COST SHOULD NEVER BE A DECIDING FACTOR.
IF YOU’RE GOOD ENOUGH TO GET IN, WE’LL HELP YOU GET HERE.

We are selective about the students we admit. So if you make the cut—if you seem like you would be a great fit for Saint Mary’s—we’ll do everything we can to make it happen. Members of our financial aid staff will sit down with you, in person, and go through the financial aid process step by step. They will make sure you’re aware of every scholarship, loan and grant you’re qualified for. And they’ll help you navigate the paperwork, from FAFSA to tax returns.

In general, students should apply for financial aid if there is a difference between the expense of tuition (including room and board) and the amount they and their family can afford to pay. Currently over 75 percent of our students receive some sort of aid (grant, loan, scholarship or combination of all three), with the average amount of the package being $27,954.

The process.
The first thing you will need to do is fill out a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), making sure to include the Saint Mary’s College of California code (001302). California residents should also submit the GPA Verification Form to the State Commission by March 2, which will ensure that they are considered for a Cal Grant. Forms can be obtained from your high school guidance counselor, from official websites (fafsa.ed.gov), or from college financial aid offices, including ours. The deadline for priority financial aid consideration is February 15. And the earlier you file, the better; it’s not a good idea to wait and see if you have been admitted first.

Scholarships.

Freshmen

Presidential Scholars

Competitive scholarships of $11,000 annually for first-time freshmen. Nominated students typically have grade point averages of at least 3.8 in demanding college preparatory programs that include rigorous senior year schedules, with similarly strong performance on either the ACT or the SAT I. They also have noteworthy extracurricular involvement. Recipients are invited to apply to live in the Honors Living and Learning Community.

Gaet Scholars Award

$11,000 annually; renewable for each of four years of full-time study. Awarded to first-time freshmen at acceptance. Selected students typically have grade point averages of at least 3.7 in demanding college preparatory programs that include rigorous senior year schedules, with similarly strong performance on either the ACT or the SAT I. They also have noteworthy extracurricular involvement. Recipients are invited to apply to live in the Honors Living and Learning Community.

Freshman Honors at Entrance Scholarship

$13,000 annually; renewable for each of four years of full-time study. Awarded to first-time freshmen at acceptance. Selected students typically have grade point averages of at least 3.7 in demanding college preparatory programs that include rigorous senior year schedules, with similarly strong performance on either the ACT or the SAT I. They also have noteworthy extracurricular involvement. Recipients are invited to apply to live in the Honors Living and Learning Community.

Freshman Performing Arts

Scholarships

$13,000 annually; renewable for each of four years of full-time study. Awarded to entering first time freshmen who intend to major/minor in performing arts on the basis of auditions/interviews for dance, music and theatre (both performance and technical). Auditions held in late January 2013. Students should contact their program of interest for more information.

Brother Dominic Barry

Mathematics Scholarship

$13,000 annually; renewable for four years of full-time study. Awarded to entering first time freshmen who intend to major in mathematics. Awarded based upon performance in a competition held at the November 10, 2012 Preview Day. Students should contact the Mathematics Department for more information.

Transfers

Transfer Honors at Entrance Scholarship

$11,000 annually; renewable for up to three additional years of full-time study. Awarded to transfer students at the time of acceptance who enter with cumulative grade point average greater than 3.5 and with 30 or more transferable semester credits, or the equivalent.

Lasallian Leadership Award

$11,000 annually; renewable for each of four years of full-time study. Awarded to first-time freshman applicants from Lasallian high schools with cumulative grade point averages greater than 3.5 at the time of acceptance. Recipients of the Lasallian Leadership Award may also qualify for the Gael Scholars, Honors at Entrance or Presidential Scholars Scholarships.

Freshman Performing Arts Scholarships

$13,000 annually; renewable for each of four years of full-time study. Awarded to entering first time freshmen who intend to major/minor in performing arts on the basis of auditions/interviews for dance, music and theatre (both performance and technical). Auditions held in late January 2013. Students should contact their program of interest for more information.

Federal Pell Grants

$1,776 to $5,550 annually. Provided to high-need families who qualify based on a federally established formula.

Cal Grants

Up to $9,789 annually. Provided to California students who qualify based on financial need and academic achievement. Typical GPA is 3.0 or higher.

Federal Work-Study

Provides part-time employment on campus. Average work load: 10 hours per week.

Institutional Student Employment

Provides part-time employment on campus.

Federal Perkins Loans

Low interest (5 percent) student loans; 10-year repayment period; payment deferred until after graduation.

Federal Subsidized Direct Loan

$1,500 to $5,550 annually. Variable interest rate student loans (recent rate: 7.9 percent); 10-year repayment period; repayment begins immediately.

National Direct Loans

Available to creditworthy parents of undergraduate students. Parents may borrow up to the cost of attendance per year less the amount of other financial aid received by the student.

Private Educational Loans

Student with a creditworthy co-signers may borrow up to the cost of attendance per year less the amount of other financial aid received. For a complete list of private companies and their terms, please contact the Financial Aid Office.

Questions (about anything?) Call the Financial Aid Office at 1-866-306-0390 or e-mail finaid@stmarys-ca.edu.