

Frequently Asked Questions - Physician Associate Program

Q: Can you give me an overview of financial aid at Yale School of Medicine?

A: Students in the Physician Associate program are considered for need based scholarship, as well as federal and institutional loans to cover their tuition, fees, and other costs.

The Campus PA Program has a limited amount of scholarship funds available to students who apply for financial aid. The amount of each individual scholarship award is subject to funding levels and calculated need.

Q: How are financial aid offers determined?

A: The basic formula is: **Budget – Resources = Need**

Budget = total cost for one year, including tuition, room/board, and all other estimated expenses

Resources = funds available from the student, spouse, and the student's family (usually parents)

Need = difference between the total budget and total available resources

Once a student's calculated need is determined, financial aid in the form of scholarship and loans is offered to meet 20% of a student's calculated need. Any additional costs may be covered by external funding or student loans.

Q: How are "resources" determined?

A: Family resources are assessed based on the financial information provided in the financial aid application materials. Total income (taxable and untaxed) as well as all non-retirement assets are considered in our calculation.

Q: How are loan and scholarship amounts determined in a financial aid offer?

A: The initial financial aid offer is intended to cover 20% of calculated need. This need is first met with the unit loan, which is the amount a student is expected to borrow towards their educational expenses. Any remaining eligible need above the amount of the unit loan is met with Yale scholarship funds.

Any student receiving need-based scholarship from YSM is required to borrow the full amount of their unit loan in order to receive the scholarship. Students may also choose to replace the unit loan with a private educational loan or a loan from family members without jeopardizing their scholarship eligibility. To do this, the loan promissory note must be submitted to the Financial Aid Office.

Q: Will YSM match my offer if I get a significantly better offer from another school?

A: All financial aid offers at YSM are assessed according to the family's financial situation. Your offer cannot change unless there is a change in family circumstance, or you are able to provide additional information or clarification.

You are welcome to submit a request for a review (<https://medicine.yale.edu/md-program/financialaid/formsandresources/>), and we are happy to take a second look. We cannot match merit awards from other schools.

Q: What kinds of educational loans are available?

A: Direct Unsubsidized and Graduate PLUS loans are available through the Department of Education. Graduate and Professional loans for International students are funded by Yale, and awarded based on eligibility. For more detailed information on student loans, please visit our loan page at: <https://medicine.yale.edu/md-program/financialaid/scholarships/loans/>

For those who prefer to borrow from private lenders, please refer to the loan comparison tool (<http://www.elmselect.com/?oll=true&schoolId=8550#/result>), available through our loan processing partner. The tool includes loans historically borrowed by YSM students, and is not a preferred lender list.

Q: What is the maximum I can borrow?

A: Students may borrow up to their cost of attendance minus any other aid. Your individual budget is detailed on your financial aid offer letter, and includes tuition, fees, living expenses, books and other expenses.

Q: What happens if I am awarded an outside scholarship?

A: Outside scholarships can be used to replace the expected family contribution (EFC) as well as a student's loan eligibility. Need based scholarship is only affected after both loans and the EFC have been reduced to zero.

If you receive an outside scholarship, it must be reported to our office so we can adjust your financial aid as needed. Please include the scholarship name, amount, and whether it's renewable or one-time only.



Frequently Asked Questions - Physician Associate Program part 2 of 2

Q: How are my financial aid funds disbursed?

A: After submitting your completed financial aid application, you will receive an offer letter notifying you of your financial aid eligibility. You must sign and return your letter, along with all accompanying paperwork in order to accept the offer.

Financial aid funds are disbursed to your student account electronically by the start of the semester and are applied first to the charges on your bill. If your aid is more than what is needed to pay your bill, you may request a refund of the excess through the Yale Hub to use for living expenses and other educational costs. Funds are divided equally over the fall, spring and summer terms.

More billing information is available from Student Accounts at: <https://student-accounts.yale.edu/>

Q: What should I do if I have expenses that are not included in the standard student budget?

A: We have some flexibility to include additional costs in your budget, such as certain medical expenses, child care costs, computer expenses, etc.

In order to request consideration of these costs, you may complete and submit a Request for Additional Funds, found on our forms and resources page: <https://medicine.yale.edu/md-program/financialaid/formsandresources/>. We would also need documentation to support these costs, such as receipts, dental payment estimates, child care invoices, etc.

Q: Why must I include parental information when they give me no financial support?

A: Through its need-based financial aid program, the Yale School of Medicine makes an enormous contribution to the support of its students. If financial aid offers were based only on the resources of students, without taking parental resources into consideration, the needs of students from more affluent families would likely be equivalent to the needs of students from more disadvantaged backgrounds.

Because the total amount available for annual scholarships is finite, eliminating parental resources from the financial aid formula could result in sharply diminished scholarship support for students with the greatest real need. This in turn would inevitably reduce the School's ability to attract a diverse and talented student body.

Q: What if parents won't or can't contribute the money expected of them?

A: If either the student or the student's parents decide not to contribute the amount of resources specified in the financial aid offer, these funds may be replaced with unsubsidized loans, or the student may use outside scholarships to cover the contribution. We cannot offer or increase scholarship based on a family's choice not to contribute.

However, if a family feels they cannot contribute due to additional expenses or other circumstances, and would like to appeal, you are welcome to complete and submit a Request for Review of Financial Aid: <https://medicine.yale.edu/md-program/financialaid/formsandresources/>.

Q: What should I do if there are changes to family income or other financial circumstances during the academic year?

A: If you would like us to review your offer in order to consider a change in circumstance, you may complete and submit a Request for Review of Financial Aid, found on our forms and resources page at: <https://medicine.yale.edu/md-program/financialaid/formsandresources/>.

Q: Why do married students have to submit financial information from both their parents and their spouse? Is this required even if my parents don't contribute to my education?

A: In order to be fair and consistent from student to student, all family and household resources must be considered when determining financial aid eligibility.

Q: I am a married student, but my spouse is living elsewhere and will not be moving to New Haven. How will this affect my financial aid?

A: We can consider the expenses of maintaining a separate household, as long as those expenses are incurred during the academic period, and the student submits appropriate documentation. Documentation may include rental lease, monthly budgets with receipts, etc.

