College is a big investment, and UW-Milwaukee is committed to helping students find ways to pay for it. Scholarships can help. Like grants, they’re a type of gift aid that doesn’t need to be repaid. At UWM, all schools and colleges offer scholarships. Many of UWM’s academic departments and programs offer scholarships, too.

UWM awards scholarships based on a wide variety of factors. These factors can include academic merit, leadership and service. Some scholarships require demonstrated financial need, which means students must submit a FAFSA.

New freshmen are automatically considered for some scholarships based on admission information. Other opportunities require students to complete a scholarship application.

**CHANCELLOR’S MERIT SCHOLARSHIP**

UWM offers the Chancellor’s Merit Scholarship to new freshmen based on an unweighted high school GPA. Other features of the Chancellor’s Merit Scholarship include:

- It’s renewable for up to four years. Students must stay enrolled full-time and maintain good academic standing.
- All new freshmen pursuing a bachelor’s degree at the Milwaukee campus are eligible.
- Eligible students receive the scholarship automatically after they enroll full-time.
- No scholarship application required.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High School GPA</th>
<th>Annual Award Amount</th>
<th>4-Year Award Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.75 - 3.99</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.40 - 3.74</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Panther Scholarship Portal provides a one-stop website for all UWM scholarships. The portal is accessible using your ePanther ID and password as soon as you are accepted for admission.

After you’re admitted, complete the General Application. You’ll receive a list of scholarships you may be eligible for. Your UWM school or college may offer a supplemental application to identify more scholarships.

You must apply for and accept UWM scholarships in the Panther Scholarship Portal.

**OFFICE OF STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS:** scholarships@uwm.edu
Sources of Financial Aid

- **Scholarships**: Scholarships don’t have to be repaid and have certain eligibility requirements. (Don’t use any service that charges for help with applying for scholarships.)

- **Grants**: Grants are based on financial need and don’t have to be repaid. Some grants may have other eligibility requirements.

- **Part-time work**: UWM provides part-time campus employment to students with financial need. There are also campus jobs available outside of the work-study program and part-time work opportunities in the city.

- **Federal loans**: Federal loans must be repaid. Interest rates on federal loans tend to be lower than private loan interest rates.

- **Private loans**: Private loans are credit-based loans that help bridge the gap between the costs and the amount of other aid you’ve been offered. Only consider these loans after exhausting all other funding sources, including federal loans. Interest rates on private loans tend to be higher.

How to Apply for Financial Aid

**Step 1**: Apply for admission to UW-Milwaukee at [apply.wisconsin.edu](http://apply.wisconsin.edu) or via Common App at [commonapp.org](http://commonapp.org).

**Step 2**: Submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov). Applications open Oct. 1 for the upcoming academic year. Choose UWM as a recipient using the Title IV code 003896. Use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool if possible. Every student should complete the FAFSA regardless of financial situation.

**Step 3**: You will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) within three weeks of filing. The SAR provides information about your eligibility for federal student aid. Watch the email address you listed on your admission application. That is where you’ll receive information from Student Financial Services until you have a UWM email account. You will also receive email communications from the FAFSA processor.

**Step 4**: Review your financial aid offer under the finances tab in your PAWS Student Center. Accept or decline aid via PAWS Self Service within 30 days.