



Office of Financial Aid
Terms and Conditions for Scholarships, Fellowships & Other Awards

Scholarship Aid (All Types):

Scholarships offered at Teachers College (TC) are merit-based awards for degree-seeking students, and the funds are applicable toward tuition costs at the Teachers College [tuition rate per credit](#). Most scholarships cannot be applied toward fees (e.g., College Fee, Columbia Health Fee, and Columbia Health Insurance) or living expenses. Teachers College students who enroll in courses outside of TC (at any of the other schools within Columbia University) may incur a higher tuition rate and will need to be prepared to cover the tuition differential with other resources; TC scholarships do not cover costs beyond the TC tuition rate per credit.

Scholarship aid is nonrenewable unless otherwise stated in the award offer. Additionally, scholarship awards are for the academic year for which they are offered and are not transferable to another academic year. However, students may request to reallocate some or all of their scholarship aid to another semester within the same academic year. Students who wish to reallocate their scholarship aid should contact the [Office of Financial Aid](#) for consultation.

Students who receive scholarships under one program of study and then transfer to another program may lose their scholarship aid as the criteria for some awards are program-specific. Therefore, scholarship recipients interested in pursuing a different course of study should contact the [Office of Financial Aid](#) to understand the possible implications to their award. Similarly, scholarship recipients who withdraw or drop from their course(s) will have the scholarship aid applied to those course(s) reversed, and the student will be liable for those costs.

Scholarship recipients are welcome to apply for external scholarships. However, if the external award exceeds the cost of tuition, this can affect your eligibility for institutional scholarships, which means the student's institutional awards may need to be adjusted further. For those receiving an external scholarship, please consult with the [Office of Financial Aid](#) to determine whether this external award will impact your institutional aid.

Full-time employees (and their spouse/dependent) of Teachers College, Barnard, or Columbia University who are eligible for tuition exemption are not eligible for TC institutional aid (scholarships or stipends). If an institutional award appears on your account, please contact the [Office of Financial Aid](#) immediately.

Master's Scholarships

- **Founders' Award (formerly the Teachers College Scholarship):** This award is merit-based and offered to students pursuing a Master's degree in a non-teacher certification program. The award is granted for *one year* only. The above-referenced terms (page 1) apply to this award. Recipients of a designated special scholarship (e.g., Abby O'Neill Fellowship, Lemann Fellowship, Posse Foundation Fellowship, or the Columbia University Scholarship for Displaced Students) will not be eligible for the Founders' Award.



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- **Teachers' Future Award:** This award is merit-based and offered to students who are U.S. Citizens or Permanent Residents and pursuing a Master's degree in a teacher certification program. This award is offered for one or two years, based on the duration and structure of the academic program. The award requires that students maintain satisfactory academic progress (i.e., a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or a B average or better) and remain enrolled in the teacher certification program. The above-referenced terms (page 1) apply to this award. Recipients of a designated special scholarship (e.g., Abby O'Neill Fellowship, Lemann Fellowship, Posse Foundation Fellowship, or the Columbia University Scholarship for Displaced Students) will not be eligible for the Teachers' Future Award.

- **Vanguard Scholars Award:** This award is merit-based and offered to students pursuing a Master's degree in the Psychological Counseling: School Counselor online program. This award is offered for up to two years, based on the duration and structure of the academic program. The award requires that students maintain satisfactory academic progress (i.e., a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or a B average or better) and remain enrolled in the Psychological Counseling: School Counselor online program. The above-referenced terms (page 1) apply to this award. Recipients of a designated special scholarship (e.g., Abby O'Neill Fellowship, Lemann Fellowship, Posse Foundation Fellowship, or the Columbia University Scholarship for Displaced Students) will not be eligible for the Vanguard Scholars Award.

- **Abby O'Neill Fellowship:** This award is for incoming Master's students who intend to enroll in an elementary or secondary teacher education program leading to initial certification. Recipients of the award must be committed to teaching in the NYC public school system for at least two years and do so within five years of completing their degree. Recipients are required to sign a contract with the Office of Teacher Education (OTE). Failure to abide by the terms and conditions in the signed agreement will result in required repayment of the funds to the Office of the Bursar. The above-referenced terms (page 1) apply to this award.

- **Lemann Fellowship:** This award is for incoming Master's students who are current or former residents of Brazil who have demonstrated interest in social change in Brazil and intend to use their studies at the College to advance social change in Brazil. The award will cover full tuition for up to 36 credits and fees, such as the College Fee, Columbia Health Fee, and Columbia Health Insurance. The award is renewable for up to three years. The above-referenced terms (page 1) apply to this award.

- **City Year Scholarship:** This award is for one incoming Master's student who is a City Year Americorps member, an alumnus who has completed at least one term of service, or a current City Year staff member for at least two years. The scholarship will cover 25 percent of tuition for the total credits required to earn the degree. Additionally, the award is granted in the first year of study only. The above-referenced terms (page 1) apply to this award.



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- **Posse Foundation Fellowship:** This award is for two participants of the Posse Foundation (current or alumnus) who enroll in a full-time Master's degree program. The award will cover full tuition and is renewable for up to two years. The above-referenced terms (page 1) apply to this award.

Doctoral Scholarships

- **Doctoral Fellowship:** This award covers full tuition and provides an annual apprenticeship allowance of \$30,000. The award is renewable for up to three or four years (may vary by program), as referenced in the award offer, provided that the Doctoral Fellow maintains full-time enrollment as well as satisfactory academic performance standards and progress requirements as set forth by the College and their academic program. Apprenticeship training in the form of research, teaching or other assistance is required of most Doctoral Fellows. Academic program faculty determine Fellowship selections upon admission to the College. The above-referenced terms (page 1) apply to this award.
- **Ben Woods Fellowship:** This fellowship is for two incoming Doctoral students -- one pursuing their studies in technology and education within the Department of Mathematics, Science, and Technology (MST) and one pursuing their studies in Cognitive Science within the Department of Human Development (HUD) This fellowship provides tuition support for up to 24 credits and an annual allowance of \$30,000, and is renewable for up to four years. The above-referenced terms (page 1) apply to this award.
- **[Postsecondary Education Applied Research \(PEAR\) Fellowship](#):** This fellowship, jointly administered by the Department of Education Policy and Social Analysis (EPSA) and the Community College Research Center (CCRC), is for students who are U.S. Citizens or Permanent Residents enrolled in a doctoral degree program within the Departments of Education Policy and Social Analysis (EPSA), Human Development (HUD), or Organization and Leadership (O&L). Nominated fellows receive full tuition support and an annual allowance of \$34,000 to engage in the training program and complete a relevant doctoral degree. The award is renewable for up to four years, but may also cover a fifth year if needed for fellows to complete their dissertation. The above-referenced terms (page 1) apply to this award.

Departmental Scholarships (All Degree-Seeking Students)

Some Departments may maintain additional scholarship funds that are awarded at their discretion.

- **Department General Fund:** Academic programs may offer this award to new or continuing students pursuing a Master's or Doctoral degree. The award is applicable toward tuition costs at the Teachers College tuition rate per credit. The above-referenced terms (page 1) apply to this award.
- **Department International Scholar:** Academic programs may offer this award to new or continuing students pursuing a Master's or Doctoral degree who have self-identified as a citizen



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of another country and will apply for or are currently studying on an F-1 student visa at Teachers College. The award is applicable toward tuition costs at the Teachers College tuition rate per credit. The above-referenced terms (page 1) apply to this award.

Please contact the Office of Financial Aid via phone or email at (212) 678-3714 or financialaid@tc.columbia.edu with any questions or concerns.