

UNDERGRADUATE FINANCIAL AID POLICY AND GUIDELINES

**REVIEWED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
IN JULY 2004 AND AMENDED IN NOVEMBER 2008 AND SEPTEMBER 2014**

Guiding Principles for Undergraduate Financial Aid:

The fundamental purposes of financial aid are (1) to provide access to the University of Illinois' undergraduate programs for students from the State of Illinois who are academically deserving of admission and (2) to ensure the University's competitiveness with its peers in recruiting the best students to its undergraduate programs. Typically, financial aid that is provided by external sources, such as State programs (MAP) and Federal programs (Pell), is complemented with University of Illinois need-based financial aid (referred to therein as Supplemental Financial Aid) and merit-based aid in order to achieve these objectives. Consequently:

- The University of Illinois will make every effort to enable qualified students who cannot afford the cost of a university education, as determined by federal financial need, to participate in its programs of study.
- Students who can afford to pay the full price of tuition and fees are expected to do so. Such students will still be eligible for merit scholarships.
- Students who cannot afford to pay the full price will be offered a combination of grants and loans from various sources appropriate to their financial circumstances.
- The University will control its costs through control of the length of study for which it will support students from institutional funds and of the proportion of loans to grants made from institutional funds.
- Each campus will determine eligibility for financial aid based on a number of criteria. Good academic progress toward degree completion is an essential feature.

Supplemental Financial Aid (Need-Based):

- Supplemental Financial Aid grants will be derived from institutional funds, as well as from auxiliary enterprise and self-supporting funds.
- These grants will be awarded to Illinois resident undergraduates, and generally be limited to the first four years (eight semesters), with an additional year available at the discretion of each campus.
- The financial aid officers, in consultation with the campus academic leaders, will develop specific campus policies for awarding Supplemental Financial Aid grants to their undergraduate students. Grants to individual students will be adjusted, within the constraints of campus policy and available resources, as circumstances warrant to best serve these students and their families.
- On a yearly basis, the University will review and set Supplemental Financial Aid budgets on the campuses in relation to resident tuition and mandatory fees collected during the

academic year, and will assess the effectiveness and the financial viability of financial aid programs. On average, each campus will increase its supplemental financial aid pool by a percentage that is greater than or equal to the percent increase in resident undergraduate tuition and mandatory fee income, provided student unmet financial needs warrant such increase, and provided such increase does not impair the University's core missions and functions.

- This information will be reported to the Board of Trustees on a yearly basis in order to ensure that Supplemental Financial Aid expenditures at each campus are appropriate and that financial aid programs are effective in meeting the objectives.

Summary:

The supplemental financial aid program will continue to be monitored and evaluated, in conjunction with multiple sources of student aid, student need, and student progress, in order to maximize its benefit to the students.