is the selection process for international financial aid?

- *Beginning with the class enrolling in fall 2017, students who are admitted and have applied for financial aid and have demonstrated financial need will receive a financial aid package that meets 100% of their demonstrated financial need (Cornell University does not provide partial financial aid awards).*

If I apply for financial aid as an international student, will Cornell offer me admission without offering a financial aid package?

- *No. Some candidates whom we would like to admit will be declined because we have exhausted our aid budget.*

If I apply for financial aid but my family does in fact possess the financial resources to finance my education, will Cornell reconsider or reevaluate my admission application if I am not admitted?

- *We cannot reevaluate your case once a final decision has been made.*

Can I receive a merit or athletic scholarship?

- *All financial aid is need-based. We do not offer merit or athletic scholarships.*

Are there loans available for international students?

- *There are no loans offered through the University. You may be able to apply for a loan through a private lender. We cannot recommend any particular lender, but our website has a list of lenders that Cornell undergraduates have used in the past.*
<https://www.finaid.cornell.edu/types-aid/loans/alternative-loans-and-financing>.

Can I pay my bill in monthly installments?

- *The Cornell Installment Plan (CIP), is available to international students. The plan is administered by Higher One and enables students and their families to make interest-free, monthly installments to cover each semester's tuition and expenses. You must self-enroll each academic year. Enrollment must be done electronically at*
<https://tuitionpay.higherone.com/TuitionPay/Welcome.aspx?cornell>.

Does the award match initiative apply to international students?

- *If you have been awarded financial aid by Cornell, we will commit to matching the award offered by another Ivy school, as well as need-based offers from Stanford, MIT, and Duke. International students who have not received financial aid from Cornell are not eligible for the award match.*

Can I appeal my financial aid decision?

- *Yes, international students who received financial aid and want to appeal the decision should email intl-finaid@cornell.edu.*

If I receive financial aid as a new student, am I guaranteed financial aid during my entire time at Cornell?

- *All financial aid applicants must reapply for financial aid each year. If your family's economic situation remains constant, you will receive a financial aid award that is comparable to the award that you received your first year.*

If I don't receive financial aid when I am admitted, can I apply again once I am enrolled?

- *International applicants and undocumented applicants without DACA status who do not apply for international financial aid when they apply for admission (and who are admitted) will not be eligible to apply for financial aid at any time after enrolling as an undergraduate at Cornell. Applicants who anticipate the need for financial assistance at any point during their undergraduate course of study at Cornell must apply for aid when they apply for admission.*