



ESTIMATING THE FINAL COST OF ATTENDANCE

It is important to remember that costs vary from one college to another. It is crucial to calculate the difference between awards and the college cost ~ what the actual family share will be.

First, students should be able to differentiate between Direct and Indirect Costs when planning for the cost of education.

Direct Costs include tuition and fees, housing, and meals. Tuition and mandatory fees for 2010-2011 are listed at \$31,440. On-campus housing for first year students for 2010-2011 range from \$8,840 to \$9,126. Upper-class housing costs range from \$8,866 to \$9,126. For a student's board, Sacred Heart University offers four distinct choices for meal plans; Big Red, Pioneer, Red & White and Park Avenue Plan. The Big Red meal plan is required for all first year students, and is \$3,500 for 2010-2011.

Indirect Costs include books and supplies, transportation, and personal miscellaneous. These are not direct charges from Sacred Heart University and may vary from student to student. However, in estimating your overall family share, a student will want to take these into consideration. We estimate that the average first-year student will spend \$1000 on books for the academic year. Many students majoring in the sciences or business may find their books to be greater than the average ~ approximately \$1,200 to \$1,400 per academic year. Costs for transportation and other miscellaneous expenses should also be included in your plan. Items like trips to and from home, clothing, toiletries, entertainment, etc. tend to vary according to individual needs. We recommend you budget for \$1,000 to \$1,500 per academic year.

Secondly, a student will want to subtract the amount of financial assistance from the direct costs to determine what the family share will be. Financial assistance (scholarship, grant, and loans) is applied to the student's bill, half in the fall semester, and half in the spring semester. Work-study is not credited directly to the student's account. Federal Direct Stafford Loans are an estimated credit to the student's account once a completed Master Promissory Note, Loan Entrance Interview and Loan Certification are received by the Office of Student Financial Assistance.

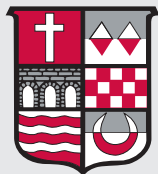
The University does offer a payment plan for the final cost of attendance.

The Office of Student Accounts has a convenient University Payment Plan that enables students to finance the balance over five months for each semester with a total fee of approximately \$75 per semester. The payment plan begins July 1 or students can pay in full August 1 for the fall semester and again December 1 for the spring semester. All students can participate in this plan whether or not they are receiving financial assistance. For more information regarding billing and payment plans, please contact the Office of Student Accounts at (203) 371-7925.

If the remaining balance or a monthly billing amount still seems a bit too high, there are other long-term options. Families have the option of financing their share through federal and private education loan programs. Many consider educational loan options in addition to or in lieu of the University Payment Plan. For instance, we encourage families to visit our website at www.elmselect.com to learn about educational loan programs. For example, the Federal Direct Parent Loan (PLUS) for Undergraduate Students gives families the option of borrowing over a ten-year period, at low interest rates. Furthermore, alternative loans through private lenders offer programs to borrow beyond the federal government. Our staff understands the importance of efficient borrowing for our students. It remains a top priority that we research and provide up-to-date information so our students have the opportunity to participate in the best educational financing programs available.

How do I estimate the final cost of attendance?

It is important to remember that costs vary from one college to another. It is crucial to calculate the difference between the awards and the college costs – what the actual family share will be.



SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY

Charges and Credits – Amounts are estimated.

Please remember the amounts on our examples are only estimates. These costs are subject to change based on; course load, residential hall, meal plan and program related fees.

The following **ESTIMATED costs are for the full 2010-2011 academic year.**

2010-2011 Full-time Tuition and Mandatory Fees:
\$31,440

Charge for On-Campus Housing:
\$8,840 (Seton and Merton Hall)

Meal Plan:
\$3,500
(Based on the Big Red plan, which is required for all first year resident students.)

Total Estimated Charges for 2010-2011:
\$43,780
Direct charges which the University will bill the student.

Deduct Financial Assistance scholarships and grants. For example, Trustee Scholarship, CICSG, Pell Grant, SHU Grant in Aid, SEOG, etc. Determine the total amount you should deduct by adding together scholarships and grants listed on your letter or from SHU Awards.

DO NOT INCLUDE WORK STUDY!

Deduct the amount of Federal Direct Stafford Loan you intend to borrow. For example, the maximum amount a first-year student can borrow is \$3,500 less any processing fees. Undergraduate students may also borrow an additional \$2,000 unsubsidized Federal Direct Stafford Loan less any processing fees.

Deduct other payments. For example, a \$1,500 deposit is required for all incoming students. \$1,350 is applied to Fall semester billing only.

The estimated amount I have to directly pay for the 2010-2011 Academic Year.

Note: Those families participating in the payment plan will be assessed a \$75 non-refundable enrollment fee.

Other Indirect Charges to Plan for:
Books: We estimate \$500 per semester. This is not a direct charge from Sacred Heart University and may vary from student to student.

Transportation and Miscellaneous Expenses: Items like clothing, toiletries, entertainment, etc. tend to vary according to individual needs. We recommend you budget for \$1,000 to \$1,500 per year.

Determine Your Approximate Cost Here.

\$

\$

\$

\$

Minus \$

Minus \$

Minus \$

\$

\$ _____/ per month
(amount on dotted line above divided by 10 months)

The first fall installment is due by July 1, 2010.

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