Q. Does Penn have financial aid available for international students?
A. The University commits over $6 million a year in financial assistance to students who are not citizens or permanent residents of the United States, Canada, or Mexico.

Q. I am not a citizen of the U.S., Canada, or Mexico. Will applying for aid affect my chances of admission?
A. If your family has the financial means to afford educational costs, we urge you not to apply for Penn-sponsored financial aid, as the offer of admission for non-citizens is directly linked to the ability to meet expenses.

If your family cannot afford the total cost of Penn, then you should apply for financial aid. Please note you will be in competition for very limited funds. In recent years, we have offered an average of 45 aid awards to admitted freshmen, and one or two to admitted international transfer students.

Q. If I apply for financial aid as an international student, will Penn offer me admission without offering a financial aid package?
A. Some candidates whom we would like to admit will be declined because we have exhausted our aid budget.

Q. If I apply for financial aid but my family does in fact possess the financial resources to finance my education, will Penn reconsider or reevaluate my admission application if I am not admitted?
A. We cannot reevaluate your case once a final decision has been made based upon the information you provided in your application. This is the only way to ensure fairness in the selection process.

Q. Does Penn offer merit or athletic scholarships?
A. Like other Ivy League universities, Penn does not offer aid based on academic or athletic merit. Penn’s financial aid policy is need-based. Therefore, financial aid is based only on your family’s financial need, as determined by Penn’s Student Financial Services office.

Q. What types of financial aid does Penn provide?
A. Penn is committed to meeting 100% of a student’s determined need without loans. Therefore, dependent undergraduates who are eligible for financial aid will receive a work-study job and grant in their aid packages. Students who receive financial aid are assured of continued support throughout their four-year undergraduate program if they continue to demonstrate need.

Q. How do you determine financial need?
A. Financial need is calculated by subtracting your expected family contribution from the Cost of Attendance (the sum of tuition and fees, room, meals, books, and an allowance for personal expenses). The cost of a Penn education and a candidate’s financial need is calculated in U.S. dollars.

Q. When and how do I apply for financial aid?
A. You should apply by the deadline listed on the Financial Aid Application Checklist for International Students. An early application will ensure notification about your financial assistance with your letter of admission.

Q. May I apply for financial aid at any time during my undergraduate career?
A. It is only possible to apply for financial aid during the initial admissions process. If you foresee a need for financial aid at some point during your undergraduate career, you must apply for it as an incoming freshman or transfer applicant.

Q. May I apply for financial aid as an Early Decision applicant?
A. Yes. We consider international applicants for financial aid under both our Early and Regular Decision programs, as well for Transfer students.

Q. What about immigration documentation and the visa process?
A. Visit Penn Global for details. https://global.upenn.edu/issss/new

Use our self-service tool askBEN, to answer general questions 24/7 at www.sfs.upenn.edu