

SOUTHWESTERN

LAW SCHOOL Los Angeles, CA

Financial Aid Policy

Administrative policy approved July 22, 2022. Effective immediately.

Revision history: Formerly a part of the annually revised Student Handbook; established as a standalone policy August 2022; updated February 2023 to refer to and make consistent with related policies; technical edits made in July 2023.

Related policies: Academic Disqualification, Academic Probation, and Academic Improvement Program Policies; Academic Policies and Procedures; Federal Financial Aid Eligibility Policy; and Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy

Scheduled Review Date: August 2025 (Financial Aid Office)

A. Overview

The Financial Aid Office at Southwestern seeks to provide or secure financial assistance for its students whenever possible. To this end, the law school has developed a financial aid program that includes scholarships, loans, and employment. Information about these programs can be found at <https://www.swlaw.edu/finaid>.

Southwestern actively participates in the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan Program, the Federal Direct Graduate PLUS (Grad PLUS) Loan Program, and the Federal Work-Study Program. In addition, the law school is fully approved for JD students who wish to use their veteran educational benefits.

All financial aid administered through the law school is awarded on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race (including hairstyle and hair texture), ethnicity, color, religion, creed, ancestry, national origin, sex, gender (including pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, or related medical conditions), sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, parental status, marital status, age (40 and over), disability (mental and physical), medical condition, citizenship status, military status or service, veteran status, genetic information, or any other classification protected by law in matters of admissions or in the educational programs (including retention of students) or activities Southwestern operates. Detailed information on the law school's financial aid programs and the application process is included in the Southwestern catalog.

Eligibility for financial aid is contingent upon minimum enrollment and academic performance requirements.

B. Consulting with a Financial Aid Counselor

Any student who has applied for or who has received financial aid should read the Academic Policies and Procedures, and Academic Disqualification, Academic Probation, and Academic Improvement Program Policies, and should consult with a financial aid counselor (not clerical staff) in Room W102 as soon as possible before any of the following:

1. The student transfers from one program of study to another (e.g., from the day program to the evening program).
2. The student drops below half-time status (less than five units per semester or SCALE term, or less than two units for summer (less than three units starting in summer 2024)) or withdraws from school.
3. The student repeats a course(s) for no credit or plans to sit in on a class to make up an Incomplete.
4. The student takes an official leave of absence.
5. The student is academically disqualified. (Please note: Once a student is academically disqualified, eligibility for all financial aid, including but not limited to scholarships, loans, grants, and student employment, is lost immediately. Students are strongly urged to see a counselor in the Financial Aid Office to discuss the financial ramifications of academic disqualification.)
6. The student is readmitted after academic disqualification.
7. The student plans to attend another university temporarily (i.e., visiting status, study abroad, etc.).
8. The student transfers to another school.