

**STUDENTS ENTERING ARIZONA AS A FIRST YEAR UNDERGRADUATE IN FALL 2025**

Arizona Assurance (AZA) at the University of Arizona is financial aid funding for low-income students in the state of Arizona. The funding, when paired with the wrap around services offered by the University of Arizona, helps students attain their first bachelor's degree. Colleges and departments on campus offer comprehensive support to all University of Arizona students including academic programming, mentoring, career development, and graduate/ professional school preparation.

**ELIGIBILITY**

This is an invitation-only program. If all stated eligibility requirements below are met, students will be invited to be considered for the program and may be required 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) form and the Resource Evaluation, if applicable, students will be considered for selection to receive Arizona Assurance funding at the discretion of the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid (OSFA) based on funding availability.

Students are conditionally selected using the self-reported financial information on their FAFSA form and their self-reported high school grades. Note: students may be required to submit additional documentation to verify information on their FAFSA. Students will be asked to submit final high school transcripts to the Office of Admissions.

This conditional selection will be revoked if:

- (A) a student's final grades do not meet the minimum GPA and high school graduation requirements (as originally self-reported), and/or
- (B) changes to the student's 2025-2026 FAFSA form results in no longer satisfying one or more of the eligibility criteria below after completing federal verification.

Final selection for AZA is based on a thorough review of all documents submitted.

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

Students must meet the following criteria to be considered for selection:

- Submit a 2025-2026 FAFSA form. The FAFSA form must be official and free of errors by May 1 of their senior year of high school.
- Demonstrate a total annual family income on the FAFSA form of \$30,000 or less (for parents of dependent students) or \$14,580 or less (for student and spouse for independent students).
- Have a Student Aid Index (SAI) of 0 or less, as determined by the information on their FAFSA form AND be eligible for the Federal Pell Grant.\* \*

*Families who have experienced changes to their financial situation that are not reflected in 2023 tax information may be able to be placed on a waitlist for AZA consideration by submitting a FAFSA Data Appeal. Please contact OSFA directly for more information.*

- Submit a completed University of Arizona Admissions application (including transcripts and application fee) by May 1 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, 2025.
- 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).
- Submit all requested documents for [federal verification](#) or other eligibility requirements (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.

## 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 funding 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.

## ARIZONA ASSURANCE PROGRAM FUNDING LIMITATIONS

- You must enroll in at least 12 University of Arizona credit hours each fall & spring semester to receive Arizona Assurance funding.
- Classes and costs associated with dual enrollment at any other institution are not covered by Arizona Assurance funding.
- Tuition and fees for Summer/Winter course enrollment will not be covered by Arizona Assurance funding.
- Arizona Assurance funding cannot be combined with University Grant.
- Arizona Assurance funding can be received for a maximum of 4 consecutive years (8 semesters).

## DEFERMENT OF ARIZONA ASSURANCE FUNDING

If an Arizona Assurance recipient must be away from the university for a semester or longer for reasons such as participation in a non-UA sponsored study abroad program, faith-based mission, health/medical needs, or military service, the student must submit an Arizona Assurance Deferment Request form to OSFA.

Students requesting a deferment of AZA funding must:

- have completed at least one semester at the University of Arizona at the time of the deferment request.
- be currently meeting renewal requirements for the award.
- not be enrolled at the University of Arizona or any other institution during the deferred semester(s).

## STUDY ABROAD

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 use your Arizona Assurance funding toward the cost of the program. All semesters used will count toward the 8 total semesters of eligibility. Coursework successfully completed through a University of Arizona sponsored study abroad program will count toward unit completion requirements for funding renewal.

Important: Students choosing to participate in a non-UA sponsored study abroad program must submit an Arizona Assurance Deferment form to OSFA to resume receiving AZA funding upon returning. AZA funding cannot be used for such programs. Please refer to the deferment section above for details.

## ARIZONA ASSURANCE RENEWAL CRITERIA AND PROCESS

To be eligible for renewal of Arizona Assurance funding each academic year, students must:

- File a FAFSA form no later than March 1 of each year. The FAFSA form must be official and free of errors by June 1. Submit as early as possible to allow sufficient time to resolve any errors prior to the June 1 deadline.

- Remain eligible for the Federal Pell Grant each year as determined by the financial data provided for you and/or your parent(s) on the FAFSA form.
- Remain classified as a resident of the State of Arizona for tuition purposes.
- Remain enrolled at Arizona Main Campus.
- Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements.

#### OPTIONS FOR STUDENTS NOT MEETING RENEWAL CRITERIA

Students who do not meet the renewal criteria may file an Arizona Assurance Renewal Appeal for consideration for reinstatement of Arizona Assurance Program funding provided they experienced significant, extenuating circumstances beyond their control.

Completed appeals must be submitted to OSFA by the published deadline on our website.