

## Champlain College Online Financial Aid Award Resource Guide for 2026-2027

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 truly gives our graduates a great advantage in their careers.

Your success is important to us! The Office of Financial Aid is available to help you understand and maximize the financial aid opportunities available to you. We can walk you through the process of applying for aid and help you to 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 your 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 start.

#### **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 eligible Vermont residents enrolled full-time or part-time. This grant does not have to be repaid. The amount listed on your award offer may be Champlain College's estimate of your VSAC award and may be 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 Veteran 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 in order to receive. The interest rate for Federal Direct Loans disbursed after July 1, 2026 will be a fixed rate for the 2026-2027 year of 6.52% 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 repayment plan options through the Federal Loan Servicer.

Loan funds are posted to the student's account each semester following enrollment verification, generally after the second week of the semester. Federal Loan adjustments for less-than-fulltime enrollment (24 credits for the academic year is considered fulltime for an undergraduate student) requires the Office of Financial Aid to prorate annual loan limits in direct proportion to the percent of full-time status. Adjustments may be made to the student's eligibility even after a Federal Loan has disbursed if the student changes their enrollment.

- **Federal Subsidized Direct Loans:** The federal government pays the interest on this loan while the student is enrolled at least half-time and 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 has 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 offered 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 login to your Champlain College Self Service and actively accept or decline each federal loan offer. To reduce the amount, please email the Office of Financial Aid at [onlinestudentfinaid@champlain.edu](mailto:onlinestudentfinaid@champlain.edu)
- **The federal government has new lifetime loan limits with limited exception provisions.** We strongly encourage you to review your borrowing history, loan debt obligation and limits on a regular basis 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 based on the 10-year Treasury note plus 4.6%. The interest rate for the 2026-2027 academic year is 9.07% with a fee of 4.228% deducted from the loan amount at disbursement. The maximum amount a parent may borrow is \$20,000 each academic year within the cost of attendance minus all other financial aid the student receives for a maximum of \$65,000 with a limited exception provision for current borrowers. 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 in order 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 for PLUS Loan (MPN). Requesting the loan must be done each year. The Master Promissory Note, if approved, is valid for 10 years.

## **Private Education Loans**

Private loans are non-federal, credit-based education loans borrowed from a private lending institution that must be repaid. The maximum amount a student may borrow is the cost of attendance minus any other financial aid, or the maximum limit established by the lender. You are encouraged to fully explore federal loan options (e.g. Federal Direct Loans) before securing a private loan, due to the benefits and consistencies that the federal loan programs may provide. Champlain College does not promote or endorse any private education loan lender. To help guide you, Champlain College has created a loan comparison tool to help you compare and select the private education loan that best meets your needs and repayment terms located [here](#). Private loan funds are posted to the student's account at the beginning of each semester once funds are received from the lender.

## **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 on line 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), all students' 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**

Beginning with the 2025–26 award year, Champlain College will begin to transition Summer 2026 to a trailing semester. If you received federal aid for enrollment in the Summer 2026 semester using your 2026-2027 FAFSA, you will have exhausted your financial aid eligibility for the award year and you will not be eligible for federal aid for the Summer 2027 semester. Please plan accordingly.

Summer 2026 is a crossover payment period — a term that begins before July 1 and ends on or after July 1. By treating summer as a trailing semester, Champlain can better align tuition costs with current aid eligibility and allow eligible students to maximize their Pell Grant.

## **Tuition Costs**

Students are charged a per credit rate of \$335 through Summer 2026. Fall increases to \$342 per credit.

## **Student Budgets**

The student budgets listed below represent 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.

**Examples below assumes enrollment in 6 credits per semester (3 credits each mini-session), each semester is 4 months**  
**Below is the Cost of Attendance for students whose enrollment begins in Summer 2026**

| Part-time                           | Summer 26 | Fall 26  | Spring 27 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Tuition*                            | \$2,010   | \$2,052  | \$2,052   |
| Books                               | \$250     | \$250    | \$250     |
| Living Expenses (\$2,020 per month) | \$8,080   | \$8,080  | \$8,080   |
| Average Loan Fees                   | \$41      | \$41     | \$41      |
| Total                               | \$10,381  | \$10,423 | \$10,423  |



**Below is the Cost of Attendance for students whose enrollment begins in Fall 2026**

| Part-time                           | Summer 26<br>Not enrolled | Fall 26  | Spring 27 | Summer 27 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Tuition*                            | \$0                       | \$2,052  | \$2,052   | \$2,052   |
| Books                               | \$0                       | \$250    | \$250     | \$250     |
| Living Expenses (\$2,020 per month) | \$0                       | \$8,080  | \$8,080   | \$8,080   |
| Average Loan Fees                   | \$0                       | \$41     | \$41      | \$41      |
| Total                               | \$0                       | \$10,423 | \$10,423  | \$10,423  |

**Below is the Cost of Attendance for students whose enrollment begins in Spring 2027**

| Part-time                           | Summer 26<br>Not enrolled | Fall 26<br>Not enrolled | Spring 27 | Summer 27 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Tuition*                            | \$0                       | \$0                     | \$2,052   | \$2,052   |
| Books                               | \$0                       | \$0                     | \$250     | \$250     |
| Living Expenses (\$2,020 per month) | \$0                       | \$0                     | \$8,080   | \$8,080   |
| Average Loan Fees                   | \$0                       | \$0                     | \$41      | \$41      |
| Total                               | \$0                       | \$0                     | \$10,423  | \$10,423  |

**Below is the Cost of Attendance for students whose enrollment begins in Summer 2027**

| Part-time                           | Summer 26<br>Not enrolled | Fall 26<br>Not enrolled | Spring 27<br>Not enrolled | Summer 27 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| Tuition*                            | \$0                       | \$0                     | \$0                       | \$2,052   |
| Books                               | \$0                       | \$0                     | \$0                       | \$250     |
| Living Expenses (\$2,020 per month) | \$0                       | \$0                     | \$0                       | \$8,080   |
| Average Loan Fees                   | \$0                       | \$0                     | \$0                       | \$41      |
| Total                               | \$0                       | \$0                     | \$0                       | \$10,423  |

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

**Below is the Cost of Attendance for students whose enrollment begins in Summer 2026**

| Full-time                           | Summer 26 | Fall 26  | Spring 27 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Tuition*                            | \$4,020   | \$4,104  | \$4,104   |
| Books                               | \$500     | \$500    | \$500     |
| Living Expenses (\$2,020 per month) | \$8,080   | \$8,080  | \$8,080   |
| Average Loan Fees                   | \$41      | \$41     | \$41      |
| Total                               | \$12,641  | \$12,725 | \$12,725  |



**Below is the Cost of Attendance for students whose enrollment begins in Fall 2026**

| Full-time                           | Summer 26<br>Not enrolled | Fall 26  | Spring 27 | Summer 27 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Tuition*                            | \$0                       | \$4,104  | \$4,104   | \$4,104   |
| Books                               | \$0                       | \$500    | \$500     | \$500     |
| Living Expenses (\$2,020 per month) | \$0                       | \$8,080  | \$8,080   | \$8,080   |
| Average Loan Fees                   | \$0                       | \$41     | \$41      | \$41      |
| Total                               | \$0                       | \$12,725 | \$12,725  | \$12,725  |

**Below is the Cost of Attendance for students whose enrollment begins in Spring 2027**

| Full-time                           | Summer 26<br>Not enrolled | Fall 26<br>Not enrolled | Spring 27 | Summer 27 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Tuition*                            | \$0                       | \$0                     | \$4,104   | \$4,104   |
| Books                               | \$0                       | \$0                     | \$500     | \$500     |
| Living Expenses (\$2,020 per month) | \$0                       | \$0                     | \$8,080   | \$8,080   |
| Average Loan Fees                   | \$0                       | \$0                     | \$41      | \$41      |
| Total                               | \$0                       | \$0                     | \$12,725  | \$12,725  |

**Below is the Cost of Attendance for students whose enrollment begins in Summer 2027**

| Full-time                           | Summer 26<br>Not enrolled | Fall 26<br>Not enrolled | Spring 27<br>Not enrolled | Summer 27 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| Tuition*                            | \$0                       | \$0                     | \$0                       | \$4,104   |
| Books                               | \$0                       | \$0                     | \$0                       | \$500     |
| Living Expenses (\$2,020 per month) | \$0                       | \$0                     | \$0                       | \$8,080   |
| Average Loan Fees                   | \$0                       | \$0                     | \$0                       | \$41      |
| Total                               | \$0                       | \$0                     | \$0                       | \$12,725  |

**\*To calculate tuition for enrollment other than 6 credits, multiply your enrolled credits by \$342.**

