



YOUNGSTOWN
STATE
UNIVERSITY

2026-27

GUIDE FOR
FINANCIAL AID
and SCHOLARSHIPS



GUIDE for FINANCIAL AID and SCHOLARSHIPS

An informative look at YSU
merit-based scholarships and
federal funding resources



THE FINANCIAL AID PROCESS:

GETTING STARTED

1

APPLY FOR ADMISSION

The admission application process must be completed in order to be considered for YSU scholarships, particularly YSU Freshman Scholarships for Excellence, and to receive a financial aid package.

2

APPLY FOR AN FSA ID AND PASSWORD

Students and FAFSA contributors will need to establish individual Federal Student Aid (FSA) IDs and Passwords at studentaid.gov.

FSA IDs and Passwords are required to electronically access and sign the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

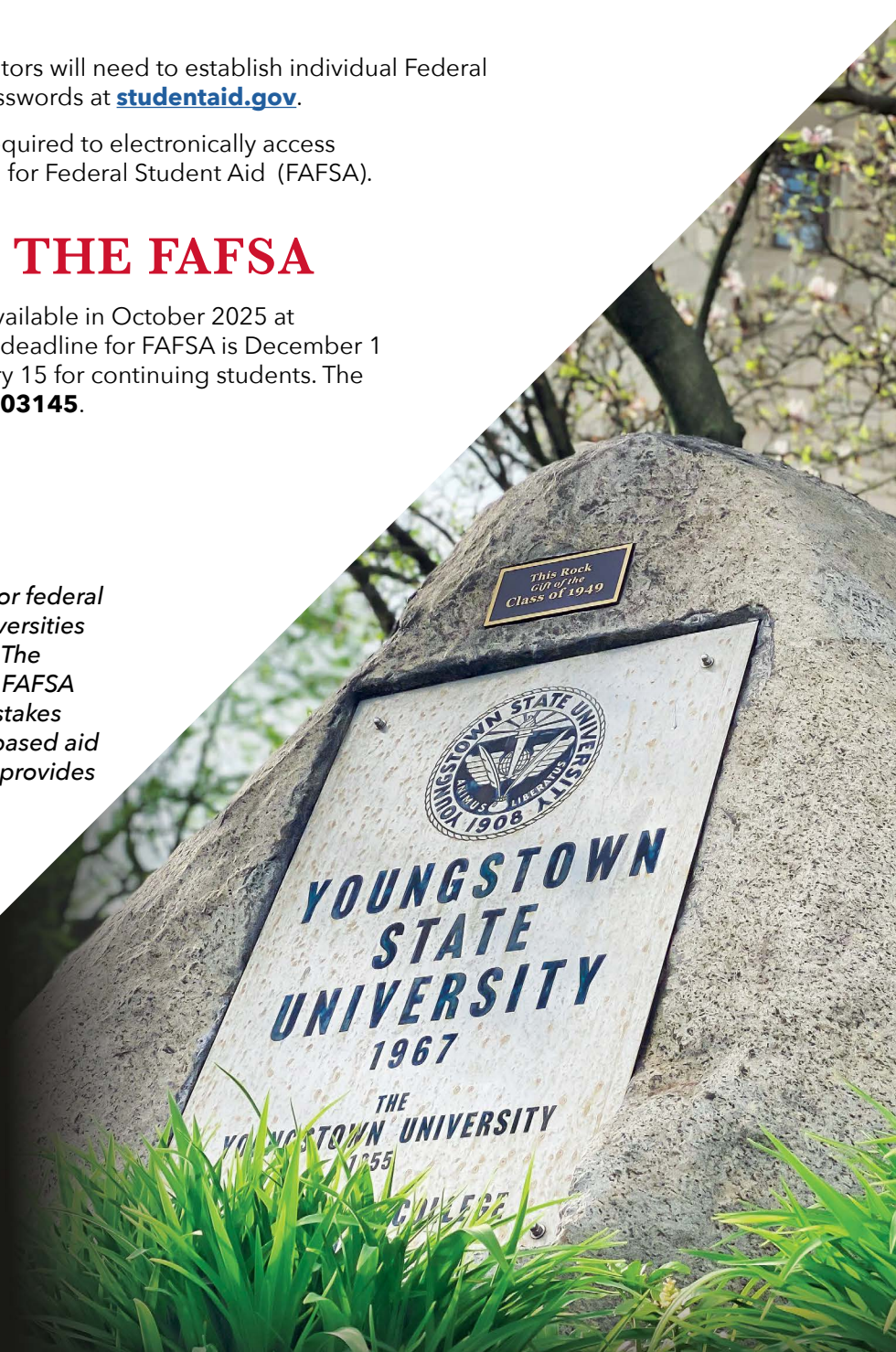
3

COMPLETE THE FAFSA

The 2026-27 FAFSA will be available in October 2025 at studentaid.gov. The priority deadline for FAFSA is December 1 for new students and February 15 for continuing students. The YSU six digit school code is **003145**.

NOTE:

Students submitting a FAFSA can be selected for federal verification. Verification is a process that all universities receiving federal aid are required to complete. The purpose of verification is not to find fraudulent FAFSA applicants, but to find and correct common mistakes made during the filing of the FAFSA. All need-based aid packaging must be put on hold until a student provides the necessary information requested through the verification process, such as tax return transcripts. Please be sure to retain copies of all records - the federal tax returns, untaxed income statements, bank records, etc. - used to complete the FAFSA in case your record is selected for this review.



MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS

FRESHMAN SCHOLARSHIPS FOR EXCELLENCE

| \$1,000 \$4,000 four years | \$2,000 \$8,000 four years | \$3,000 \$12,000 four years | \$4,000 \$16,000 four years | \$5,000 \$20,000 four years |
|--|---|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| 3.0 GPA ACT 19 or SAT 990 [†] Test Optional: GPA 3.0-3.49 | 3.0 GPA ACT 22 or SAT 1110 [†] Test Optional: GPA 3.5-3.89 | 3.5 GPA ACT 25 or SAT 1220 [†] Test Optional: GPA 3.9 and above | 3.5 GPA ACT 27 or SAT 1290 [†] Test Optional: N/A | Valedictorian Test Optional: N/A |

AUTOMATIC RENEWAL: 24 credit hours per academic year / Minimum 12 hours per term / 3.0 overall GPA

Incoming freshman scholarships recognize academic achievement of new high school graduates. These scholarships are automatically awarded to qualified first-year students who have been admitted to the university. Full time enrollment is required for disbursement.

| \$1,000 \$4,000 four years |
|---|
| Graduate of local inner-city schools (right) 3.0 GPA |

AUTOMATIC RENEWAL:

24 credit hours per academic year / Minimum 12 hours per term / 3.0 overall GPA

This merit-based award is available to new high school graduates of the following local inner-city schools: Campbell Memorial • Cardinal Mooney • Chaney • East • Farrell • John F. Kennedy • Niles McKinley • New Castle • Sharon • Struthers • Summit Academy • Ursuline • Warren G. Harding • Valley Christian • Youngstown Early College

**Subject to change based on enrollment, program, or location.*

† Composite for Evidence-Based Reading & Writing and Math Scores.

SOKOLOV HONORS COLLEGE AWARDS



SCHOLARSHIP DESCRIPTION

Students accepted for membership into the Sokolov Honors College may be considered for additional scholarships including:

- Tuition scholarships ranging from \$1,000-3,000 (renewable for four years)
- Housing scholarships ranging from \$1,000-3,000 (renewable for two years)

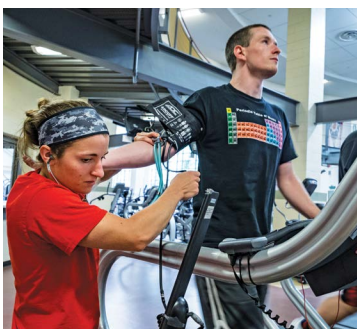
Scholarships may be combined with Freshman Scholarships for Excellence. These Honors College scholarships are awarded to first-year students coming directly out of high school.

ACT 26 or SAT 1240[†] / 3.5 GPA

RENEWAL: 24 credit hours per academic year / Minimum 12 hours per term / 3.0 overall GPA

COMBINED VALUE: Honors tuition scholarships are estimated between \$4,000 and \$12,000 over four years. Honors housing scholarships are estimated between \$2,000 and \$6,000 over two years.

† Composite for Evidence-Based Reading & Writing and Math Scores.



Additional SCHOLARSHIPS

TRANSFER STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

Transfer scholarships are available and offered through the generosity of the YSU Foundation. Transfer students are encouraged to apply early for financial aid and to observe the February 15 deadline for our transfer scholarships. Awards will be pro-rated if attending part-time (min 6 hours required).

| Transfer Level 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none">\$1,000\$3,000 for 3 years | 12 transfer hours 3.0 GPA | 12 credit hours per academic year 3.0 GPA |
|--|------------------------------|--|
| Transfer Level 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">\$1,500\$4,500 for 3 year | 12 transfer hours 3.5 GPA | 12 credit hours per academic year 3.0 GPA |

PHI THETA KAPPA HONOR SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarship Opportunity for Community College Transfer Students at YSU.

| \$1,500 per year (split between fall and spring semesters) Stackable on top of Transfer Scholarship (student will either receive a total of \$2,500 or \$3,000 per year with both transfer scholarships) | Must provide proof of active membership to Office of Undergraduate Admissions (e.g. membership card or certificate) Must be enrolled in at least 6 or more hours (scholarship is pro-rated if less than full time) | Renewable for up to 3 academic years 3.0 GPA |
|---|---|---|

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (CURRENT STUDENTS)

Current YSU students are awarded the Academic Achievement Award based on academic accomplishment. Awards will be pro-rated if attending part-time (min 6 hours required).

| \$500 per academic year \$1,500 for 3 years, if renewed | 24 hours (at YSU) 3.5 GPA | 12 credit hours per academic year 3.5 GPA |
|--|------------------------------|--|

*Please note, students receiving any Freshman Scholarships For Excellence are not eligible to receive the Academic Achievement Award as students cannot be awarded more than one scholarship through the Scholarships For Excellence Program.



Scholarships and Private-Donor Programs



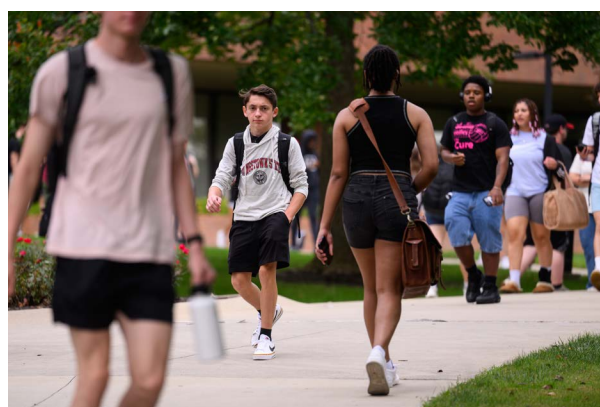
YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

The Youngstown State University Foundation is the designated philanthropic entity of Youngstown State University

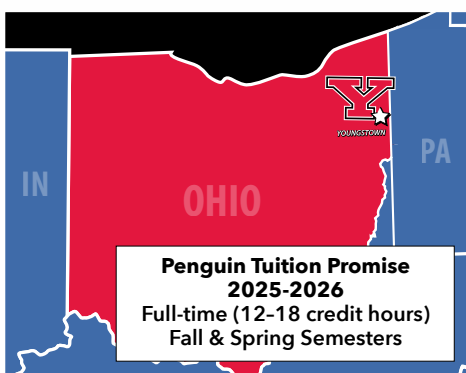
With more than \$300 million in assets, the YSU Foundation, Youngstown State University's philanthropic arm, is the largest endowment of any public university in Northeast Ohio, providing more than \$11 million in scholarships for YSU students every year.

As an independent, autonomous, private, non-profit corporation, the YSU Foundation's mission is to pursue, manage and distribute resources to support scholarships and student initiatives, as well as the growth and development of Youngstown State University.

To learn more and to apply for private donor scholarships through the YSU Foundation, visit ysufoundation.org.



HOW MUCH IS COLLEGE GOING TO COST?



YSU's new **Penguin Tuition Promise** assures students a **fixed tuition and room/board rate** for **four years** to pursue a bachelor's degree. That makes costs predictable and affordable.

| 2025-2026 | IN-STATE | OUT-OF-STATE |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Annual Tuition | \$11,376.00 | \$11,376.00 |
| Non-Resident Tuition Surcharge | \$0.00 | \$360.00 |
| Total Cost COMMUTER** | \$11,376.00 | \$11,736.00 |
| Annual Room & Board | \$11,500.00 | \$11,500.00 |
| Housing Application Fee | \$35.00 | \$35.00 |
| Total Cost RESIDENT** | \$22,911.00 | \$23,271.00 |

All costs listed above are subject to change without notice.

* Tuition and fees for students outside of Ohio are only \$360 a year higher than for Ohio students. Please check the YSU website for detailed information.

For a complete list of additional fees and detailed tuition information please visit the University Bursar website at www.ysu.edu/bursar.

FINANCIAL AID CONTACTS & RESOURCES

Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships:

Office Hours: Monday-Friday; 8:00 am-4:30 pm
Walk-in Hours: Monday-Thursday; 10:00 am-12:00 pm and 2:00 pm-4:00 pm
at Penguin Service Center
Appointment Hours: Monday-Friday; 8:30 am-4:00 pm
Phone: [330.941.3505](tel:330.941.3505)
Website: ysu.edu/finaid
Email: ysufinaid@ysu.edu

YSU Resources:

Office of Admissions: [330.941.2000](tel:330.941.2000)
Penguin Service Center: [330.941.6000](tel:330.941.6000)

Federal Resources and Information:

Federal Student Aid: studentaid.gov
• FAFSA
• Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID and Password
Federal Student Aid
Information Center (FSAIC): [800.4.FED.AID](tel:800.4.FED.AID) (800.433.3243)
IRS tax return transcript request: irs.gov/individuals/get-transcript or [800.908.9946](tel:800.908.9946)

Financial aid is awarded in four basic forms: scholarships, grants, loans and employment. Scholarships and grants are gift aid and do not require repayment. Loans require repayment.

ADDITIONAL FEDERAL & STATE PROGRAMS

Information on additional federal and state aid programs can be found on our website, ysu.edu/finaid.

- Federal Pell Grant**
- Ohio College Opportunity Grant**
- PA State Grant**
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant***
- Federal Work Study***
- Federal Loan Programs
- Alternative Loans
- Veterans Administration Education Assistance
- Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation Awards
- Ohio War Orphans Grants
- Ohio National Guard Grants
- Governor's Merit

Financial Aid Timeline for 2026-2027

December 1, 2025

New Student Deadline for filing the FAFSA (studentaid.gov) for priority consideration.

January 5, 2026

YSU's Spring Semester begins.

February 15, 2026

YSU starts awarding need-based aid to New Students. Need-based aid includes Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG), and Federal Work Study Program. To be considered, your 2026-2027 FAFSA must be complete. If you are selected for verification, this process must be finalized.

Continuing Student Deadline for filing the FAFSA (studentaid.gov) for priority consideration.

March 1, 2026

YSU starts awarding need-based aid to Continuing Students. Need-based aid includes Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) and Federal Work Study Program. To be considered, your 2026-2027 FAFSA must be complete. If you are selected for verification, this process must be finalized.

May 1, 2026

To be considered for a PA State Grant, your FAFSA results must be received and processed by the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency.

May 11, 2026

YSU's Summer Semester begins.

August 24, 2026

YSU's Fall Semester begins. Bills for Fall Semester are due approximately August 15, 2026.

October 1, 2026

To be considered for an Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG), your FAFSA results must be received and processed by the Ohio Board of Regents.

If you missed the **December 1st for new students** or the **February 15th for continuing students** priority dates for filing the FAFSA and you have not yet submitted the FAFSA, do not delay! It is not too late to file; you may still be eligible for other forms of financial aid.

You must file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the 2026-27 aid year to be considered for many of these programs.

**These awards are restricted to students who have not attained a first bachelor's degree.

*** Funding may be limited or unavailable based on federal funding budget approvals.



Housing Grant Application

Students who are planning to live in University Housing (Lyden House, Cafaro House, Kilcawley House, Wick House and Weller House) or the University Courtyard Apartments can apply for a Housing Grant by submitting the online Housing Grant Application on ysu.edu/finaid. The priority deadline for applying is December 1 for all incoming new students and February 15 for continuing students. A FAFSA is required and must be received prior to completion of the application. Need-based awards of up to \$2,000 per academic year are available to students on a first come, first serve basis.

YSU Financial Aid Estimator and Net Price Calculator

Here students are able to estimate the potential financial aid offer they could receive when attending Youngstown State University. The estimator prompts the user to complete an online form, providing financial and demographic information. Upon submission, the student's Student Aid Index (SAI) and an estimate detailing eligibility for aid will be calculated.



Tuition Estimator

Not sure of the cost of attending Youngstown State University? The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships provides an interactive tool to calculate the approximate tuition an individual student may expect to incur while attending YSU.

YSU Installment Payment Plan

Normally, student accounts are billed each semester, with statements emailed to the student's YSU email account each time a bill is issued. Semester charges are due in full by the payment due date. YSU also offers a monthly Installment Payment Plan allowing the total amount due each semester to be spread out over several months.



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Email: onestop@ysu.edu
Monday - Thursday, 8 am - 4:30 pm
Friday, 9 am - 4:30 pm



Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships



ysu.edu/finaid

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