

2023  
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2024

# ARIZONA ASSURANCE PROGRAM

## COHORT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

### STUDENTS ENTERING ARIZONA AS A FIRST YEAR UNDERGRADUATE IN FALL 2023

The Arizona Assurance Program (AZA) at the University of Arizona 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 academic 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 supplementary information using the Resource Evaluation. Based on the information provided on the University of Arizona Admissions application, Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the Resource Evaluation, students will be considered for selection to receive Arizona Assurance funding. You will be conditionally selected using self-reported grades, and even if you have been asked to verify student and/or parent tax information but have not submitted yet. This conditional selection will be revoked if you (A) are no longer meeting minimum GPA and high school graduation requirements originally evaluated based on self-reported grades, or (B) if tax verification changes to your 2023-2024 FAFSA cause you to no longer satisfy one or more of the eligibility criteria below. Final selection for AZA is based on a thorough review of all documents submitted.

- » Submit your FAFSA and a completed Arizona Admissions application (application, transcripts and application fee) by January 31 of your senior year in high school. There are no exceptions to this date. Admission to Arizona does not guarantee eligibility for the Arizona Assurance 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 admitted to the University of Arizona Main Campus.
- » Be a confirmed Resident of the State of Arizona for tuition purposes no later than June 1, 2023.
- » Enroll in courses at the University of Arizona as a first-time, full-time, degree-seeking first year student (i.e. students who did not attend any higher education institution including Community Colleges, Universities, or International post-secondary education schools after high school graduation).
- » Demonstrate a total annual family income of \$27,000 or less on the FAFSA, have an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) as calculated by the FAFSA of zero, AND be eligible for the Federal Pell Grant. The total annual family income, EFC and Federal Pell Grant eligibility must be based on actual 2021 tax information.\*

*\*Families who have experienced changes to their financial situation that are not reflected in 2021 tax information may be able to be re-evaluated for financial aid, including Arizona Assurance consideration, by submitting a Family Contribution Appeal. Please contact OSFA directly for more information.*

- » The FAFSA must be official and free of errors by January 31 of your senior year in high school.
- » Submit all requested documents for federal verification (if applicable). Submit all requested documents early to resolve any errors or issues. All requests from OSFA will appear in your UAccess Student Center To Do List.

*Priority for Arizona Assurance selections may be given to first-generation college students.*

*There are no exceptions to the dates listed above unless you are specifically notified by the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid (OSFA) in an email stating the due date exception.*

### FUNDING DURATION

Arizona Assurance provides up to \$10,000 in funding per academic year and is stackable with any merit scholarship, Federal Pell Grant, Arizona Promise Grant and most other gift aid awarded, up to the student's calculated financial need. Please see the Program Funding Limitations section below for more information about specific grants intended for Pell eligible, Arizona resident students that cannot be combined with Arizona Assurance. This total amount of gift aid is intended to help cover the cost of tuition and housing for a maximum of four consecutive years (8 semesters), provided all renewal requirements are met each year.

*"Finding out I received AZA was one of the best things that's happened to me because I could come to this great school and not have to worry about the cost. Arizona Assurance is a great program, and it's allowed me to come to the UA and get a top-notch education. I'm very thankful."*

Kenneth Saufley  
Class of 2016  
Fine Arts—Performance, Trumpet

*More information located on next page.*



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
**Arizona Assurance**

## ARIZONA ASSURANCE PROGRAM FUNDING LIMITATIONS

- » You must enroll in at least 12 University of Arizona credit hours each fall & spring to receive Arizona Assurance funding each semester.
- » Classes and costs associated with dual enrollment at any other institution are not covered by Arizona Assurance funding.
- » Summer/winter tuition/fees will not be covered by Arizona Assurance funding.
- » Arizona Assurance funding cannot be combined with the Arizona Native Scholars Grant, University Grant, or Pell Pledge Grant.
- » Arizona Assurance Funding can be renewed for a maximum of 4 consecutive years (8 semesters), only to be interrupted by an approved Arizona Assurance deferment.

» After completing your first year at the University of Arizona, you may choose to participate in a University of Arizona sponsored study abroad program for up to two semesters and continue to use your Arizona Assurance funding. All semesters used will count toward the 8 semesters of eligibility. Please review the chart below regarding the use of Arizona Assurance funding for Study Abroad:

**NOTE:** Only students in a UA-Sponsored study abroad program and National Student Exchange (NSE) Plan B (Home Pay) may use Arizona Assurance funding toward their tuition charges through the Bursar account. See <https://financialaid.arizona.edu/types-of-aid/study-abroad> for details.

PROGRAM	USE ARIZONA ASSURANCE FUNDING?	ARIZONA ASSURANCE DEFERMENT REQUEST FORM REQUIRED?
UA-Sponsored Study Abroad Programs	Yes	No
National Student Exchange (NSE) – Students who choose Plan B	Yes	No
National Student Exchange (NSE) – Students who choose Plan A	No	No, automatic funding deferment will be given if student is on track for Arizona Assurance renewal.  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.
Non-UA Sponsored Study Abroad	No	Yes, students participating in a non-UA-sponsored study abroad program must submit an approved Arizona Assurance Deferment Request for the term(s) for which the student will not be attending the UA.

## ARIZONA ASSURANCE 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 the University of Arizona. 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 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 University of Arizona credit hours each semester (fall and spring).
- » You are required to successfully pass a minimum of 24 University of Arizona credit hours each academic year.
- » You are required to maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA.
- » You must remain a Resident of the State of Arizona for tuition purposes.
- » You must remain enrolled at the University of Arizona Main Campus.
- » 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 <https://assurance.arizona.edu/>. Requirements are subject to change from year to year.

## OPTIONS FOR STUDENTS NOT MEETING RENEWAL CRITERIA

- » If you do not meet the renewal criteria, you may file an appeal for reinstatement of Arizona Assurance Program funding provided you experienced significant, extenuating circumstances beyond your control. Completed appeals must be submitted to OSFA by the deadlines published on the OSFA website.
- » 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 University of Arizona 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

<https://financialaid.arizona.edu/contact>

520-621-1858

<https://financialaid.arizona.edu/>

### Arizona Assurance Office

[aza@arizona.edu](mailto:aza@arizona.edu)

520-626-3789

<https://assurance.arizona.edu/>