BYU–Idaho offers Federal Government Aid and University Aid to help assist students in financing their education.

FEDERAL AID

A Federal Pell Grant is awarded by the U.S. Department of Education on the basis of financial need. Pell Grants are based on the cost of education, length of the enrollment period, and number of credits a student carries. The student does not have to be enrolled full-time to qualify for a Pell Grant award. The student must be an under-graduate who does not already have a bachelor’s degree. Pell Grants do not have to be repaid.

An Academic Competitiveness Grant (AC Grant) is awarded by the U.S. Department of Education for first year and second year students who have graduated from high school after January 1, 2005. The AC Grant is in addition to the student’s Pell Grant award. An AC Grant will provide up to $750 for the first year of undergraduate study and up to $1,300 for the second year of undergraduate study to full-time and part-time students who are eligible for Federal Pell Grant and who have successfully completed a rigorous high school program, as determined by the state or local education agency and recognized by the Secretary of Education. This amount will be pro-rated for part-time students. Second year students must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0. No separate applications are required for this grant. Students who feel they qualify for this grant should ensure that a final high school transcript has been submitted to the Financial Aid Office for evaluation. If eligible, the student will be awarded automatically.

A National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent Grant (SMART Grant) is available during the third and fourth years of undergraduate study to full-time and part-time students who are eligible for the Federal Pell Grant and who are majoring in physical, life, or computer sciences, mathematics, technology, or engineering or in a foreign language determined critical to national security. The student must also have maintained a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0 in coursework required for the major. The SMART Grant award is in addition to the student’s Pell Grant award. A SMART Grant will provide up to $4000 for each of the third and fourth years of undergraduate study to full-time students who are eligible for a Federal Pell Grant. This amount will be pro-rated for part-time students. SMART Grants are based on financial need, enrollment in a four-year degree-granting institution, and majoring in specific majors defined by the U.S. Department of Education. No separate applications are required for this grant. Brigham Young University–Idaho will evaluate each student for eligibility. If eligible, the student will be awarded automatically.

LEAP Grant funds are provided by the State of Idaho and the federal government. If funds are made available, they are awarded to high-need students with early applicants getting higher consideration. The Subsidized Federal Direct Stafford Loan is need-based. Principal and interest payments are postponed while the student is enrolled in school at least half-time, and during the six-month grace period after graduation or ceasing to attend school. During this period the federal government pays the interest for the student. To apply, see “How to apply for a federal student loan” below.

The Unsubsidized Federal Direct Stafford Loan is not need-based. Students may qualify for this program as long as their educational costs exceed the amount of financial assistance awarded. Monthly principal payments are postponed while the student is enrolled in school at least half-time and during the six-month grace period after graduation or ceasing to attend school. The student is responsible for paying the interest that accrues on the loan during this period by either making the interest payments or requesting that the lender add the accrued interest to the principle balance at the time of repayment. The latter option is called capitalization and increases the total amount the student will repay. To apply, see “How to apply for a federal student loan” below.

A Federal Direct Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS) is available for parents of dependent undergraduate students. The amount borrowed by the parent may not exceed the cost of attendance less other financial assistance the student has been or will be awarded during the period of enrollment. Contact the Financial Aid Office to determine eligibility for individual loan amounts.

Idaho Promise Scholarship

No application is necessary. All eligible students attending BYU–Idaho will receive this scholarship. To see the requirements for this scholarship, a student can visit the Idaho Promise Scholarship website: www.boardofed.idaho.gov/scholarships/index.asp

Veterans Benefits

First time students receiving Veterans Education Benefits must contact the Financial Aid Office to establish eligibility. Continuing students must notify the Financial Aid Office regarding enrollment at the beginning of every semester or term they plan to attend so BYU–Idaho can certify the student. Students receiving VA benefits can only be paid on those classes that apply toward graduation. If a student changes his/her major or status or enrollment after certification, there are additional forms that need to be completed. Please contact the Financial Aid Office for more information about these forms.

How to Apply for Federal Student Aid

All students applying for federal student aid should first complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to determine eligibility. To apply, a student can follow the steps on the BYU–Idaho Financial Aid website at: www.byui.edu/FinancialAid/apply.htm. The FAFSA will require information from the student’s Federal tax form and possibly the student’s parents’ or spouse’s Federal tax form. Other information such as number of individuals in the household, number attending college, value of savings accounts and assets, etc., will need to be reported. If a student or parent has questions, it is strongly recommended that he/she contact the Financial Aid Office at 208-496-1600 where Financial Aid Specialists are available to help with the application process. After the student’s FAFSA has been sent to the U.S. Department of Education, a Student Aid Report (SAR) will be sent to the student, usually within three to four business days. This same Student Aid Report is sent electronically to Brigham Young University–Idaho to determine the types of aid for which the student is eligible.

General Eligibility for Federal Student Aid

In general, a financial aid recipient must meet the following eligibility standards:

1. Have a high school diploma, G.E.D. certificate, or an equivalency certificate issued by the state.
2. Be admitted and enrolled as a degree-seeking student.
4. Be making satisfactory academic progress as defined in the Policy of Satisfactory Academic Progress.
5. Not owe a repayment on any federal grant, and must not be in default on any federal loans received for attendance at any school.
6. If required, a male student must be registered with Selective Service.
7. Must have a valid Social Security Number.

How to Apply for a Federal Student Loan

The student must first complete the FAFSA and indicate on the FAFSA that he/she is interested in receiving student loans. If the student answers “Yes” to this question, he/she will automatically be sent loan information within a few weeks after submitting the FAFSA. If the student answered “No” but decides later to obtain a loan, he/she may contact the Financial Aid Office to start the loan process.
Financial Aid Determination Date

Pell Grants, Academic Competitive Grants, and SMART Grants will be based on the number of credits you are registered for on the last day to drop classes without receiving a W grade. This is usually the 23rd day of the semester. This is the FINANCIAL AID DETERMINATION DATE (formerly called the Census Date).

Grants will be recalculated for adding or dropping classes through the end of the Financial Aid Determination Date. You may owe a repayment to your grant(s), owe additional tuition, and/or receive additional grant(s). You must be enrolled at least halftime to be eligible for your student loan. If you have LOANS and/or GRANTS and you completely withdraw by the Financial Aid Determination Date, all aid will be cancelled and you will be required to return all funds. If BYU–Idaho received a valid Student Aid Report (SAR) after the Financial Aid Determination Date, your grant(s) will be based on enrollment as of the day your financial aid application is processed.

UNIVERSITY AID

BYU-Idaho offers scholarships and grants to help finance a student’s education. All scholarship recipients must be enrolled in at least 14 credits.

Award of Excellence Scholarship

This New Freshmen Scholarship is based on a combination of Academics (GPA, AP/IB classes if applicable, ACT or SAT), Leadership, Service, Out-of-Class Activities, Essays, Church, and Seminary. Each new freshman applying to Brigham Young University-Idaho will be considered for this scholarship. No scholarship application is required as students’ information is gleaned from the admissions application. These scholarships range from full LDS tuition plus $250 for books for two semesters to quarter tuition for two semesters.

Academic Awards

All current, former and transfer students that have BYU-Idaho resident credits, are registered for classes and have a minimum of 30 but less than 130 cumulative (total college career including AP/IB and language tests accepted by BYU-Idaho) credits at the time of evaluation will automatically be considered for academic scholarships. Awards are typically two or three semesters, are given to coincide with the academic year, and are evaluated on a yearly basis. Once a student is awarded, consideration for any future academic awards will not take place until the current award expires. Students must be regular daytime students enrolled in 14 or more credits during the semester for which they are awarded.

Other University Grants and Scholarships

BYU-Idaho offers scholarships and grants to help finance a student’s education. All scholarship recipients must be enrolled in at least 14 credits.

Contact Information

Financial Aid Office
Brigham Young University–Idaho
100 Kimball Building
525 S Center St 1610
Rexburg, ID 83460
(208) 496-1600
www.byui.edu/FinancialAid

83
**Heber J. Grant Program**

The Heber J. Grant Program is a program that assists students at BYU-Idaho who have overcome difficult circumstances in preparing themselves for higher education. The program offers additional consideration for university financial aid, a mentoring program, and a life skills course to qualifying students. Students can apply to the Heber J. Grant Program as young as 13 years old. The following categories are considered in acceptance to the program:

- Applicant’s family income has been low over time
- Applicant’s parents did not attend college
- Applicant was raised in a single parent home
- Applicant’s parents are not members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
- Applicant was raised in an area where few attended college
- Applicant has overcome other long-term disadvantages

About thirty student leaders help run the Heber J. Grant Program each semester. Their responsibilities include: promoting the program both on- and off-campus, organizing the mentoring program, assisting with confidential application scoring, and teaching the Heber J. Grant Life Skills Course. For more information, please visit www.byui.edu/heberjgrant.

**University Aid Deadlines**

Be aware that all university scholarships have deadlines; specific deadlines can be found on the student financial aid website. These deadlines do not apply to university grants; however, students are encouraged to apply early.

**Contact Information**

Financial Aid Office
100 Kimball Building
Brigham Young University–Idaho
Rexburg, ID 83460-1610
(208) 496-1015
www.byui.edu/FinancialAid