

Harding University

2023-2024 Physician Assistant

New Student

Financial Aid Information

Welcome to Harding!

The financial aid office has a designated graduate financial aid staff. Please feel free to contact us whenever you have questions, or need to discuss your financial aid status. You can email us or call to speak with a counselor. We are also available for face-to face meetings by scheduled appointments or just walk in during our regular business hours (8-5 each weekday).

Phone: 501-279-4081

Email: finaidgrad@harding.edu

First Things First! FAFSA

- **Complete the 2023-2024 FAFSA**
 - This will be used to award aid for fall, spring and summer of the 2023-2024 academic year.
 - Parent income information is NOT needed on the FAFSA.



Federal Aid

Basic eligibility requirements include:

- Completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid ([FAFSA](#))
- United States Citizenship or Permanent Residency
- In good standing with current student loans

- **GRANTS** - PELL Grants are not available to graduate students, regardless of income.
- **LOANS** – Students who meet the federal eligibility requirements may receive two types of federal loans:
 - **Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan**
 - **\$10,250 per semester**
 - Automatically awarded with completion of the FAFSA
 - Lifetime limit of \$138,500, including undergraduate loans
 - **Federal Direct Grad PLUS Loan**
 - **Up to the cost of attendance (COA)** (*see next page for information regarding COA*)
 - If a Grad PLUS loan is needed, complete the Grad PLUS application at www.studentaid.gov
 - A credit check is required for the Grad PLUS loan, and students with poor credit may be turned down or require an endorser.

It is not necessary to establish credit to receive the Grad PLUS loan. Students with no credit history can be eligible. CLEAN credit is the key...no past due bills or payments.

Harding Scholarships

- Eligibility for any HU scholarships is determined by the Physician Assistant program
- Students will be notified by the PA program if there are any scholarships for which they can apply



Estimated Yearly PA Cost of Attendance Budget

Estimated program charges each semester.



DIRECT COSTS	FALL 2023	Spring 2024	Summer 2024
Tuition	\$16600	\$16600	\$16600
Tech Fee	\$324	\$324	\$324
TOTAL Direct Cost	\$16924	\$16924	\$16924

Additional components of your budget that can be covered by aid.



INDIRECT ALLOWANCES	FALL 2023	Spring 2024	Summer 2024
Books/Supplies	\$4060	\$543	\$543
Living Expenses	\$12570	\$12570	\$12570
TOTAL Indirect Allowances	\$16630	\$16630	\$16630



Managing Your Student Loans

Federal student loans can be a useful tool in pursuing your degree as a physician assistant. However, management of this tool, to keep your total debt as low as possible, is extremely important for your future.

Here are some things to consider:

- Stay informed. Always be aware of how much you are borrowing. You can keep track of this at www.studentaid.gov.
- Understand the loans you receive. All graduate loans are unsubsidized. This means that although you do not have to pay them while in school, they still accrue interest.
 - Current 2022-2023 Interest Rates: Direct Unsubsidized– 6.54%, Grad PLUS – 7.54%) New rates set on Jul. 1st.
 - The federal government charges an origination fee for student loans. This fee is paid from your loan before it pays to your account. The fees for loans disbursed before Oct. 1, 2023 are: Direct Unsubsidized Loans – 1.057% and PLUS Loans – 4.228%.
- Each semester, approximately **\$12570** of your Cost of Attendance Budget is allocated for housing, food, medical insurance, transportation and personal expenses. Plan a budget in advance of each semester, and review often.
- Live frugally. You have choices as to how much you will spend on housing, transportation, food, etc. Consider having a roommate. This is the quickest way to substantially lower your housing expenses.
- Return of Funds: Please contact our office if you find that you have accepted too much in loans and wish to make a return. Returns made by our office can only be processed during the same semester in which a loan is disbursed. However, you can make a payment directly to your lender at anytime.

As you make plans to start the PA program, feel free to contact us if you have any questions, or need assistance determining the best course of action for you. We look forward to serving you!

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