

## Undergraduate Students with Tru-Military Benefit Financial Aid Award Resource Guide for 2025-2026

It has never been more important to ensure that your investment in higher education not only provides a world-class academic experience but also thoroughly prepares you to succeed in an increasingly competitive marketplace. At Champlain, we are proud of our track record for delivering an education that gives our graduates a great career advantage.

Your success is important to us! The Office of Financial Aid is available to help you understand and maximize your financial aid opportunities. We will walk you through the process of applying for aid and help you understand your payment options. Then, as you complete your degree, we will provide you with loan repayment information if you borrowed Federal Direct Loans to finance your degree.

In this Resource Guide, you will find information on:

- Understanding your financial aid offer and aid disbursement
- Participation in class
- Student refunds
- Tuition costs and student budgets
- Satisfactory Academic Progress

### **Understanding Your Financial Aid Offer**

#### **Federal Pell Grant**

The Pell Grant is awarded to undergraduate students without a prior Bachelor's degree and does not have to be repaid. The Pell Grant entitlement is based on your Student Aid Index (based on your FAFSA form) and the student's enrollment. *The federal government has established Pell Grant lifetime eligibility limits. Review your current Pell Grant usage at <https://studentaid.gov>.* Funds are posted to the student's account each term within a semester following enrollment verification, generally after the second week of each term.

#### **Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG)**

SEOG is awarded to Pell Grant recipients with exceptional financial need and does not have to be repaid. Funds are posted to the student's account each semester following enrollment verification, generally after the second week of the semester.

#### **Vermont State Grant Estimate**

The Vermont State Grant is a need-based award administered by the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC) to Vermont residents enrolled full-time or part-time. This grant does not have to be repaid. The amount listed on your award offer is Champlain College's estimate of your VSAC award and is subject to change. Final award amounts are determined by VSAC based on financial need, number of credits enrolled, and state appropriations. To receive funding, the student must complete a Vermont Grant application at [www.vsac.org](http://www.vsac.org). Funds are posted to the student's account after enrollment is verified and payment is received from VSAC.

#### **Post 9/11 GI Bill and Yellow Ribbon Program**

These funds are awarded to eligible military personnel, veterans, or their dependents when approved by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for participation. Award renewal is contingent on continued eligibility as determined by the VA. Funds are posted to the student's account each semester when the funds are received from



the VA. For more information, visit <https://www.champlain.edu/admissions/undergraduate-admissions/military-and-veterans>

## Employer Tuition Benefit

Employer Tuition Benefits are listed on your award offer once the Office of Financial Aid is notified of the benefit. If you are receiving a tuition benefit, including tuition reimbursement, that is not included in your award offer, you are required to notify the Office of Financial Aid so that the benefit can be included in your award offer, as this is considered an outside resource.

## Federal Direct Loans

Direct Loans are federal student loans that must be repaid, and the student must be enrolled at least half-time (6 credits or more) each semester to receive. The interest rate for Federal Direct Loans disbursed after July 1, 2025, will be a fixed rate, determined in June 2025, based on the 10-year Treasury note plus 2.05%. The interest rate for the 2024-2025 year was 6.53% with an origination fee of 1.057% deducted from the loan amount at disbursement. Federal Direct Loan payments are deferred while the student is enrolled at least half-time, and there is a six-month grace period after the student graduates, withdraws, or drops below half-time before loan payments begin. The loan offers multiple repayment plan options. Loan funds are posted to the student's account each semester following enrollment verification, generally after the second week of the semester.

- **Federal Subsidized Direct Loans:** The federal government pays the interest on this loan while the student is enrolled at least half-time, for the first six months after you leave school (grace period) and during a period of deferment. Federal Subsidized Loans are awarded based on federal financial need and grade level.
- **Federal Unsubsidized Direct Loans:** Students are responsible for paying the interest that accumulates after the loan is disbursed. The interest can be paid while in school, or the accrued interest will be capitalized (added to the principal balance). Federal Unsubsidized Loans are awarded based on grade level, and financial need is not considered.
- **Requirements for new borrowers:** New Federal Direct Loan borrowers are required to complete Entrance Counseling and a Master Promissory Note (MPN) at [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov) prior to receiving loan funds.
- **Federal Direct Loans are automatically awarded up to the maximum amount of your loan eligibility.** We strongly encourage students to be financially responsible and only borrow what is needed to meet direct costs while in school. You must log in to your Champlain College Self-Service and actively accept, reduce, or decline each loan offer.
- **The federal government has maximum annual and aggregate loan limits for Federal Direct Loans.** Review your borrowing history at <https://studentaid.gov> using your FSA ID to log in.

## Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan

The Federal Parent PLUS Loan program provides a borrowing option for parents of dependent undergraduate students. Federal Parent PLUS Loans are federal loans that must be repaid. The interest rate for the PLUS Loan is a fixed rate, set each July 1, 2025, based on the 10-year Treasury note plus 4.6%. The interest rate for the 2024-2025 academic year was 9.08% with a fee of 4.228% deducted from the loan amount at disbursement. The maximum amount a parent may borrow is the cost of attendance minus all other financial aid the student receives. Funds are posted to the student's account each semester following enrollment verification, which generally occurs after the second week of the semester. Repayment typically begins after the loan is fully disbursed; however, deferment options may be available. The parent would need to contact their Federal Loan Servicer for more details.



The loan is subject to credit approval, and the application process outlined below must be completed to be approved for the loan. No parent is required to borrow a Federal Parent PLUS Loan. We strongly encourage parents to be financially responsible and only borrow what is needed to meet direct costs while their student is in school.

- **To apply for the Federal Parent PLUS Loan:** the parent borrower must go to [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov) and log in with their FSA ID. Complete both the PLUS Application and Master Promissory Note (MPN). Requesting the loan must be done each year. The Master Promissory Note, once approved, is valid for 10 years.

## **Federal Work-Study Program**

Federal Work Study allows students with financial need the opportunity to find a job, usually on campus, and receive a paycheck for the hours worked. Champlain College Online students are not awarded Federal Work Study as part of the initial award offer because most online students are not physically located near campus. If you are interested in a federal work-study job on campus or with a Burlington area non-profit agency, please email the Office of Financial Aid at [compass@champlain.edu](mailto:compass@champlain.edu)

## **Satisfactory Academic Progress**

Federal regulations require that Champlain College review the academic progress of students who receive federal financial aid. At the end of each semester (summer, fall, and spring), every financial aid recipient's academic progress is reviewed by the Office of Financial Aid. Refer to the Champlain College Online Undergraduate Catalog at <https://catalog.champlain.edu/> for a full description of the Satisfactory Academic Progress policy. Your SAP status and details can be found in your Champlain College Self-Service account.

## **Course Participation**

Champlain College requires students in online courses in the Division of Champlain College Online to demonstrate participation by Day 8 of its course start. "Participation" means that a student has completed a discussion post or submitted an assignment on or after the start date of the course. If a student does not complete a post or an assignment by Day 8 of the course, the student will be automatically removed from the course(s) and your financial aid adjusted accordingly.

## **Student Refunds**

Each semester, students who receive financial aid in an amount that overpays their student account are issued a refund from the Student Accounts Office after their enrollment is confirmed, usually the third Friday of every semester, to be used for educationally related expenses. We encourage students to sign up for direct deposit through their Champlain Self-Service account.



## Tuition Costs and Student Budgets

### Tuition Costs

Tru-Military students are billed at a reduced per-credit rate of \$250.

### Student Budgets

The student budget listed below represents an estimate of the total costs associated with attending Champlain College for three semesters. The budget includes tuition (which is the only item you will be billed for), an estimate for the purchase of books, average loan fees, and a standard monthly allowance for living expenses. Full-time enrollment is defined as 12 credits per semester.

Part-time	Summer 25	Fall 25	Spring 26
Tuition*(Example rate: \$250 per credit)	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
Books	\$250	\$250	\$250
Living Expenses (\$2,020 per month)	\$8,080	\$8,080	\$8,080
Average Loan Fees	\$45	\$45	\$45
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,875</b>	<b>\$9,875</b>	<b>\$9,875</b>

Example assumes enrollment in 6 credits per semester (3 credits each mini-session), and each semester is 4 months.

\*To calculate tuition for enrollment other than 6 credits, multiply your enrolled credits by \$250.

Full-time	Summer 25	Fall 25	Spring 26
Tuition	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
Books	\$500	\$500	\$500
Living Expenses (\$2,020 per month)	\$8,080	\$8,080	\$8,080
Average Loan Fees	\$45	\$45	\$45
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,625</b>	<b>\$11,625</b>	<b>\$11,625</b>

Example assumes enrollment in 12 credits per semester (6 credits each mini-session), and each semester is 4 months.

