

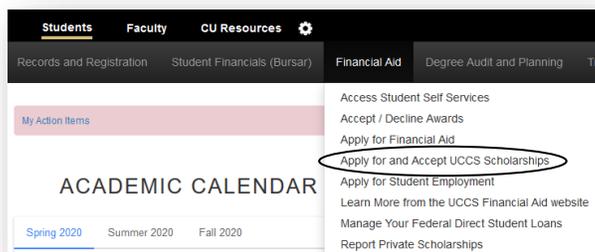
It's time.



The 2020-2021 UCCS Scholarship Application is available NOW

The time for scholarships is upon us, and applying for scholarships at UCCS is easier than ever thanks to the UCCS Scholarship Application (which opens every year on **December 1**).

To begin, log into the myUCCS portal and click on the **Financial Aid** link at the top of the page. From the dropdown menu, select **Apply for and Accept UCCS Scholarships**.



This leads to the General Scholarship Application, which will allow you to apply for multiple UCCS scholarships at one time. Please keep in mind that some scholarships may require supplemental information after completing the General Scholarship Application. You will be directed to do so after completing the general application.

Remember that you can also click on the **Opportunities** dropdown menu and select **External** to view scholarship opportunities offered outside of UCCS.

Be sure to check out the **Frequently Asked Questions** section (by clicking the link in the top right corner of the application, directly under your name) to get updated scholarship information as well as some fantastic tips and tricks!

Most scholarships have a February 1st or March 1st deadline, however there is no reason to wait. Apply early and take advantage of all the scholarship opportunities you can. Give yourself time to fix issues and to seek help if you need assistance. **Don't wait until the last minute!** (More scholarship information on page. 3).

behind the **MONEY**

UCCS FINANCIAL AID NEWS **SPRING 2020**

THINK 30!

Graduate On Time, Save Money, Earn Sooner!

We know college is expensive, and we want to make sure that you take advantage of all your financial resources. While we often talk about monetary financial resources such as scholarships (more on that on page 3), another way you can save money and have greater academic success is to **think 30**: plan to **take 30 credits per academic year**. Research shows that students who think 30 do better academically, are more likely to graduate, and **avoid excessive student loan debt!**

There are many different ways to think 30, and remember that the summer semester counts as part of an academic year (more info about summer aid below). For example:



If you would like financial aid assistance related to your graduation goals, please feel free to contact us anytime! For more information on how you can **think 30**, please visit: www.uccs.edu/advising/think-30.

The banner features a central illustration of a hand with the index finger pointing towards the viewer. The background is purple with a starburst pattern.

UCCS Scholarship Fair
Thursday, January 30
UC 303, 11am-1pm

Student Employment Job Fair
Thursday, January 30
Berger Hall, 11am-2pm

Spring Financial Aid Fairs

Financial Aid for the Summer Semester

There is no special summer application needed (except to apply for work study). All you need to do is be enrolled at least half-time and have a completed 2019-2020 FAFSA on file. You will **automatically** be considered for summer financial aid. If you are interested in work study for the summer, **the summer work study application will be available on April 1** in your myUCCS Portal.



The financial aid office will determine your eligibility for federal aid and you will be notified via your UCCS email account.

Please remember **the amount you borrow during the fall and spring semesters will affect what is available to you in the upcoming summer term!** Also keep in mind that, with the exception of the Federal Pell Grant (conditions apply), you are required to be enrolled at least half-time (6 credit hours for undergraduate students and 3 credit hours for graduate students).



UCCS Scholarships

The Hunt Is On!

The **2020-2021 UCCS Scholarship Application is now** open and the scholarship hunt has begun! Here are just a few tips to keep in mind while applying for scholarships:

- **APPLY FOR ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING**
If you think you are eligible to receive the scholarship, apply for it!
- **COMPLETE THE APPLICATION**
If something is not applicable on the application, mark it as N/A or "does not apply." Do not leave lines blank.
- **FOLLOW DIRECTIONS**
Do not supply things that are not requested (i.e. transcripts and resumes).
- **MAKE SURE TO LEAVE AN IMPRESSION**
Be personal and specific. Be complete and concise, but also creative!
- **WATCH ALL DEADLINES**
Do not wait until the last minute!
- **GIVE YOUR APPLICATION A "ONCE-OVER" BEFORE SUBMITTING**
Proofread (and have someone else proofread) the entire application carefully!

For more useful tips, a list of frequently asked questions about scholarships, and to begin your scholarship search, visit www.uccs.edu/scholarships.

Scholarship Tips from Financial Aid ^{Student} Professionals

The financial aid office has many employees who care about student success inside and outside of the classroom. Many of these staff members are **student employees** who have valuable first-hand experience as financial aid experts **and** as UCCS students. Here are some scholarship tips that some of our student employees have to share:



"Definitely review your scholarship application multiple times before submitting!"

Kiley Z., Business



"Make sure to keep track of deadlines! Scholarships close early in the spring semester!"

Madison F., Biomedical Sciences and Philosophy



"It might seem like a lot of work to write scholarship essays, but it is well worth it in the long run!"

Hanna N., Inclusive Elementary Education



"Apply for anything you think you are eligible for, and never count yourself out!"

Hayden N., Political Science



Students can get a **Cost of Attendance (COA)** increase for up to \$1,800 toward the cost of a computer? If you have purchased or need to purchase a computer, this adjustment can help you. All you need is to complete the **Budget Adjustment Request** form found at www.uccs.edu/finaid/forms and attach a receipt or an estimated bill print out of the computer you wish to purchase. Please keep in mind that students can only qualify for this adjustment once per academic career.

Spring 2020 Calendar of Events

| | |
|-------------|---|
| January 13 | First Spring 2020 Financial Aid Disbursement (funds released to student accounts) |
| January 15 | First E-bills Available on myUCCS portal |
| January 15 | Short-term Loans Available |
| January 21 | First day of UCCS regular classes |
| January 30 | UCCS Scholarship Fair- UC 303 11am-1pm |
| January 30 | Student Employment Job Fair – Berger Hall 11am-2pm |
| February 1 | 1st UCCS scholarship deadline! |
| February 5 | Census Date/Tuition due date <i>This is the last day to register (for regular semester courses). Complete withdrawals and course drops through this date will be refunded at 100% tuition.</i> |
| February 5 | "Applying for Scholarships: Tips and Tricks" Workshop- 11am-12pm, UC 302 |
| February 6 | Financial aid awards may be adjusted based on enrollment. |
| February 7 | FAFSafest (free assistance with filing your FAFSA and UCCS scholarship application)- Top Floor, Cragmor Hall 1pm-4pm |
| February 14 | FAFSafest (free assistance with filing your FAFSA and UCCS scholarship application)- Top Floor, Cragmor Hall 11pm-3pm |
| February 15 | Weekend University courses begin |
| February 21 | FAFSafest (free assistance with filing your FAFSA and UCCS scholarship application)- Top Floor, Cragmor Hall 11pm-3pm |
| March 1 | UCCS Priority Filing Date/UCCS scholarship deadline! |
| March 23-29 | Spring Break |
| April 1 | Summer work study application is available in the myUCCS Portal |
| April 12-18 | National Student Employment Week |
| April 20 | Spring short-term loan due date |
| May 1 | UCCS Transfer scholarship deadline |
| May 15 | Spring 2020 Commencement |
| May 26 | Summer award notices emailed to summer enrolled students |
| July 8 | Fall 2020/Spring 2021 award notifications are emailed to current students |



Q: I'm starting at UCCS in Spring 2020. Which FAFSA should I complete, the 2019-2020 or the 2020-2021 FAFSA?

A: Both! Transfer and newly admitted spring start students need to be aware that you need to complete **two FAFSAs**, the **2019-2020 FAFSA** for the remaining spring and summer semesters this academic year, **AND** the **2020-2021 FAFSA** for **next fall, spring, and summer** semesters! Be sure you have both completed as soon as possible in order to maximize your financial aid opportunities!