Investing in your Education

At Lake Forest College, we seek to make our education accessible by awarding generous merit scholarships and need-based financial aid. Scholarship offers are available to spring and fall transfer students.

Nearly $4 million was awarded to the 2021 transfer class (88 students)

100% of the incoming transfer students for 2021 received financial aid

Up to $32,000 annually in merit-based scholarships

100% of the incoming transfer students for 2021 received merit-based scholarships

ENTERING WITH MORE THAN 26 HOURS OF COURSEWORK

Applicants entering with more than 26 hours of completed coursework will be evaluated through a holistic review process. Using your transcript, letters of recommendation, interview, and test scores (optional), we will offer a scholarship of up to $32,000 annually in recognition of your achievements.

ENTERING WITH UP TO 26 HOURS OF COMPLETED COURSEWORK

Use your weighted high school GPA and/or your ACT/SAT score to see the scholarship you could be eligible for.

Not on the grid? You can still apply. At Lake Forest College, we know that our students are more than just a number. We are searching for interesting, well-rounded students to add to our diverse community. Our holistic admission process takes into consideration your engagement with the College, accomplishments in and out of the classroom, leadership potential, course preparation, and more.

APPLYING TEST-OPTIONAL? NO PROBLEM

You will be reviewed for scholarship on an individual basis using our holistic review process. Schedule an interview with your admission counselor as soon as possible. We believe that this conversation tells more about a student’s drive and passion for learning than a standardized exam.

THE FORESTER FLAGSHIP PROGRAM

For Illinois students who qualify for a Federal Pell Grant, 100% of the College’s tuition is covered in grants and scholarships. Students must complete the FAFSA by mid-January and live on campus to qualify for the Forester Flagship Program.

Additional Grant and Scholarship Options

PHI THETA KAPPA (PTK) SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship recognizes transfer students who hold current membership in Phi Theta Kappa, an international honor society of two-year colleges. Scholarships are offered at the time of admission and may not be added after you have begun your enrollment. Scholarships are valued at $28,000 per year. Students who have a GPA of 3.75 and higher will receive $30,000 per year.

HONORS PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP

Honors Program Scholarships are available to community college students who are members of their institution’s honors program. The scholarship of $2,000 is stackable on top of the Phi Theta Kappa Scholarship or the Presidential Scholarship.

VISIT GRANT

The best way to decide if Lake Forest is a great fit for you is by visiting the College during an open house program, transfer-specific event, or scheduling an in-person or virtual visit. Students who visit the college in-person or virtually will receive a $2,000 annual visit grant.

FINE ART SCHOLARSHIPS

Talent-based scholarships in music, studio art, and theater are available to both majors and non-majors. Application requirements for each scholarship can be found online. Those wishing to apply must first be admitted to the College. Scholarship recipients can receive up to an additional $5,000 in scholarships, which can be renewed every year if renewal requirements are met. Application deadline is July 1 for fall and December 1 for spring.
NEED-BASED FINANCIAL AID
The Office of Financial Aid offers a personalized approach, helping students and families by providing timely information, anticipating and responding to concerns, and seeking individualized solutions.

Students who complete the FAFSA will be considered for grants from the College, the State of Illinois, and the federal government, as well as student loans and work-study.

THE FAFSA
The Free Application for Federal Student Aid is step one in the financial aid process and is used to apply for grants, loans, and work-study. The 2022-2023 application is now open and uses details of 2020 income. All students are encouraged to submit the FAFSA by mid-January. Our Federal Code is 001706.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES
Students and their families have the option of submitting one or more forms to report special circumstances not captured on the FAFSA, including major income changes, large healthcare costs, a large K-12 tuition payment, and any other unusual expenses.

GIFT AID: SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS
In our desire to make attending Lake Forest affordable to all, we’ve developed a transparent awarding model so students and families know what gift aid is available. The grid below provides a guide for what a student might expect in grants and scholarships. A student’s need-based award may vary based on the Financial Aid Office’s individual evaluation of a family’s resources, including assets other than the family home or retirement funds.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GROSS FAMILY INCOME</th>
<th>AVERAGE GIFT AID</th>
<th>WHAT IT COVERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$0 to $40,000</td>
<td>$49,200</td>
<td>98% of tuition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$40,001 to $80,000</td>
<td>$49,200</td>
<td>86% of tuition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$80,001 to $120,000</td>
<td>$41,300</td>
<td>82% of tuition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$120,001 to $160,000</td>
<td>$32,200</td>
<td>64% of tuition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$160,000+</td>
<td>$30,400</td>
<td>61% of tuition</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS
Students enrolling in college for the first time may receive grant and scholarship funds totaling up to $40,000. You should submit the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid or the Undocumented Student Financial Aid application, which can be found on our Financial Aid web page. You can expect to receive similar aid each year if your academic performance is consistent with the standards of the College. An annual application is not required.

YELLOW RIBBON PROGRAM
The College currently considers funding for an unlimited number of enrolled eligible students at any given time, with up to $36,000 in funds per person in scholarships and grants. Eligible students must reapply each year (first-come, first-served basis) showing continued eligibility for funding.

POST-9/11 G.I. BILL
Eligible veterans or their spouse/dependent may receive up to $26,042 from the VA for the entire 2021–2022 academic year.

Visit lakeforest.edu/transfer-scholarships