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## Financial Aid Information for Your First Year of Pharmacy School (Off-Campus)

### Graduate Student Status

Once you complete the required 72 hours of undergraduate coursework and are accepted into the program, you are an independent graduate student and can receive graduate-level financial aid.

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### Understanding Your Budget

Each university sets a **Cost of Attendance (COA)** for different student types. The COA includes estimated expenses such as housing, food, books, transportation, fees, and other personal costs.

**Only tuition and fees are billed directly to your student account.**

You should create a personal budget to decide how much you need to borrow.

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### 2025-2026 Doctor of Pharmacy Tuition (Full Time): \$43,571 (see breakdown below)

For first year pharmacy students, tuition is divided as follows:

- **Fall:** \$19,062
- **Spring:** \$19,062
- **May (based on Summer 2025 rate):** \$5,447

### University Fees

- **University Fee:** \$500 per semester (fall & spring), \$300 (summer)
- **Parking Fee:** \$250 per semester (fall & spring)

### Pharmacy-Specific Fees

- **Pharmacy Lab Fee:** \$550 per semester (fall & spring)
- Your fees cover multiple databases and therefore there are typically little to no book to buy.

Thus, **the total of tuition and all required fees: \$45,971** (add \$500 if parking on campus)

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### Financial Aid Overview

Your **fall and spring aid package** is based on a **COA of \$69,470**, which includes:

- **\$40,224** for tuition and fees (see breakdown in costs above)
- **\$29,246** for housing, food, transportation, and personal expenses

Your **May term aid package (based on Summer 2025 data)** is based on a **COA of \$17,276**:

- **\$5,747** for Community IPPE tuition and university fees (see breakdown in costs above)
- **\$11,829** for summer housing, food, transportation, and personal expenses

Therefore, the **usual maximum total aid package awardable is \$86,746**

### How Aid is Applied:

1. School scholarships are applied first.
2. The first **\$50,000** in loans is usually offered as **Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans**.
3. Additional funds can be applied for via **Private Loans**.

Private loans are made by national, regional, and local lending institutions who exist to assist you in affording your college education. Many of these lenders are well known and you may already be utilizing one of them for your personal banking needs. Samford offers two loan comparison tools.

- **Credible** – compares personalized loan rates (similar to Kayak). <https://www.credible.com/student-loans/schools/samford>
- **Elm** – lists lenders historically used by Samford students. <https://www.elmselect.com/v4/>

### Special Circumstances

COA adjustments may be requested if a student incurs expenses outside of the original allotment. This allows a student to borrow more funds to help cover necessary expenses such as:

1. **Purchase of a computer:** one time during enrollment
2. **Dependent care:** daycare, care of other dependents
3. **University Health insurance:** if not otherwise covered on another plan
4. **Travel:** airfare to and from the university for enrollment purposes if other travel possible
5. **Transport of a car:** for student traveling from overseas to the Samford campus

### Other Funding Options

1. **Outside Scholarships** – Available through various organizations.
2. **Federal Work Study** – Part-time jobs; ask your One Stop advisor about eligibility.
3. **Additional McWhorter School of Pharmacy Scholarships for the second through fourth years of pharmacy school** – These are awarded on an annual basis after starting the program.
4. **Personal Resources** – Savings plans such as 529 funds can be used for tuition and fees.

### How to Receive Federal Financial Aid

#### 1. Complete the FAFSA each year

- Create FSA ID: [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov). List your name **EXACTLY** as it is on your social security card, even if you run out of space. Include two last names if this applies to you (include a hyphen only if you have one on your social security card).
- School Code: **001036**
- Only your (the student's) income is required if you have 72+ undergraduate credits.
- FAFSA answers:
  - *Year in College:* "Master's, doctorate, or graduate certificate program (such as M.A., MBA, M.D., J.D., Ph.D., Ed.D., etc.)"

#### 2. Submit any additional documents

You will receive a "Missing Information Letter" by email if more documents are needed.

#### 3. Check your Samford email in June for your award letter

#### 4. Accept your loans online through the Samford Portal

#### 5. Complete Entrance Counseling & Master Promissory Note

(at [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov))

- Entrance Counseling explains loans and budgeting, completed once during your time at Samford.
- The Master Promissory Note is your agreement to repay your loans; also completed once.

### Contact the One Stop Office

**Hours:** Monday–Friday, 8:00–4:30 (closed during holidays and severe weather)

**Location:** Lower level of Ingalls Hall

**Email:** [onestop@samford.edu](mailto:onestop@samford.edu); **Phone:** 205-726-2905

*This worksheet is a guide and does not replace speaking with a Financial Aid Advisor. Always check with your advisor for the most current information.*