



WAGNER COLLEGE

How to review your Financial Aid offers

The information below has been prepared to provide you with some points to consider when reviewing financial aid offers from various colleges and universities. It is important for the student to be involved in the entire process. A college education is an investment in their future, and being involved will help educate your child to be a savvy consumer and foster greater financial literacy.

Prior to reviewing and comparing aid offers:

- Browse the websites for each school and read the information about financial aid.
- Ask the schools if they will request/require any information or forms. ***Send documentation only when requested.***
- Review your personal finances. Share and communicate any concerns about affordability with your child.

Reviewing and comparing aid awards:

- Examine each financial aid offer carefully and compare the offers from each school. Specifically, look at the following:
 - How are institutional funds awarded (i.e. scholarships or need grants)?
 - Is this a renewable award or a one-year only offer?
 - If the offer includes loans, what types of loans are they? Student and/or parent loans?
 - Do the loans require credit-checks (i.e. parent or alternative loans)?
 - Do the loans have fees? (Note: the amount awarded less fees will be credited to your bill)
- If College Work Study (CWS) is offered, will the student be able to earn this amount while maintaining a full-time academic and extra-curricular schedule? (Note: Divide the dollar amount stated by the minimum wage to determine the number of hours the student will need to work over two semesters in order to earn that amount.)
- Review the costs for each individual school. Wagner's cost of attendance can be viewed at wagner.edu/financial-aid/aid-basics/costs
 - Do the costs cover all expenses that the student will be charged while attending for the year?
 - Are there other fees that you may not be aware of (i.e. - activity fees, lab fees)?
 - Compare the offers for each school. How does the aid offered compare to the costs?

After reviewing aid offers:

- Contact the colleges to ask any questions or discuss your aid offers and financing options.
- Make the choice of which college to attend and then submit an enrollment deposit holding your place in the class.

How does Wagner College package financial aid?

- Wagner awards most institutional funds based upon academic merit and need. These offers are included with the student's admission packet and will also be included in the Financial Aid Offer. Some need-based grants are available and will be included in the Offer Letter, if you are eligible.
- Federal student loans are the only loans included in the initial Financial Aid Offer Letter. PLUS and alternative loans are not included because they are based upon credit, require pre-approval and separate application.