

Financial Aid Packet

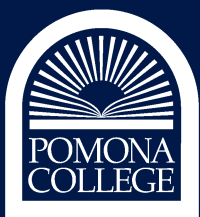
Understanding Your Financial Aid

Award Year 2011–12

The Pomona College financial aid program is designed to offer admitted students sufficient financial aid, based on the College's determination of each student's financial need, to enable them to enroll in the College. The amount of aid each student receives varies according to each family's particular circumstances; consequently, financial aid is available to families the College determines are unable to pay the full cost of college expenses. Pomona is committed to offering financial aid to continuing students in the same manner that entering first year students are offered aid—based on the College's determination of each student's financial need and each family's particular circumstances.

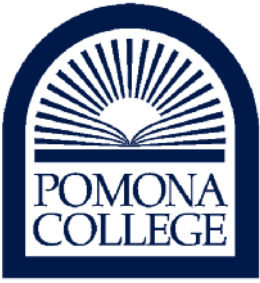
Financial aid at Pomona College compares favorably with aid at other institutions, both independent and public. Comparisons between college financial aid awards should take into account the total volume of loans a student will borrow over four undergraduate years. Fall 2011 marks the start of the fourth academic year that Pomona College will not award loans as part of need-based student aid.

Pomona College is grateful for the generous support of student financial aid by private donors, including many Pomona alumni who were aid recipients themselves. Funding sources outside the College, including Federal and State grants, and outside scholarships, are subject to regulations that ensure that each type of aid is offered only to students who qualify for those programs and will make proper use of the funds. In general, these funds are offered for educational expenses as defined by the Department of Education as applied to all students enrolled at the College. By accepting these funds, both the College and the student aid recipient incur responsibilities. All students who accept financial aid for study at Pomona College should keep this pamphlet for ready reference. It explains what to expect and what is required—the rights, as well as the responsibilities—of all students with assistance.



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A Guide to Understanding Your Financial Aid

Determination of Family Contribution

In order to be eligible for financial aid, students and their parents are required to file applications from which family contributions can be derived. To apply for all Federal Student Aid programs and many State aid programs, students and their parents are required to file the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**. For Pomona College aid, applicants must also complete the **PROFILE Application** published by the College Scholarship Service, a division of the College Board.

The factors that determine the parents' contribution to college costs are: income, assets, total number of family members, and the number of family members attending college. The computation allows for necessary family expenditures such as taxes, reasonable living costs, college savings for other children, and unusual medical expenses. A portion of the family's assets is protected for family emergencies and college savings for younger children. A part of the remaining income and assets is assumed to be available for college expenses. An adjustment to the parent contribution may be made if there is more than one child in the family enrolled in college.

Students are also expected to contribute from their summer earnings and a fraction of any savings or personal trusts they may have.

In situations where the mother and father of the applicant are separated or divorced, the parent with whom the applicant lives is asked to complete the FAFSA and the PROFILE applications with the student. The other parent is asked to complete the

Noncustodial Profile Application. The income and assets of both parents are considered, as well as all of the extra expenses their special situation may require. In its review, the College strives to be neither too demanding nor too lenient. Our concern is with relative fairness from one applicant to another.

All financial aid applicants must submit signed copies of their parents' and their own 2010 federal income tax returns, complete with all schedules and copies of W-2 and 1099 forms. If you or your parents will not file a federal return for 2010, you should request a **Statement of Non-Filing Tax Status** from the Office of Financial Aid. This form is also available on our Website.

Appeals

A student or parent who believes an aid offer does not meet their financial need may request that the Office of Financial Aid review the award. Generally, appeals for additional assistance are based on the same factors that affect a family's ability to pay for educational expenses outlined in the previous section: income, assets, total number of family members and the number of family members attending college. If a change in one of the factors that affects the family's ability to pay for college has occurred since the initial offer was made, or there are factors which affect the family's financial strength which were not clear in the initial application, the Office of Financial Aid will review the appeal to determine if an adjustment in the offer of financial aid is warranted.

A Note About Self-Supporting (Independent) Student Status

Pomona expects families to continue the financial support of their children throughout their enrollment at the College, according to their ability to pay. Should parents simply discontinue their financial support or refuse to complete the aid application, it is not possible for Pomona to assume the parental share of financial support.

Cost of Attendance

	ON CAMPUS	OFF CAMPUS	AT HOME
Tuition	\$39,572	\$39,572	\$39,572
Fees	311	311	311
Room & Board	13,227	7,587	3,725
Books	900	900	900
Personal	1,100	1,100	1,100
TOTAL	\$55,110	\$49,470	\$45,608

Complete information on independent and part-time student budgets is available on request.

Personal Expenses

The total cost of attending Pomona College includes an estimate of what students will spend on personal items including, but not limited to laundry supplies, telephone expenses, recreation, and other items which are not billed to the student's account. This estimate does not include the cost of travel to and from the College, which may range from \$150 to \$450 per semester. This portion of the cost to attend the College represents the amount Pomona expects the family will spend, as a part of their family contribution, for the student's travel to and from the College.

Students facing unanticipated personal needs or personal emergencies including travel expenses can apply for help from the Dean of Students Office or by requesting a student loan from the Office of Financial Aid.

There are no travel allowances for students entering Pomona with independent status. International students on aid receive assistance with one round trip home during their four years at Pomona.

Student Health Insurance

Every student is required to have health insurance coverage while enrolled at Pomona College. This health insurance must cover off-campus medical or specialty care and hospitalization not provided through the Claremont University Consortium (CUC) Health Services. All enrolled students may elect to enroll in the CUC Health Plan or choose to waive out of automatic enrollment into the CUC Health Plan by providing comparable insurance coverage on or before June 15, 2011.

Students who are not covered by a family health insurance policy must purchase the CUC Student Health Plan. The CUC Health Plan is expected to cost \$1,276 for the 2011–12 academic year. After accepting admission, students will receive a student health insurance brochure from the Dean of Students Office with the final cost of the CUC Health Plan. Students who are required to enroll in the CUC Health Plan and who also receive financial aid will receive grant assistance to pay for one-half of the student health insurance premium. Student loans are available to cover the remaining premium expense. Students who do not receive financial aid may request loan assistance to pay for the CUC Health Plan premium.

If a student who is enrolled in the CUC Health Plan incurs medical expenses not covered by the CUC Health Plan, a request for assistance may be submitted to the Office of Financial Aid. Most requests will be met with a College Loan.

The Financial Aid Package

After reasonable parent and student contributions have been determined, the family contribution is deducted from the cost of attendance; the difference equals financial need. Using the various sources of aid described in this brochure, Pomona College prepares individual financial aid packages that include grants and scholarships, which are gift aid, and a campus employment award, which is also referred to as a work allotment or employment allowance.

There are three steps in determining a student's financial aid package. They are:

Step 1: The inclusion of any federal and state grants for which a student is eligible, for example, a Cal Grant or Federal Pell Grant. Please note that outside scholarships from private sources including tuition grants from employers, universities, or foundations, and awards from organizations like the Elks, Rotary, or other private clubs are coordinated with Pomona aid, first reducing the standard student summer expectation, then replacing a student's campus employment award. If the private scholarship exceeds the amount of the standard student summer expectation and the employment award, the Pomona Scholarship is reduced by the remaining outside award.

Step 2: The inclusion of a work award of \$2,300. Most students work 8 to 10 hours per week to cover personal expenses throughout the term. If a student has outside scholarships, the entire work allowance may be replaced by the outside scholarship.

Step 3: The inclusion of a Pomona College Scholarship, if there is remaining financial need after packaging steps 1 and 2.

Types of Financial Aid Assistance

There are three basic categories of financial aid available to college students:

1. **Gift aid** (i.e., scholarships and grants) is assistance which eligible recipients do not repay after graduating or leaving school.
2. **Subsidized employment** enables recipients to work part-time during the academic year in order to earn a portion of educational costs. These include packaged work stipends.
3. **Low-interest loans** give borrowers the opportunity to defer a portion of cost by taking out low-interest loans that are generally repaid after the recipient graduates or leaves school.

At Pomona College, financial aid packages include only gift aid and subsidized employment, but some students and parents may choose to take out loans to cover a portion of the family contribution.

The above types of aid are derived from a variety of sources. The following are common:

Federal Funds include need-based grants, loans and work. Information provided on the FAFSA is used to determine a student's eligibility for all federal awards. The number and amount of each federal award may vary due to specific program funding. To be eligible, students must be U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens,

demonstrate financial need (except for the unsubsidized Federal Direct and Federal PLUS Loan programs), meet specific enrollment criteria and make satisfactory progress toward a degree.

State Funds can include need-based and merit scholarship assistance. California, for example, offers need-based state grant programs that rank among the best in the nation. The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) administers these programs from funds appropriated each year by the State Legislature.

Awards for undergraduate study are made through two grant programs: Cal Grant A and Cal Grant B. Other states, including Pennsylvania, Vermont and Rhode Island, offer grant assistance that can be used for attendance at Pomona College. Students are strongly encouraged to explore their eligibility for state grants. The name and address of each state grant agency is available on request from the Office of Financial Aid.

Pomona College Funds come in the form of scholarships, loans and term-time work. The amounts and types of college aid in an aid package depend on the student's financial need and the specific instructions governing each separate fund. In some instances, students are required to complete special documents to receive highly restrictive scholarship aid.

Outside Awards include scholarships and loans that students obtain on their own initiative.

Gift Aid

Federal Grants

Federal Pell Grants are federal funds for middle and lower income students who are admitted and enrolled in good standing. Awards may range from \$555 to \$5,550 in the 2011–12 academic year. Students must apply annually by filing the FAFSA.

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG) are funds assigned to the College under federal campus-based programs to provide gift assistance to exceptionally needy students. The grants range from \$100 to \$4,000 per academic year and are awarded to students with the greatest need.

Grants Awarded by the State of California

Pomona requires all applicants who are California residents seeking financial assistance from the College to apply for Cal Grants. **College grant assistance will not replace Cal Grant funds lost through a student's negligence in completing state application procedures.** However, students who do not meet Cal Grant eligibility requirements, but who have sufficient need according to Pomona's analysis, will receive College grant funds according to the packaging policies outlined in this booklet.

During the 2011–12 academic year, **Cal Grant A** awards are expected to be \$9,708 depending on the student's financial need as determined by the California Student Aid Commission. Renewal awards are also expected to be \$9,708.

Cal Grant B awards are made to students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. The first-year students receive a stipend for living expenses. During the first year, Pomona College awards grant assistance in the amount of the tuition stipend. In following years, students holding Cal Grant B awards receive both the living stipend and a tuition grant. In any year, Cal Grant B recipients may request that their living stipends be released directly to them or credited to their student accounts. For new recipients in 2011–12, the living expense stipend is expected to be \$1,551 and the tuition stipend was \$9,708.

To apply for the Cal Grant, an applicant must file a FAFSA and a GPA Verification Form, postmarked by March 2, 2011.

If a student has already been awarded a Cal Grant and is enrolled at Pomona College, the renewal evaluation will be con-

ducted by the Pomona College Office of Financial Aid. Renewal students are not required to file a new GPA Verification Form.

Pomona Scholarships

Pomona College funds need-based scholarships from endowment income and annual gifts to the college. The College awards all financial aid based on our determination of financial need.

Private Outside Scholarships

There are numerous scholarships that are not administered by Pomona College. They include awards from civic organizations, banks and various educational foundations. Students apply directly to the sponsoring organizations for consideration for these awards. Please refer to the section of this brochure titled "Coordination of All Sources of Aid," for the policy regarding the coordination of outside scholarships with College administered aid.

Coordination of All Sources of Aid

Pomona College offers financial aid to meet need. In the event that a student receives aid from private outside sources, these funds will be coordinated with College-administered awards. The total aid received by students from all sources cannot exceed their computed need; therefore, some sources of aid may be reduced.

Many students win privately sponsored scholarships from outside organizations. The entire outside award(s), **with the exception of state scholarships/grants or Federal Pell Grants**, will first reduce the standard student summer expectation and then reduce the student work award. If the outside scholarship is greater than the standard summer expectation and the work award, it will then reduce the Pomona College scholarship.

Miscellaneous Awards

When a student receives a tuition benefit or subsidy from the employer of his or her parent(s), this award will first reduce the student's work award. If the tuition benefit is greater than the work award, it will then reduce the Pomona College scholarship.

Accepting the Offer of Financial Aid

Admitted students must (1) accept admission by sending the required deposit to the Office of Admissions, and (2) accept financial aid by signing and returning the **Offer of Financial Aid** to the Office of Financial Aid. The deadline for returning these materials is established by the Office of Admissions.

Continuing Pomona students must return their signed Offer of Financial Aid within three weeks from the date it is received.

After reading this entire pamphlet, students must do the following to accept the offer:

1. Review the costs as outlined in this brochure and on the Offer of Financial Aid.
2. Become familiar with the particulars of each type of aid in the financial aid package.
3. Read the **ACCEPTANCE, AGREEMENT, CONSENT and CERTIFICATION**.
4. List any **OTHER RESOURCES** not included in the offer. These would include any privately sponsored outside scholarships or parent employer sponsored tuition benefits.
5. Sign the Offer of Financial Aid (student signature required).
6. Fill out the Scholarship Data Sheet, if one accompanied the offer.

- Submit, if not previously done, signed copies of the student's and parents' 2010 federal income tax returns, including all schedules and copies of the W-2 and 1099 forms.

Pomona College is aware that aid applications are often completed before tax returns are filed. Differences between the income reported on the actual tax documents and the information provided on the FAFSA and Profile Applications may result in a revision in the family's contribution. If a revision is to be made, the Office of Financial Aid will notify families, in writing, of any changes in the Financial Aid Package.

How You Receive Financial Aid

Prior to the start of each semester, the Student Accounts Office issues a bill for tuition, fees, and, for on-campus residents, room and board. The bill also displays all scholarship, grant, or expected loans as a credit (all financial aid is split evenly between the two semesters). The amount the family owes the College for the semester will be a result of charges minus **all** expected aid, with the **exception of work awards**. Work awards are paid to students after hourly time sheets have been submitted to the payroll department on a bi-weekly schedule throughout the semester.

All grants, scholarships and loans will be listed on the bill as "expected aid." These financial aid funds will convert to "actual aid" once the funds have been received by the College from the outside agencies. In many instances, specific types of "expected aid" do not convert to "actual aid" until certain documents are completed and submitted by the student to the College or to other granting or lending agencies. These are described below:

- If a student has been selected by the U.S. Department of Education for **Verification**, the procedures and documents involved in that process must be completed before any federal funds become actual aid. The Office of Financial Aid will guide applicants through this process.
- Students who are not U.S. citizens** must provide proof of their eligible non-citizen status (i.e., alien registration cards or other documents designated by the Office of Financial Aid) before they can receive federal funds.
- Term-time earnings from the student's work award are paid directly to the student by check or direct deposit rather than credited to a student account.** Students receive bi-weekly paychecks for the hours of work submitted on time sheets signed by their supervisors. These earnings generally cover personal expenses and book fees throughout the year.
- The Office of Financial Aid coordinates all **outside awards** with the student's Offer of Financial Aid. Many scholarship sponsors require proof of registration or GPA verification prior to releasing funds. The student is responsible for obtaining proof of registration or GPA verification from the Registrar in a timely manner. If Pomona College does not receive the outside scholarship funds, the student's award will be reconfigured. **Please note that if the student receives the outside scholarship check directly, the student must forward the check to the Office of Financial Aid.**

Award Revisions

If a family's financial situation changes during the year to the extent that a review of aid eligibility is in order, the student may request such a review. A letter addressed to the Office of Financial Aid should contain a detailed itemization of changes

that affect the family's ability to pay. Complete documentation should be included to substantiate the request. The counselor will provide timely written notification regarding the request and appropriate action to be taken.

How to Compute Your Payments to the College on the Payment Plan

The following is a sample payment calculation. The amount the family owes the College is based on the total cost of tuition, fees, room and board, and direct credits the student has in scholarships, grants and loans. **The student's earnings from work are generally for books and personal expenses throughout the year. They are not included as credits on the student's bill.**

Families may pay the College in two payments, one each semester, or in eight installments (four each semester) if the family is enrolled in the **College's Payment Plan**, which commences in August 2011, and ends in April 2012 with no payment due in December. There is an application form for this plan, and there is a \$50 per semester service charge (\$100 annually). You may request this form from the Student Accounts Office.

After reviewing the sample case, use the separate payment worksheet that is included with this pamphlet to compute your family's payments.

Sample Case

This student lives on campus in a residence hall.

DIRECT COLLEGE CHARGES:	Tuition	\$39,572
	Fees	311
	Room and Board	13,227
	Total Direct College Charges	\$53,110
DIRECT CREDITS:	Cal Grant*	\$9,708
	Federal Pell Grant	500
	Pomona Scholarship	24,954
	Total Direct Credits	\$35,162
	Net Cost Payable to the College (charges less credits):	\$17,948

The monthly payment calculation is:

Amount payable to College	\$17,948
Annual Service Charge	+100
Total amount payable to College	18,048
Number of monthly installments	÷8
Monthly payment amount	\$2,256

* *Expected Cal Grant maximum.*

Subsidized Employment

The **Federal Work-Study (FWS)** program provides funds for on- and off-campus employment enabling students to meet term-time work award expectations. Students with the greatest financial need have priority for Federal Work-Study funding. The Office of Financial Aid will notify students if their need qualifies them for Federal Work-Study funding. Federal regulations require that FWS earnings be monitored to avoid over awarding. If a student earns more money in a given year than is expected in the aid

package, the financial aid staff will be required to reduce the amount of grant, scholarship or loan the student received.

FWS wages generally range from \$8 to \$9.75 per hour, depending on job skills and experience. Students funded with FWS to meet their term-time earnings award usually work approximately 8 to 10 hours each week.

The Office of Financial Aid cooperates with the Career Development Office in establishing jobs with agencies both on- and off-campus.

Pomona College Student Employment is a need-based work program and is packaged in financial aid awards. The provisions are similar to those of the Federal Work-Study program. However, this program is funded solely by Pomona College.

Financing Options

Although Pomona no longer awards loans as part of a student's need-based financial aid package, some students may choose to borrow to help with their family share of expenses. All loans share a common feature: they must be repaid. The advantage to a student who borrows from one or more of the funds described below (with the exception of the unsubsidized Federal Direct loan) is that (1) interest does not accrue, and (2) repayment does not begin as long as the borrower maintains minimum enrollment status stipulated by each loan program. Fact sheets describing each loan, including deferment and cancellation provisions and sample repayment schedules, are available from the Office of Financial Aid.

Federal Direct Loans

The Federal Direct loan program is available to matriculated students, enrolled at least half-time, who have filed a valid Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). First year students may borrow up to \$5,500. Second year students may borrow up to \$6,500. Third and fourth year students may borrow up to \$7,500. The loan amount is split evenly between the two semesters, and students must be enrolled at least half-time. For students who qualify for the subsidized Federal Direct loan, interest on the outstanding loan is paid by the government during the in-school period. The maximum subsidized Federal Direct loan is \$3,500 for first year students, \$4,500 for second year students, and \$5,500 for third and fourth year students. An additional \$2,000 of unsubsidized Federal Direct loan is available to students who qualify for the subsidized loan, regardless of year in school. If a student does not qualify for the interest subsidy, interest accrues on the loan during the student's enrollment. The student may pay current interest, and any unpaid interest is capitalized to the loan at the end of the six month grace period after the student ceases to be enrolled at least half-time, whether the student graduates or is on a leave of absence. All Federal Direct loan borrowers begin to repay their loan principal balance and accrued interest six months after they graduate, drop below half-time, or withdraw from school.

The interest rate for new subsidized Federal Direct loans disbursed after July 1, 2011 is fixed at 3.4%, while the interest rate for unsubsidized Federal Direct loans is fixed at 6.8%. A fee of up to 1.0% of the loan principal may also be charged at the time of disbursement. Fees are deducted proportionately from each loan disbursement.

Federal Perkins Loans

Federal Perkins Loans are awarded by the College Office of Financial Aid based on available funding and the student's finan-

cial need. Federal Perkins loans are long-term, low interest (5%) loans. No interest is charged or accrued, nor is repayment required, on Federal Perkins loans while a borrower is enrolled in school at least half-time. Repayment begins 9 months after a student graduates, leaves school, or drops below half-time enrollment. Depending on the amount borrowed, the repayment period can be up to 10 years. The annual Federal Perkins loan limit is \$5,500 for undergraduate students. The aggregate loan amount available for undergraduate study is \$27,500.

Pomona College Loans

Any full-time Pomona student with financial need is eligible to apply. Quarterly repayment begins after the student completes an educational program or drops below half-time status. There is a maximum repayment period of 10 years.

Federal Direct Parent Loans

All families, whether receiving aid from Pomona College or meeting costs on their own, may consider obtaining a Federal Direct PLUS Loan to assist with the payment of their family share of costs.

The **Federal Direct PLUS Loan** program offers parents the opportunity to borrow up to the full cost of education each year, less any financial aid or other assistance. Interest on Direct PLUS loans begin to accrue immediately once the loan is made and repayment must begin within 60 days. The repayment term is usually 10 years.

The interest rate for Direct PLUS loans is fixed at 7.9%. A fee of up to 4% of the loan principal may be collected at the time the loan is disbursed. All fees are deducted proportionately from each loan disbursement.

Student Loan Exit Interviews

All students who elect to borrow student loans during their course of study at Pomona College are required to attend an exit interview before leaving the College. This is a requirement for graduation, taking a leave of absence or withdrawing completely. It is the student's responsibility to see that this requirement has been met. Several exit interview sessions are scheduled during the spring semester. An individual appointment should be made with the Student Loan Administrator if you are a September or December graduate, or if you take a leave prior to the end of a semester. Questions concerning exit interviews can be directed to the Student Loan Administrator in the Business Office or the Financial Aid staff.

It is important for borrowers to maintain records of their indebtedness in order to plan for the future, when loan payments will figure in with monthly expenses, along with food, rent and other essentials. Pomona provides loan counseling for all students at entrance and upon graduation or leave, to ensure that the borrower understands all the details of how and when to repay educational loans.

Students Living Off-Campus

For students living off-campus, the charges for tuition and fees are paid directly to the Student Accounts Office. If a student's total grant and loan aid is greater than the sum of the charges for tuition and fees, the student will receive a refund of the excess amount to assist with payment of off-campus living expenses.

Students should contact the Office of Financial Aid to start the process of withdrawing the excess funds. Students should

note that the budget for off-campus housing is less than the budget for on-campus room and board (see “Cost of Attendance” on page 3).

Refunds When a Student Withdraws and is Not Charged Full Tuition nor Room and Board

A student who withdraws, takes a leave of absence, or changes the number of course enrollments after the first day of classes in a semester can receive credit against the semester’s fees. Whether any cash refund will result from the credits received will depend on the payments made and the amount of financial assistance that has been received by the student.

After the Student Accounts office determines the enrollment period and the refund of charges for the student who withdraws, takes a leave, or changes the number of course enrollments after the first day of classes in any semester, the Office of Financial Aid calculates the amount of funds to be returned to the federal, state, and institutional aid programs, and to the student.

When returning federal funds, the U.S. Department of Education “Return of Title IV Funds” policy is applied and funds are returned in the following order: 1) Unsubsidized Stafford Loan; 2) Subsidized Stafford Loan; 3) Perkins Loan; 4) Parent Loan for Undergraduate Student (PLUS); 5) Pell Grant; 6) Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG); and 7) Other Title IV programs.

State funds are returned according to the individual state program requirements.

When returning Institutional funds, the office calculates the amount of aid so that a student receives the same percent of costs in aid as he received in his original financial aid award. Institutional scholarships and campus employment are awarded so that the revised aid package reflects the same percent of aid for each of these as was awarded in the original aid package.

The Office of Financial Aid publishes a more detailed description of the refund policies. Sample refund calculations are also available to students upon request.

It is Pomona College’s policy to disburse all DL loans 30 days after the start of each semester; therefore, any DL funds that have not been disbursed at the time of the student’s withdrawal are treated as aid that could have been disbursed in the return of Title IV funds calculation, and eligibility is determined based on the R2T4 calculation. If a student is eligible, based on this calculation, for a disbursement of Federal Loan funds which will result in a credit, or excess funds, on the student’s account, the Office of Financial Aid will contact the student to determine whether the student wishes to return the federal loan funds.

Renewal Procedure

Financial aid is awarded on an annual basis. **No offer is renewed automatically.** To be considered for renewal of College administered aid, including state and federal aid, each student is responsible for filing the appropriate applications. Continuing students must submit **signed** copies of their parents’ and their own tax returns, including **all** schedules and W-2 and 1099 forms, prior to their aid renewal.

After winter break, renewal information is sent to students currently receiving financial aid who will need to apply for aid for the following academic year. Generally, renewal aid forms must be filed by **mid-April**. Students are typically notified of their renewal aid eligibility by mail in mid-June.

If another application is required by an outside agency, the

student is responsible for filing the necessary materials by that agency’s deadline.

Students participating in an off-campus program or taking a leave of absence, must take special care to obtain and complete their renewal forms by the deadline.

Number of Semesters of Eligibility

The number of semesters of financial aid eligibility is equal to the number of semesters required to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree at the normal rate of progress. An entering freshman making normal progress will require eight full-time semesters of college work. The *Pomona College Catalog* states that a total of 32 courses is required to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree. To earn this degree in eight full-time semesters, the normal rate of progress is completion of an average of four courses each semester.

If a student receives scholarship assistance for any portion of a semester, that semester is counted toward the student’s eight semesters of eligibility for Pomona financial aid eligibility. This means that students who take a leave of absence after the end of the add/drop period will have used one semester of aid eligibility toward the total eight semesters.

Satisfactory Academic Progress

Students are expected to make satisfactory academic progress in accordance with the policies and regulations of the Academic Standards Committee, which are published each year in the *Student Handbook* and the *Pomona College Catalog*. In general, to remain in good standing, students are expected to maintain a “C” (6.0) average. The Academic Standards Committee notifies students who have dropped below the minimum grade average and course completion levels, and establishes requirements an individual must fulfill to be reinstated to good standing. These requirements are set out in an individual contract.

A student who is under contract with the Academic Standards Committee is considered to have mitigating circumstances and, therefore, is still considered to be maintaining satisfactory academic progress for the purpose of financial aid eligibility. If a student does not fulfill the terms of the contract, the Committee will decide whether the student must withdraw from the College. Students who are re-admitted to Pomona by the Committee after withdrawing are eligible to apply again for financial aid.

Students who maintain a “C” average and who complete courses according to the following schedule are considered to be making satisfactory academic progress; therefore, they maintain normal financial aid eligibility. At the end of each year in college, the minimum number of units earned must be:

- Freshmen – 7 full courses
- Sophomore – 13 full courses
- Junior – 23 full courses
- Senior – 32 full courses

Petition for a Ninth Semester of Aid

If exceptional circumstances prevent a student from earning a Bachelors of Arts degree in eight semesters, the student must receive permission from the Academic Procedures Committee to enroll **full-time** for a ninth semester or more in order to complete requirements for graduation and to be considered eligible for need-based financial aid. Need will be determined based on the same financial aid data submitted by all students applying for

financial aid – the FAFSA, CSS Profile, and current year tax documents – and Pomona’s standard needs-analysis methodology. Financial need for each approved semester beyond the eighth will be met using the following protocol:

Self Help:

Campus Employment up to one half of the standard award (\$1,150 in 2011-2012)

Student Loans (\$5,500 in 2011-2012; actual amount may change in future years)

Scholarship:

Remaining need is met with Pomona scholarship.

Ninth Semester of aid for *part-time* students:

Financial Aid for **part-time** enrollment for a ninth semester or more is provided entirely through student loans.

Semesters Abroad or College Exchanges

As long as a student is registered at Pomona full-time and pays tuition and fees to the College while participating in a Pomona approved abroad or domestic off-campus program, eligibility for financial aid will continue. Students may arrange to borrow unused campus work award funds. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid.

Leaves

A student’s aid is discontinued when the student is not enrolled in school. A student planning to return from a leave will be considered for financial aid subject to the same deadlines, procedures and guidelines as any currently enrolled student applying for aid administered by the College. Cal Grants, National Merit Scholarships and some federal programs have special regulations concerning students on leave. A student planning to take a leave of absence should check with the Office of Financial Aid (and with the sponsors of any outside aid) before going on leave to make arrangements for consideration for aid upon returning to Pomona. Outside funds “lost” through failure to obtain a leave of absence from the funding agency will not be made up by College funds. Students also need to inquire about their loan obligations during the time they are on leave.

Student Responsibilities

The offer and acceptance of financial aid is an agreement between Pomona College and the student. This agreement is based upon certain conditions and expectations that students should clearly understand before they apply for, or accept, financial assistance.

The offer of aid assumes truthful and correct information on the part of the student. A student’s eligibility is determined by the information provided by the applicant and the parents. Should students be successful in receiving outside assistance, they are required to notify the Office of Financial Aid as soon as possible. If any individual deliberately falsifies information, that person will be refused all aid. If funds have been advanced on falsified information, the individual will be obligated to repay all money received and is subject to criminal fraud prosecution.

Students in default on Federal Perkins or Federal Stafford Loans, or who owe an overpayment on a Federal Grant, may be excluded from financial aid. These obligations are sufficient reason for the College to refuse a student registration privileges and to refuse to release a transcript if the student in default desires to transfer to another institution.

General College Information

Information about the College’s academic programs, admission requirements, enrollments, and retention is included in the **Pomona College Catalog**, or may be obtained from the Office of Admissions, the College Registrar, and the Career Development Office.

Pomona College admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin, sex, and age to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the College. It does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin, sex, or age in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarships and loan programs, or other programs administered by the College.