

The background of the slide features a photograph of students in a library setting. In the foreground, a student is lying on a table, looking at a laptop. Behind them, other students are seated at tables, some working on laptops. The entire image is covered with a semi-transparent red overlay that has a fine, dotted texture.

SMU[®]

FINANCIAL AID OVERVIEW

YOU'RE WORTH IT

WE WANT YOU HERE

You are on your way to becoming a Mustang!

We are passionate about removing financial barriers in pursuit of your educational goals.

WE REWARD ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Our financial offers combine merit awards and need-based financial assistance. Additionally, SMU offers monthly payment plan options for fall and/or spring terms and a payment plan for summer enrollment.

WE AUTOMATICALLY CONSIDER YOU FOR ACADEMIC AWARDS

When you apply to SMU, you are automatically considered for academic scholarships. Deadlines to apply are November 1 for Early Decision I and Early Action or January 15 for Early Decision II and Regular Decision.

PROVIDING FINANCIAL OPTIONS TO MEET YOUR NEEDS

These include SMU-funded aid offers as well as state aid for Texas residents and federal sources of financial assistance. Students who are Texas residents but not U.S. citizens may be eligible for state aid and are encouraged to complete the Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA) at www.mytexasfuture.org. Submit your completed TASFA application to fa.verification@mail.smu.edu.

APPLY NOW TO SMU

- **November 1*** Early Decision I, Early Action and priority scholarship and financial aid consideration.
- **January 15*** Early Decision II, Regular Decision and priority scholarship and financial aid consideration.
- We are waiving the application fee for all first-year and transfer undergraduate students.

**SMU is test-optional, recognizing that not all students have equal access to testing. However, we continue to value SAT and ACT scores as part of our holistic review process. When submitted, test scores help us better understand your academic preparation and can strengthen your application. We encourage students to submit scores if they believe their results reflect their academic strengths.*

If you submit unofficial scores and enroll at SMU, we will then ask you to send official score reports from testing agencies (ACT code: 4174; SAT code: 6660).

APPLY TODAY smu.edu/apply

SMU will not discriminate in any program or activity on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity and expression. The Assistant Vice President for Access and Equity/Title IX Coordinator is designed to handle inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies and may be reached at the Perkins Administration Building, Room 204, 6425 Boaz Lane, Dallas, TX 75205, 214-768-3601, accessandequity@smu.edu.

Submit the following two forms by your chosen application deadline:

- **November 1** for Early Decision I and Early Action.
- **January 15** for Early Decision II and Regular Decision.
- The 2026–2027 FAFSA* is expected to be available October 1, 2025. It is required to determine your eligibility for **federal and state need-based aid**.
- The CSS Profile™* is required to qualify for **SMU-funded financial aid offers**.

*SMU requires neither application for awarding academic scholarships.

FORM 1: FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)

- Visit **studentaid.gov** to submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). *Use SMU school code 003613.*
- Use the Direct Data Exchange to provide accurate tax information on your FAFSA.
- Visit **studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account** if you do not have a Federal Student Aid ID. Your FSA ID will be your electronic signature on the application.

U.S. and eligible noncitizens seeking eligibility for federal and state sources of aid must submit the FAFSA each year.

To learn more about federal student aid programs, visit **studentaid.gov**.

FORM 2: THE CSS PROFILE™

File your CSS Profile™ at **cssprofile.org**. *Use SMU school code 6660.*

For SMU-funded financial aid offers shown in the sample aid packages, you must submit a CSS Profile™ application each year. This will give SMU more information to further assess your financial aid eligibility.

2026–27 ESTIMATED COSTS

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Tuition and fees..... | \$69,722 |
| On-campus housing and meal plan.... | \$19,794 |
| TOTAL | \$89,516 |

Top 25%

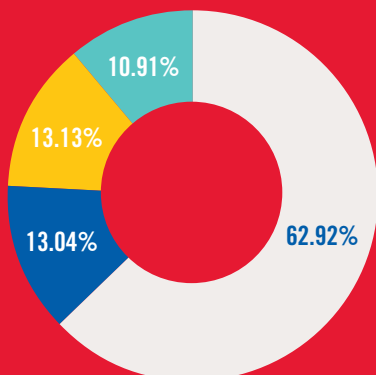
SMU places among the top 25% of best national universities in *U.S. News & World Report* 2025



67%

of first-year students awarded scholarships and/or grants

GIFT AID – MONEY AWARDED THAT DOES NOT HAVE TO BE PAID BACK – TO ELIGIBLE INCOMING 2024–25 FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS



MORE THAN \$30,001
 \$10,001 TO \$20,000
 \$20,001 TO \$30,000
 LESS THAN \$10,001

JALEN

A psychology major from Texas: applied as test-optional, 3.83 GPA, 21 units,[†] family of four with one in college

Adjusted gross income\$64,874
Student Aid Index (SAI)*\$4,866

Awards

Federal Pell Grant.....\$3,873
Texas Tuition Equalization Grant\$3,873
SMU Distinguished Scholar\$25,000
Access SMU Scholarship\$56,652
Federal loans.....\$3,500

TOTAL PACKAGE\$92,898

ANGELICA

A computer science major from Tennessee: 32 ACT, 3.75 GPA, 22 units,[†] family of three with one in college

Adjusted gross income\$183,953
Student Aid Index (SAI)*\$54,953

Awards

SMU Second Century Scholar.....\$20,000
SMU Discovery Scholar\$10,000
Federal loans.....\$5,500
Federal work-study.....\$4,000

TOTAL PACKAGE\$39,500

NICOLE

A finance major from Florida: 1460 SAT, 3.66 GPA, 27 units,[†] family of three with two in college

Adjusted gross income\$74,226
Student Aid Index (SAI)*\$12,606

Awards

SMU Distinguished Scholar\$25,000
SMU IB Scholar.....\$7,500
SMU Opportunity Award.....\$39,943
Federal loans.....\$5,500
Federal work-study.....\$4,000

TOTAL PACKAGE\$81,943

[†]Units refer to the number of successfully completed high school courses in the core areas of English, math, social sciences, science and foreign language.
*Family assets may affect demonstrated need.



Highest-paid
graduates across a
range of fields
(College Factual)

73%

of undergraduates are
without debt at the
time of graduation



Top 1.8%
Worldwide
Alumni
Employment

(Center for World
University
Rankings 2025)

Average starting salary for
undergraduate students:

\$76,600



No. 1
U.S. metro

for job growth
(2025 Dallas-
Fort Worth Higher
Education Review)



WHAT KIND OF FINANCIAL AID IS AVAILABLE?

SMU offers academic scholarships, grants, loans and work-study awards, many of which can be combined and applied toward tuition and fees as well as housing. To learn more about our wide variety of scholarships available, visit smu.edu/academicscholarships.

WHEN WILL I BE NOTIFIED OF MY AID?

If you applied by November 1, you will be notified in early January. If you applied by January 15, you will be notified by mid-March.

WILL I HAVE A FINANCIAL AID ADVISOR AT SMU?

All financial aid advisors are available to assist any student or parent. The financial aid staff will work with you to explore a combination of federal, state and institutional aid to finance your education.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
ON SCHOLARSHIPS VISIT**
smu.edu/academicscholarships

GLOSSARY

Access SMU – additional merit scholarships for high-achieving Texas students through Federal Pell Grants and SMU merit scholarships.

Early Action – complete the application process early – by November 1 – and receive a decision by December. If admitted, you have until May 1 to commit to attend.

Early Decision I – SMU is your top choice; complete the application process early – by November 1 – and receive a decision by December. If admitted, you commit to attend and withdraw all other applications.

Early Decision II – SMU is your top choice; complete the application process by January 15 and receive a decision in February. If admitted, you commit to attend and withdraw all other applications.

Regular Decision – complete the application process by January 15 and receive a decision in March. If admitted, you have until May 1 to commit to attend.

Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) – income figure on federal tax returns used to perform need analysis.

Cost of Attendance (COA) – estimated cost for a single academic year, consisting of two terms (fall and spring) or nine calendar months. This includes direct costs, such as tuition and fees, as well as indirect costs, such as books, supplies and transportation.

Student Aid Index (SAI) – has replaced the Expected Family Contribution (EFC); this new calculation measures your federal aid eligibility, based on the information provided through FAFSA.

Gift Aid/Grant – money that does not have to be paid back.

Loans – money borrowed that must be paid back.



UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSION

PO Box 750181

Dallas TX 75275-0181

smu.edu/apply

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Southern Methodist
University

f @smuadmission