Affording your MIT education

A guide for admitted students
Our commitment

We work to make MIT affordable for every family.
Welcome to MIT

Congratulations on your admission to MIT and welcome to the Institute! We’re excited to have you join our community of incredible thinkers, makers, and problem solvers.

As exciting as the prospect of attending MIT can be, I know that an MIT education is an investment that you and your family need to consider carefully. We know how important this decision is, and want you to know that we are here to help.

We’ve put together this booklet to help you learn more about our Student Financial Services team—and to let you know that affording an MIT education may be easier than you think. As you review your financial aid award and read these pages, please feel free to reach out to the team with any questions you may have.

Congratulations again and we look forward to meeting you in the fall!

Stu Schmill
Dean of Admissions and Student Financial Services
Affordability

85% of MIT undergrads receive some type of financial aid

$45,146 average need-based MIT Scholarship award

93% of students do at least one semester of paid research, and many do 3 or 4

$140,000 students with a family income under $140,000 (and typical assets) attend tuition-free

82% of students graduate debt-free
Financial aid explained

Need based — We award financial aid entirely based on your family’s demonstrated financial need.

Full need — We’ll meet 100% of your family’s calculated need through scholarships, grants, and student employment for all four years of your undergraduate career, without the need to take out loans.

HOW WE CALCULATE AID

We carefully review your financial aid application to fully understand your family’s financial situation, assess need, and award aid equitably. We evaluate how much we believe your family can contribute toward the cost of attendance, based upon the information you provide, and cover the rest with an MIT Scholarship and a suggested student job. **We do not consider loans to be part of your financial aid award**; however, you may be eligible for a loan should you decide to borrow instead of, or in addition to, working during the semester.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR AWARD

| Estimated cost of attendance | We use this budget for every student who applies for financial aid. It is the estimated total cost of attending MIT for one academic year and incorporates direct costs that are on your bill (tuition and fees), as well as indirect costs that aren’t on your bill (personal expenses and books). (See Table 2 on page 4) |
| Parent contribution | We assess parent contribution based on your family’s financial circumstances and the information provided in your financial aid application. It’s a measure of how much your family can be expected to contribute to the cost of your education for the upcoming year. An overview of what we consider is on our website. |
| Student contribution | The amount that you, as a student, can reasonably be expected to contribute toward your educational expenses each year. The typical amount students are expected to contribute is $5,400. This can be earned over the summer and by working 8–10 hours a week during the semester. You may also use outside scholarships, including the Federal Pell Grant, to meet this expectation. Your student contribution is comprised of the following: |
| | • **Summer savings expectation**: The amount we ask you to contribute from savings earned over the summer. For most undergrads, this is $2,000. |
| | • **Student employment**: This is considered a part of your financial aid award. You may see a suggested amount, typically $3,400, to be earned by working during the school year, listed in your award. This is the amount students typically earn by doing a UROP in the fall and spring. |

TABLE 1
Financial aid basics

We meet your full financial need for all four years of your undergraduate career. Each year that you apply for aid, we will adjust your MIT Scholarship accordingly as the cost of attendance changes.

<table>
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<th>COST OF ATTENDANCE: 2022–2023</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DIRECT COSTS</strong></td>
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<td>Tuition</td>
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<td>Student life fee</td>
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<td>Housing</td>
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<td>Meals</td>
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| **INDIRECT COSTS**            | Items that are not billed through MIT, but are out-of-pocket expenses that you may incur. The amounts shown are estimates of what you can reasonably expect to spend during the academic year.* |
| Books & supplies              | $850    | MIT allots $850 for this expense to calculate your financial aid eligibility, regardless of how much you actually spend. |
| Personal expenses             | $2,224  | This expense also varies depending upon what you spend. MIT allots this amount to be calculated into your financial aid eligibility. This covers things like clothes, laundry, and other bills. *Depending upon where you live, your award may also include a travel allowance.* |

| Total                         | $79,850 | Remember, 85% of students receive some type of financial aid. |
**TYPES OF AID**

The most common type of aid is the MIT Scholarship. If you receive one, it is a grant that does not need to be repaid. Other types of aid include student employment, federal and state grants, and outside scholarships.

**MIT Scholarships**

All students who apply for financial aid and fill out the CSS Profile are automatically considered for an MIT Scholarship. They are awarded purely based on financial need and come from any combination of our endowment, gifts from MIT alumni and friends, and MIT general funds.

**First Year Grant**

We provide our highest need first-year students a $2,000 grant to help with extra expenses that come with the transition to college, such as sheets and towels or a warm coat for the winter. The First Year Grant is *divided equally between the fall and spring semesters* and is for first-year students only.

**Federal and state grants**

You’ll automatically be considered for these with your MIT financial aid application. If you’re eligible, we’ll follow up with you about the Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, the Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grants, and/or merit and need-based scholarships and grants from your state.

**Student employment**

All students, regardless of their financial need, may work during the academic year, and most of our students do. In fact, 93% of students do at least one semester of paid research during their undergraduate years—many do three or four. Most undergrads work 8–10 hours per week during the semester. Minimum wage is $14.25 an hour and many students make about $1,700 a semester. Visit [sfs.mit.edu/find-a-job](http://sfs.mit.edu/find-a-job) for more information.

We’ll let you know if you’re eligible for Federal Work Study as it is determined by the information you submit on your FAFSA. If so, you can get paid for work that gives back to the community—like tutoring at local schools—through our Priscilla King Gray Public Service Center.
OUTSIDE SCHOLARSHIPS

You can apply for private scholarships that we’ll put toward your student contribution. Remember, you should never pay for a scholarship search service! We recommend the following free sites:

- collegeboard.org
- fastweb.com
- scholarships.com
- unigo.com
- studentscholarshipsearch.com

NOTE • After May 15, you’ll need to update us about any private scholarships and grants that you receive on the Outside Award Reply Form on sfs.mit.edu/forms.

STUDENT LOANS

Loans aren’t included in your financial aid because we believe your award will cover your expenses. However, you can apply for one after May 15, if you decide you’d like to borrow. Email us at getaloan@mit.edu and we’ll help you determine which loans you may be eligible for and how much you may want to borrow.

Federal Direct Loans

Dependent undergraduates may borrow up to a federally-set annual limit for a subsidized and/or unsubsidized loan: $5,500 the first year, $6,500 sophomore year, and $7,500 junior and senior years.

Subsidized Direct Loan (for U.S. citizens and permanent residents) NEED BASED

- No interest until six months after you graduate, leave school, or your enrollment drops below half-time. Check studentaid.gov for interest rate

Unsubsidized Direct Loan (for U.S. citizens and permanent residents) NOT NEED BASED

- Interest accrues on this loan while you are in school and repayment is not required until six months after graduation, you leave school, or your enrollment drops below half-time. Check studentaid.gov for interest rate

MIT Technology Loan (for international students) NEED BASED

- Can borrow up to $3,400 without a cosigner. An additional $2,000 may be available, but requires a creditworthy cosigner
- You must have been awarded an MIT Grant, be enrolled at least half-time, and not default on any prior education loans
- No interest until repayment begins nine months after graduation or withdrawal (can be deferred for grad or professional school); 7% interest afterward
- Minimum monthly repayment $50; loan must be repaid in 10 years
Billing and payment

BILLING SCHEDULE

Fall term  We bill you in mid-July and payment is due August 1
Spring term  We bill you in mid-December and payment is due January 1

We will email you and any authorized users when your bill is ready. You can view your bill through MITPay on WebSIS, the MIT student information system. Any additional charges throughout the year are billed around the 10th of the month and are due the first day of the following month. If your charges end up being less than your credits, you may be eligible for a refund.

HOW TO PAY

MITPay

MITPay is our online payment system where you can view and pay your bill. It is secure, paperless, and there is no additional charge. It's also the best way to send electronic payments, from a U.S. bank account or wire transfer (via Flywire).

Flywire

A third-party company partnering with MIT to streamline international payments and domestic wire transfers.

Check

Print your billing statement from MITPay and send a check to:

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
P.O. Box 412869
Boston, MA 02241-2869

Don’t forget to include your full name and MIT ID on your check!

PAYMENT OPTIONS

There are alternatives to paying the lump sum at the beginning of each term:

MIT Monthly Payment Plan
- Pay your bill in monthly installments interest free
- Easily accessed through MITPay
- $35 enrollment fee per term

Your installment recalculates due to account adjustments, which may include additional charges, unanticipated payments, or a change in financial aid credits. Students and authorized users are notified of adjustments to the monthly payment plan amount.

Non-MIT loan

There are a number of options should you decide to take out a loan, such as a Federal Direct Student Loan, the Direct PLUS Loan, or private education loans.

NOTE  Before pursuing a private education loan from a third-party lender, you should first consider your federal loan options. Our counselors can help you determine your federal loan eligibility.
Next steps

**SPRING**

- MIT Scholarships: If you are awarded an MIT Scholarship, submit the Student Information Review Form on [sfs.mit.edu/forms](http://sfs.mit.edu/forms) between May 1–July 1
- Outside or private scholarships: If you receive any outside scholarships, let us know by submitting the Outside Award Reply Form on [sfs.mit.edu/forms](http://sfs.mit.edu/forms) after May 15
- Student loans: If you’d like to request a federal loan, contact [getaloan@mit.edu](mailto:getaloan@mit.edu) to determine eligibility. Then submit the Loan Request Form at [sfs.mit.edu/forms](http://sfs.mit.edu/forms) after May 15

**SUMMER**

- Keep an eye out in July for our Getting Started Guide. It has everything you’ll need to get ready for fall
- Access MITPay: Check your MIT email in mid-July for info about fall billing and how to access your MITPay account
- Authorized users: Set up any authorized users, like a parent or guardian, who you want to have access to your account, so they can view or pay your MIT bill (instructions are in MITPay)
- Direct deposit: Set up direct deposit to your U.S. bank account in MITPay. If you wind up with a refund on your student account, we can issue a refund faster!
- Fall bill: Sign up for the MIT Monthly Payment Plan or pay your bill in full by August 1

**FALL**

- Student jobs: Find an on-campus job through [sfs.mit.edu/find-a-job](http://sfs.mit.edu/find-a-job)
- Make sure you complete your I-9 form and a payroll direct deposit authorization through [atlas.mit.edu](http://atlas.mit.edu)
Frequently asked questions

We know all of this can feel like a lot, so we are here to help. Don’t hesitate to contact us if you have questions about affording an MIT education. However, here are some of the frequent questions that come up:

1. If I get an outside scholarship, how does it affect my financial aid award?

Outside awards are additional resources for meeting your financial need, and they are first used to reduce your $5,400 student contribution. If your outside award is more than the student contribution, the remainder is used to reduce your MIT Scholarship. MIT considers outside awards as additional resources that families have available to be used toward your education.

2. What happens if my family’s financial situation changes?

Contact your financial aid counselor to discuss your specific situation, especially if your family has encountered unexpected financial difficulties. While we normally award financial aid based on income from two years ago (because it’s verifiable through tax returns and required on the FAFSA and CSS Profile), sometimes we are able to consider more recent income information.

3. Why is the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) on my FAFSA different than the EFC from MIT?

We use different formulas to calculate the EFC. FAFSA uses a formula developed by the government to determine eligibility for federal aid; we use our own formula to determine eligibility for an MIT Scholarship. Our EFC is the parent contribution (calculated using federal info from the FAFSA and CSS Profile) plus the summer savings expectation. Note that we never actually bill you for the EFC. It’s just another metric to help you understand your aid package.

4. When is my bill due and how do I make a payment?

Bills go out on or around the 10th of each month, with payments due by the 1st of the following month. The fastest way to submit your payment is online. For families seeking an alternative to making a lump sum payment at the beginning of each semester, you can consider the MIT Monthly Payment Plan or borrowing an educational parent loan. But don’t worry, we’ll explain all of these details in July, in our Getting Started Guide, should you decide to enroll.
The Massachusetts Institute of Technology is committed to the principle of equal opportunity in education and employment. The Institute does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, ancestry, or national or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, employment policies, scholarship and loan programs, and other Institute administered programs and activities, but may favor U.S. citizens or residents in admissions and financial aid.