

Types of Assistance Available

Policy/Procedure

A financial aid recipient may be granted one or more forms of assistance. Students receiving grants are usually also eligible for loans and campus employment as part of their "package." Some different forms of financial aid are listed below. For more information see "Frequently Asked Questions."

Merit Scholarships

These awards are designed to recognize the exemplary academic performance of students without regard to financial need. The merit scholarship will be the first component of any need-based financial aid award.

The John Dickinson Scholarship (\$17,500 per year)

John Dickinson, known as the "Penman of the Revolution," was the governor of Pennsylvania in 1783 when Dickinson College received its charter. He was a drafter of the Articles of Confederation, and many say he coined the name of our new nation, "The United States of America." When the grammar school, founded in Carlisle in 1773, became a college 10 years later, founder Benjamin Rush insisted that the college be named for Dickinson, who also served as the president of the first board of trustees. Awarded at the time of admission, the John Dickinson Scholarship, **worth \$70,000 of tuition support for eight semesters of full-time study at the college**, is Dickinson's highest recognition for academic achievement and leadership. Annual renewal is contingent on a 3.0 GPA.

The Benjamin Rush Scholarship (\$15,000 per year)

Benjamin Rush is the primary founder of Dickinson College. A Philadelphia doctor who also was a professor at the University of Pennsylvania, Rush was the most famous American physician of his time. He was a signer of the Declaration of Independence and was committed to establishing a college in Carlisle, which was then America's western frontier, for the "instruction of youth in the learned languages" and in the "useful arts, sciences and literature." Rush envisioned a college that would prepare young people to become leaders in building the new nation. Awarded at the time of admission, the Benjamin Rush Scholarship (named in honor of the man whose vision remains relevant today) is **worth \$60,000 of tuition support for eight semesters of full-time study at the college**. Annual renewal is contingent on a 3.0 GPA.

The John Montgomery Scholarship (\$10,000 per year)

Col. John Montgomery was one of Dickinson's three original founders and a U.S. congressman. He was a significant leader in the military, in government and in the community. Among the citizens of Cumberland County, Pa., Col. Montgomery was well-known as a man of many talents. Over the years he was a storekeeper, farmer, soldier, lawyer, judge and politician. Along with his friend, Dr. Benjamin Rush, Col. Montgomery would prove to be the strongest advocate of Dickinson College, credited with being responsible for the school's early survival, and the most active of its local trustees. He served the college tirelessly until his death in 1808. Awarded at the time of admission, the John

Financial Aid: Types of Assistance Available

Montgomery Scholarship (named for the man who diligently oversaw the original construction of Dickinson College) **is worth \$40,000 of tuition support for eight semesters of full-time study at the college.** Annual renewal is contingent on a 3.0 GPA.

General Qualifications

Applicants for first-year admission who meet the following guidelines will be considered for the **John Dickinson** or **Benjamin Rush** scholarships:

- Top performance in a challenging high school curriculum, demonstrated through significant advanced coursework and most grades at the A (4.0) level.
- Critical reading plus math SAT scores of 1350+ or an ACT score of 31+.
- Evidence of leadership in school or community activities.

For the **John Montgomery** scholarship:

- Strong grades in a challenging high-school curriculum
- Exceptional talent in the performing or studio arts, OR
- Superior proficiency in two or more foreign languages, OR
- High achievement in independent research or writing, OR
- Significant leadership on a regional or national level.

Note: students may hold only one of the above three scholarships.

Special Recognition for National Merit Finalists

John Dickinson, Benjamin Rush or John Montgomery scholars, who are National Merit Finalists and who designate Dickinson as their first-choice college with the National Merit Scholarship Corporation by February of their senior year, will be eligible to receive a supplemental scholarship of \$2,000 per year, in addition to their John Dickinson, Benjamin Rush or John Montgomery scholarship.

Stafford Scholarship

The Inge Paul and John R. Stafford Scholarship funds the John Dickinson Scholarship (\$17,500 per year) for a superior student in the life sciences and provides **an additional \$3,000 in total research support** to be used any time during the scholar's four years at Dickinson. The scholarship was established in 2001 by retired psychologist Dr. Inge Paul Stafford '58 and John R. Stafford Esq. '59, the retired CEO of Wyeth. Stafford scholars are advised by a faculty mentor and have multiple research opportunities, including **research in the laboratory** of an appropriate science faculty member of his or her choice as well as **off-campus research opportunities**. We expect that this experience will prepare Stafford scholars **to be competitive** for prestigious post-graduate awards, such as the Fulbright and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute fellowships and, ultimately, **a career in research or medicine**.

General Qualifications:

Financial Aid: Types of Assistance Available

In addition to meeting all requirements for the John Dickinson Scholarship, Stafford Scholarship candidates will demonstrate a serious commitment to the life sciences and will express an intent to major in one of the life science disciplines (biology, biochemistry & molecular biology, chemistry).

Grants

Grants (outright gifts) may be made from the college's own endowment, from state or Federal sources, or from outside agency funds. Most grants are based on demonstrated financial need.

Campus Employment

Most students receiving assistance are offered campus employment of up to 12 hours per week in exchange for wages which help defray expenses. Campus jobs are provided using funds from the Federal Work-Study Program or from Dickinson's own funds.

Summer Employment

Students are normally expected to obtain summer jobs and to apply those earnings toward the cost of their education.

Student Loans

Several low-interest loan programs are available to students who demonstrate financial need. The *Federal Stafford Loan* is available from lending agencies and the *Federal Perkins Loan* is available from the college. Each features a federal subsidy, which means repayment does not begin until after the student finishes school. Deferments are available for graduate study and a variety of other reasons. The *Abe and Cora Hurwitz student loan* is a low-interest Dickinson loan offered to students on a combined basis of academic merit and financial need.

Tuition Financing Options

More and more families are making college costs affordable either by arranging for monthly payments, by extending college costs over more than four years, or by employing a combination of the two options. Dickinson College offers an interest-free monthly payment plan, the *Monthly Payment Option* sponsored by *Tuition Management Systems*, and a low-interest parent loan, the *Dickinson Manageable PLUS Loan (DMPL)*. Take advantage of the following resources to learn more about these options or our combination strategy for limiting debt while maximizing the interest-free payment you make each month:

- Visit www.afford.com. You can also register for a chance to win one of eight annual \$1,000 Tuition Management Systems Scholarships.
- OR
- Call 888-895-9061. A BorrowSmart counselor will help you determine the strategy best suited to keep your monthly payments reasonable.

Financial Aid: Types of Assistance Available

Outside Scholarships

Any student receiving financial aid who also receives scholarships, loans, tuition remission, or support from a source other than the college, must report the additional aid to the Dickinson Financial Aid Office. Such assistance can impact the student's eligibility for assistance from federal and institutional resources. The total amount of aid received by the student cannot exceed need as computed by federally approved methodology. The college will always reduce or eliminate self-help (loans or work) before reducing grant aid.

Hope Scholarship/Lifetime Learning Credits

These federal tax laws provide nonrefundable tax credits to taxpayers with qualified educational expenses who meet specific guidelines. Dickinson College employees are not permitted to offer advice on these complex tax issues. To assist current and prospective students and their families in understanding these programs, we suggest the following web site:

www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p970.pdf

Additional assistance is available from the IRS Helpline
at 1-800-829-1940.

Related Information

History/Revision Information

Responsible Office/Division:

Effective Date:

Last Amended Date:

Next Review Date:

Also Found In: Financial Aid Web Site (www.dickinson.edu/finaid/)