

2017
2018

ARIZONA ASSURANCE PROGRAM

COHORT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

STUDENTS ENTERING THEIR FRESHMAN YEAR FALL 2017

The Arizona Assurance Program (AZA) at the University of Arizona (UA) is a financial aid program for low-income students in the state of Arizona. The program is designed to assist students in attaining a bachelor's degree by providing financial aid and support services. The Arizona Assurance Program partners with colleges and departments on campus to provide scholars with comprehensive programming from their freshman year through their senior year. The mission of Arizona Assurance is achieved through academic programming, mentoring, career development, and graduate/professional school preparation.

ELIGIBILITY

This is an invitation-only program. If you meet all the stated eligibility requirements below, you will be invited to submit a Resource Evaluation. Based on the information provided on the UA Admissions application, Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the Resource Evaluation, students will be selected to receive Arizona Assurance funding. You will be conditionally selected if you have been asked to verify student and/or parent tax information and the tax verification documents have not been submitted to the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid (OSFA). This conditional selection will be revoked if you (A) miss the deadline(s) to submit documentation requested by OSFA or (B) a review of documentation (i.e., tax verification documentation) submitted to OSFA causes you to lose Arizona Assurance eligibility. Final selection for AZA is based on a thorough review of all documents submitted.

- » Submit your FAFSA and a completed UA Admissions application (application, transcripts and application fee) by March 1 of your senior year in high school. There are no exceptions to this date. Admission to UA does not guarantee eligibility for the Arizona Assurance Scholars Program.
- » Earn a minimum unweighted GPA of 3.0 in required core academic courses from the first six semesters of high school. Semesters seven and eight (your senior year) will not be considered in the GPA requirement for the Arizona Assurance Program.
- » Be an admitted, UA student and a resident of the state of Arizona.
- » Enroll in courses at UA beginning the semester immediately after graduation from an Arizona high school as a degree-seeking full-time freshman. Students graduating from high school in May 2017 must be enrolled at the UA in August 2017. Students graduating from high school in December 2016 must enroll at the UA in January 2017 for consideration for Arizona Assurance funding for August 2017. Not enrolling at UA the semester immediately after high school graduation forfeits eligibility for consideration to participate in this program.
- » Demonstrate a total annual family income of \$42,400 or less on the FAFSA and be eligible for the Federal Pell Grant based on tax information provided. The total annual family income and Federal Pell Grant eligibility must be based on actual tax information. Income adjustments based on a Special Circumstances Form/Resource Re-Evaluation will not be considered.

- » The FAFSA must be official and free of errors. Any FAFSA corrections and residency corrections must be submitted by May 1 of your senior year in high school.
- » Submit all requested documents (i.e., tax transcripts) for financial aid verification by May 1 of your senior year in high school. These documents must be complete and free of errors. Submit all requested documents early to resolve any errors or issues before June 1. Tax extensions will not be accepted for Arizona Assurance funding purposes as Arizona Assurance funding selection requires actual, 2015 tax transcripts. Tax extensions are accepted in lieu of tax transcripts for federal financial aid only. All requests from OSFA will appear in your UAccess Student Center To Do List.

*There are no exceptions to the dates listed above unless you are specifically notified by OSFA in an email stating the due date exception

FUNDING DURATION

This program provides selected students \$2000 in funding four consecutive academic years, provided you meet eligibility for renewal each year.

*FRESHMEN choosing to live on-campus their first year will also receive an additional \$7,300 to apply towards housing for a total of \$9,300 in first-year Arizona Assurance funding.

Funding for on-campus housing is provided for your freshman year only to ensure a solid start at the UA. If you select to live at home or off-campus in year one, funding for housing is not provided. Housing expenses are not covered for years two, three and four.

More information located on the back.



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
Arizona Assurance

ARIZONA ASSURANCE PROGRAM FUNDING LIMITATIONS

- » You must enroll in at least 12 UA credit hours each semester (fall & spring). Classes and costs associated with enrollment at any other institution are not covered by Arizona Assurance funding.
- » Summer/winter tuition/fees will not be covered by Arizona Assurance funding.
- » Program eligibility will expire after a maximum of four consecutive academic years from the time you enter UA as a freshman.
- » You may choose to spend one or two semesters in a UA-sponsored study abroad program or the National Student Exchange Program, only after completion of your first year in the Arizona Assurance Program.
- » National Student Exchange (NSE) students who select Plan B may use Arizona Assurance funding toward their UA tuition charges through the Bursar account.
- » National Student Exchange (NSE) students who select Plan A may not use Arizona Assurance funding during semester(s) on the program. However, students on a UA National Student Exchange program, who are meeting the Arizona Assurance renewal criteria, will receive automatic funding deferments from OSFA. Students on these programs will be notified by email of their funding deferment status prior to the start of the semester they plan to be away.
- » Students may not use Arizona Assurance funding if studying abroad or on an International Student Exchange. However, students on a UA-Sponsored Study Abroad program, who are meeting the renewal criteria, will receive automatic funding deferments from OSFA. Students on these programs will be notified by email of their funding deferment status prior to the start of the semester they plan to be away.
- » Students on non-UA-sponsored study abroad programs must have an approved Arizona Assurance Deferment Request from OSFA.
- » The semesters you participate in a UA-sponsored study abroad program, non-UA-sponsored study abroad program, International student Exchange or NSE (only if you select Plan B) will count toward your eight semester Arizona Assurance funding maximum.
- » Your funding will continue to be based on UA cost of attendance and will not cover any study abroad program fees, or additional costs associated with study abroad.

ARIZONA ASSURANCE SCHOLARS PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS

- » In order to maintain funding eligibility, you will be expected to participate in the Arizona Assurance Program. The program is designed to connect you with resources and services to ease your transition to and enhance your success at UA. A complete description of the Arizona Assurance Program will be sent to selected students.
- » Each subsequent year you will be expected to participate in program requirements. Please see the Renewal Section of this document.

ARIZONA ASSURANCE SCHOLARS RENEWAL CRITERIA AND PROCESS

- » You must file a FAFSA by March 1 of each year. The FAFSA must be official and free of errors by May 1. Apply early to resolve any errors prior to the May 1 deadline.

- » You must remain eligible for the Federal Pell Grant each year based on tax information provided on the FAFSA.
- » You must enroll in a minimum of 12 UA credit hours each semester (fall and spring).
- » You are required to successfully pass a minimum of 24 UA credit hours each academic year.
- » You are required to maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA.
- » You must complete all program expectations for each year. Information about all program requirements will be provided to you by the Arizona Assurance Office each year you receive funding. You can also review program requirements at assurance.arizona.edu. Requirements are subject to change from year to year.

There are no exceptions to the dates listed in this section.

OPTIONS FOR STUDENTS NOT MEETING RENEWAL CRITERIA

- » If you do not meet the renewal criteria, you may file an appeal for reinstatement into the Arizona Assurance Program provided you experienced significant, extenuating circumstances beyond your control (such as a serious medical emergency). Completed appeals must be submitted to OSFA by the deadlines published on financialaid.arizona.edu.
- » If you experience other challenges throughout the year, such as difficulty with classes, time management, work or family responsibilities or other co-curricular commitments, consult your academic advisor. There are many UA resources to ensure that you receive the guidance and assistance necessary to remain on track and continue to meet renewal criteria for the Arizona Assurance Program and graduation.



Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid

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Arizona Assurance Office

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