Tips for Academic Scholarship Success

Handouts from today’s presentation are available online: studentaffairs.pitt.edu/fye/academicscholarships/
“Learning is not attained by chance, it must be sought for with ardor and diligence.” – Abigail Adams, Wife of President John Adams
Understanding Your Scholarship

Presented by Breanne Donohue, Associate Director of Admissions and Financial Aid (OAFA)
Critical for Scholarship Renewal

• 3.00 Cumulative GPA at the end of each year (at the end of each spring term)
  • Students are automatically reviewed for scholarship renewal by the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid at the end of each spring term

• Satisfactory Academic Progress
  • Must successfully complete 67% of credits attempted
  • WATCH: withdraws, F’s, etc.

• Must be a full-time student (minimum of 12 credits per semester)
Tips for Keeping Your Scholarship

• You can always earn your scholarship back!
  • Communicate with Office of Admissions and Financial Aid

• You are eligible for your scholarship for up to 8 terms, or until graduation, whichever comes first

• You cannot use your scholarship for graduate school

• Easiest way to earn scholarship back: retake courses
  • Communicate with Academic Advisor
    • Course Repeat Form
  • Additional courses → summer courses
    • Contact OAFA for summer loans & other financial assistance
Tips for Keeping Your Scholarship

• Automatic Review by OAFA
  • Review at end of each spring term
  • 3.00 cumulative GPA or greater at end of school year = full scholarship posted for both terms of following year
  • <3.00 GPA = scholarship will NOT post for following year
    • Take summer classes (retake or add course) to raise GPA
    • Communicate with OAFA

• Semester-to-Semester Review
  • Can earn back scholarship halfway through the year if you do find that you lose it.
  • NOT automatic review/posting– must contact OAFA.
• **For complete information about requirements governing University of Pittsburgh academic scholarships, please visit:

https://oafa.pitt.edu/financialaid/academic-scholarships/guidelines/

Office of Admissions and Financial Aid
oafa@pitt.edu
(412) 624-7488
“I did all the work at the beginning up until the point where I couldn’t handle the increasingly heavy art production burden alone. I needed, and got, assistance.” – Joe Shuster, Co-Creator of Superman
Knowing Your Resources

Presented by Mary Napoli, MEd
Tutor Coordinator, Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Studies
FREE Academic Services Provided

• One-on-one peer tutoring in core subjects
• Drop-in peer tutoring in the evenings
• Academic Consultations
• Academic Skills Workshops – online and in person
Tutoring is available in:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Economics
- Physics
- Statistics
- Anthropology
- Neuroscience
- Philosophy

And … at the Writing and Math Centers
Academic Skills Workshops

• Throughout the year we offer several workshops on various important academic skills on topics such as:
  • Time Management
  • Overcoming Test Anxiety
  • How to Succeed in the Sciences
  • Study Skills Bootcamp
  • Study Smarter not Harder with Strategies Supported by Cognitive Science

• We also offer a series of online workshops! Check our website for details and topics.
Academic Consultations

• Individualized coaching sessions are available Monday through Friday in the following topics:
  • Active Study Habits
  • Test Preparation
  • Reading Strategies
  • Time Management
  • Planning for Midterms and Final Exams

Students can schedule a 45 minute appointment by calling (412–648–7920) or stopping by Gardner Steel Conference Center.
“The two words ‘information’ and ‘communication’ are often used interchangeably, but they signify quite different things. Information is giving out; communication is getting through.”

– Sydney J. Harris, American Journalist (Chicago Daily News)
Financial Aid
Presented by Tom Damski, Financial Aid Counselor
Office of Admissions and Financial Aid (OAFA)
Financial Aid at the University of Pittsburgh

Agenda:
• What is Financial Aid?
• Calculating Financial Aid Eligibility
  • Expected Family Contribution (EFC)
  • Cost of Attendance (COA)
  • Financial Need
• Completing the FAFSA
Financial Aid Cost of Attendance (COA)

- **Direct costs**
  - Tuition and Fees
  - Room and Board (if staying on campus)

- **Indirect costs**
  - Books and supplies
  - Transportation allowance
  - Living allowance (if staying off campus)

- Varies widely from college to college
Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

• A number that is calculated as part of completing the “FAFSA”
  • Information provided includes income, # in college, # in household
• Amount family can reasonably be expected to contribute
• Remains the same regardless of college
Financial Need (Federal Formula)

\[
\text{Cost of Attendance (COA)} - \text{Expected Family Contribution (EFC)} = \text{Financial Need}
\]
Completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

• Complete FAFSA online at www.fafsa.gov
• School Code: 008815
• Priority Filing Date: March 1
Key Items in Understanding Your Financial Aid

• Applying for Aid
  • [https://oafa.pitt.edu/learn-about-aid/applying-for-aid/](https://oafa.pitt.edu/learn-about-aid/applying-for-aid/)

• Satisfactory Academic Progress
  • [https://oafa.pitt.edu/learn-about-aid/satisfactory-academic-progress/](https://oafa.pitt.edu/learn-about-aid/satisfactory-academic-progress/)
“The system is that there is no system. That doesn’t mean we don’t have a process. Apple is a very disciplined company, and we have great processes. But that’s not what it’s about. Process makes you more efficient.” – Steve Jobs, Apple
Building Your College Network

Presented by Alaine Allen, EdD
Director, Pre-College and Undergraduate Diversity Programs, Swanson School of Engineering

or

Cheryl Paul, MEd
Director, Engineering Student Services
Swanson School of Engineering
Your PRE-COLLEGE Network

- Family
- Teachers
- Guidance Counselor
- Friends
- Faith Community
- Clubs &/or Teams
- Academic Enrichment
Your COLLEGE School Network

YOU

- Family
- Faculty
- Advisor
- Friends
- Clubs &/or Teams
- Co-Curricular
- Faith Community
- Clubs &/or Teams
- Co-Curricular

You are at the center of your COLLEGE School Network, surrounded by Family, Faculty, Advisor, Friends, Clubs & Teams, and Co-Curricular activities.
A Successful College Network Model

Support transition from HS

Track Academic Progress

Career & Academic Planning

Wellness Advice Stress Management
Learning from Others’ Experiences

Presented by Student Panel