



How financial aid increases plus an expanded federal educational tax credit will help offset a 14 percent tuition increase at WSU.

A fourteen percent increase in resident undergraduate tuition at the WSU will result in an additional charge of \$870 per year per student (\$435 more than the planned 7%). As shown below, the expected increases in available financial aid combined with the 2009 & 2010 expansion of the federal HOPE tax credit will offset this \$870 to different degrees depending on a student's household income.

Family Income	Current WSU Annual Tuition (excludes S&A fee)	14% Tuition Increase	Expected Financial Aid Increase	Tuition Increase After Aid	Potential Federal Educational Tax Credit	Total Average Net Effect of Tuition Increase
<\$52,500 ¹ Cougar Commitment Eligible	\$6,218	\$870	Cougar Commitment eligible students will not have to pay increase	\$0	\$700-\$1,000	\$0
\$52,500 to \$96,000 ²	\$6,218	\$870	WSU institutional grants will increase at the same rate as tuition	<\$870	\$700 - \$2,500	\$0
\$96,000 to \$160,000 ³	\$6,218	\$870	\$0	\$870	\$2,500	\$0
>\$160,000	\$6,218	\$870	\$0	\$870	\$0	\$870

¹ \$52,500 is 70% of the Median Family Income for a family of four (used in determining 2008-2009 State Need Grant eligibility). Many students in this income range are eligible for the Cougar Commitment. Those students who do not receive sufficient financial aid to cover the tuition increase but who come from families with no tax liability are newly eligible for a refundable credit of up to \$1,000; those with tax liability will be eligible for an additional \$700 tax credit for eligible expenses.

² Students in this group were previously able to receive the HOPE tax credit up to \$1,800 for two years. New policy increases their potential tax credit by \$700 and extends the benefit to four years.

³ Students in this group were not previously able to receive the HOPE tax credit. They or their families are now eligible to receive up to \$2,500 per year in tax credits.

The ABC's of Public Funded Financial Aid at Washington State University

The Application Process

1. Students and their families complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Students may file the FAFSA online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. (About 98% of current WSU FAFSA filers do apply online.)
2. After submitting the FAFSA, students and families receive the Student Aid Report (SAR) which includes the student's Expected Family Contribution (EFC) -- the amount of money the government believes the student and his or her family can contribute for the school year.
3. EFC is calculated using a federal formula, legislated by Congress, to evaluate the information provided on the FAFSA. In most cases the family's income for the most recent tax year and their reportable assets are the most important determinants of the EFC, although the EFC is also affected by the number of family members, and the number of family members in college.
4. Students have their SAR/ EFC information sent electronically to colleges/universities.

Determining the Student's Eligibility for Need-Based Financial Aid

1. The Financial Aid Office will calculate the difference between the cost of attending WSU (approximately \$20,500 tuition, fees for residents, room and board, supplies, books, and travel) and the family's EFC. Many WSU scholarships are awarded by need.

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{Cost of Attending WSU} \\ - \text{Expected Family Contribution/EFC} \\ \hline \text{Additional amount needed to attend WSU} \end{array}$$

2. Some students will qualify for the federally supported Pell grant for needy students and/or the Washington State Need Grant (WSNG).
 - Most Pell awards that WSU allocates are at the full-time rate. Next year, the maximum Pell is \$5,350 (which corresponds to a 0 EFC). The minimum award is \$974. Amount of Pell awarded depends of the EFC.
 - The Washington State Need Grant ranges between \$3,000 and \$6,000 per year. The WSNG amount depends upon whether a family's income was at 70%, 65% or 50% of the state's median family income (MFI), respectively.
 - As of 4/3/09, we were up 1,272 Pell recipients (5,703 total, 29% increase from 4,431) compared to same time last year.

Awarding/Packaging Financial Aid

1. The WSU financial aid office develops a financial aid “package” that combines the following
 - Federal and state aid
 - WSU grant or scholarship
 - College Work Study (12 – 15 hours/week)
 - Loans
2. All students whose EFC is \$10,500 or less are given a financial aid package such that when their EFC is combined with Pell and/or the WSNG, additional federal grants, and college work study their grant aid totals \$10,500.

- Federal and State Grants (Pell and WSNG) for the entire university

Pell only (33.0% of all FAFSA filers)

5,268 students

Total of \$16,553,020

Washington State Need Grant only (33.6%)

5,365 students

Total of \$24,575,103

Pell & SNG combined (38.1%)

6,075 students

Total \$41,128,123

3. The remainder of college costs are usually met through loans, both subsidized and unsubsidized.

Additional Scholarships

1. At this point, all additional non-need and academic scholarships (Regents, Future Cougars of Color and automatic awards) are added to the financial aid package.