At the University of Richmond, we promise something distinctive—an outstanding education at one of the nation’s best liberal arts universities coupled with comprehensive financial resources to make it affordable. Last year, Richmond students received $88 million in grants and scholarships, $81 million of which came from Richmond’s own resources.

If you are a U.S. citizen or permanent resident when you apply to Richmond, the only things we consider in deciding whether to admit you are your talents and your ability to thrive here. Unlike many universities, we do not look at your financial need when making admission decisions. But we go a step further. Once we have admitted you, we then help you pay for whatever part of the cost of attendance you cannot afford to pay, as determined through the financial aid application process.

In technical terms, these two remarkable policies are called “need-blind admission” and “meeting 100% of demonstrated need.” In layman’s terms, this just means we’re selecting outstanding students and making their education affordable. Richmond is one of only a handful of universities that maintains both need-blind admission and meets 100 percent of demonstrated need.

**Richmond In Reach Program**

Also known as “need-based” aid, our Richmond in Reach program is available to all eligible, full-time undergraduate students who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents. The program utilizes a handful of measures to determine what you can reasonably pay and what you cannot. Then, our personal advisors craft a combination of grants, loans, and other sources of aid to cover the difference.

Here are a few terms you will need to know as you go through the process:

- **Cost of Attendance**: Cost of Attendance is an estimate of billable charges for tuition, room, and board, plus an estimate of additional expenses for books, supplies, and some personal needs. Billable charges are set based upon the current tuition rate and the cost of a standard, double room and the Spider Unlimited meal plan.

**Expected Family Contribution (EFC)**: Expected Family Contribution is the amount a student’s family is responsible for paying toward the Cost of Attendance. This amount is based on the family income and asset information you provide on the financial aid applications. To get an estimate of your family’s eligibility for need-based aid, visit our Net Price Calculator at npc.collegeboard.org/app/richmond. (Please note this will provide only an estimate; your actual eligibility will be determined by our Office of Financial Aid using the information you submit on the aid applications.)

**Financial Aid Eligibility**: Financial Aid Eligibility is the difference between the Cost of Attendance and the Expected Family Contribution. This is the amount your financial aid package will be designed to cover.

**Financial Aid Package**: Once your financial aid eligibility is determined, Richmond in Reach packages are built to meet the entire sum of this amount—also called “demonstrated need.” These packages consist largely of grants, which you do not need to repay. This means your debt burden at graduation will be kept fairly low.

**Financial Aid Application Deadlines**

- Early Decision I – November 15
- Early Action – November 15
- Early Decision II – February 1
- Regular Decision – February 1

We encourage students to complete our financial aid application process as outlined below, by the stated deadlines, in order to be considered for all forms of financial aid available at the University of Richmond. However, students who wish to apply only for federal financial aid must only complete the FAFSA.

**How to Apply**

To apply for need-based aid through Richmond in Reach for the 2023-24 school year, submit the following forms:

- The 2023-24 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), submitted online at studentaid.gov/h/appy-for-aid.
- The 2023-24 CSS Profile, submitted online at cssprofile.collegeboard.org.
  - If your parents are divorced or separated, both of your parents must complete separate CSS Profile forms.
- Signed and dated copies of your 2021 federal tax returns (all pages and schedules) and W-2 forms, submitted to the College Board’s IDOC service.

**Other Sources of Aid**

In addition to financial aid awarded on the basis of merit or demonstrated need, there are other sources of assistance to help with educational costs, including student and parent loans, student employment, an installment plan, and the Post 9/11 GI Bill.

**Programs for Virginia Students**

Virginia residents are eligible to receive the Virginia Tuition Assistance Grant (VTAG), an annual grant from the Commonwealth of Virginia. This is not a need-based grant; recipients must be full-time students at a private college or university in Virginia. For 2022-23, the grant is expected to be $4,500. The VTAG application must be submitted by July 31, 2023.

Additionally, through Richmond’s Promise to Virginia, Virginia residents who qualify for admission as first-year students, whose annual parental income is $60,000 or less, and who demonstrate eligibility for need-based aid, will receive an aid package equal to full-time tuition, room, and the standard meal plan (without loans). More details are available at financialaid.richmond.edu/types-of-aid/virginians/promise.html.

Richmond also meets the full demonstrated financial need of all enrolling (and enrolled) graduates of
Richmond Public Schools (RPS) and public magnet schools through grant and scholarship aid. More details on this program are available at [financialaid.richmond.edu/types-of-aid/virginians/richmond_city.html](http://financialaid.richmond.edu/types-of-aid/virginians/richmond_city.html).

### Need-Based Aid for Non-U.S. Citizens

Richmond is need aware when reviewing admission applications from those who are not U.S. citizens or U.S. permanent residents. If you are admitted, we will meet 100% of demonstrated eligibility for need-based aid. The average financial aid award (need-based, merit, etc.) to international students in 2021-22 was $48,806.

In order to be considered for need-based aid, applicants who are not U.S. citizens or U.S. permanent residents must submit the appropriate financial aid documents as outlined on our website at [financialaid.richmond.edu/applying/international.html](http://financialaid.richmond.edu/applying/international.html). Questions regarding financial aid for students who are not U.S. citizens or U.S. permanent residents should be directed to the Office of Admission at (804) 289-8640 or intladm@richmond.edu.

### Need-Based Aid for Transfer Students

Richmond reserves the right to be need-aware in its admission policy for transfer students who are U.S. citizens and permanent residents. We will meet 100% of demonstrated need for admitted students.

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**Office of Financial Aid**
(804) 289-8438
[financialaid.richmond.edu](http://financialaid.richmond.edu)

**August 2022**