



Financial Aid Eligibility Policy

Financial aid administered by the Financial Aid Office at Helena College is based on an evaluation of academic accomplishments, financial need, and availability of resources. Students may qualify for Helena College scholarships, grants or federally sponsored grants, work, and loans. Information about eligibility, applying for and accepting aid, and types of aid are outlined in this section. Some general points:

- Scholarships are awarded for each academic year.
- Awards are usually made in the spring for the following academic year.
- Helena College does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, creed, or national or ethnic origin in the administration of its scholarship program.
- All scholarships administered by the College are divided evenly between fall and spring semesters. Unless the scholarship specifically specifies a semester funds are to be awarded towards, then all funds will be administered to that semester only.
- Scholarships are generally not awarded during the summer session.
- Recipients of selected awards must inform the donor and/or Financial Aid Office of their acceptance.

The following is an example of how financial aid is determined.

The cost of attendance is determined by the College in August of each year for the following academic year. The cost of attendance for a full-time student includes the following factors. The dollar amounts are for this example only.

Tuition and Fixed Fees	\$ 4,200
Room and Board Allowance	\$ 8,950
Personal Expense*Allowance	<u>\$ 9,700</u>
Total Cost of Attendance	\$22,850

*The estimate includes allowances for books, supplies, transportation, and personal expenses.

If the student has applied for federal aid, Helena College accesses the student aid index (SAI) information electronically from the federal processor. If Helena College is not indicated on the FAFSA as a school that should access their FAFSA in order to add Helena College's school code. The College's code is 007570.

Helena College subtracts the SAI amount from the cost of attendance. The resulting amount is financial need as per federal eligibility guidelines.



The calculation is as follows:

Financial Aid Cost of Attendance	\$22,850
Less: Calculated SAI (assume \$2,000)	<u>2,000</u>
Calculated Financial Need	\$20,850

Financial aid packages are developed using information available at the time of packaging and may be revised if enrollment status and/or financial status change.

Eligibility Requirements for Helena College Aid

- Possess a high school diploma or equivalent, or meet ability to benefit criteria as defined by the U.S. Department of Education
- Priority is given to students with FAFSA results submitted to Helena College by December 1st
- Does not possess a baccalaureate degree.
- Enroll and be accepted to Helena College as a degree and/or certificate seeking student
Note: For financial aid purposes full-time is defined as twelve (12) or more credit hours per semester. For some financial assistance programs students must be enrolled in at least six (6) credit hours per semester.

Eligibility Requirements for Federal Aid

- Accepted to Helena College as a degree seeking student.
- Completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and submitted as soon as possible after the first business day in October. The FAFSA should include the Helena College's, Title IV Code 007570. A FAFSA must be completed each year the student applies for financial aid.
Note: Submitting a FAFSA ensures a student will be considered for all financial assistance from Helena College and the federal government. However, submitting a FAFSA is not mandatory if a student is only applying for scholarships or completely self-pay.
- The student should review the Financial Aid Summary (FAS) sent by the Federal Processor for Student Aid (FPS) and submit necessary corrections by resubmitting through the <https://studentaid.gov> website.