

Whether you're living on or off campus, your family's contribution should remain consistent, provided financial circumstances remain consistent from year to year.

Note - you will be responsible for living expenses outside of the 9-month academic year.

## RESOURCES

### Office of Student Financial Support



+410 516 8028



Levering Hall, Suite 102  
8:30AM-4:30PM



fin\_aid@jhu.edu



<https://sfs.jhu.edu>



+410 516 7961



McCoy Hall, Terrace Level  
8:30AM-5:00PM



offcampus@jhu.edu



JHU Off-Campus  
Housing



JOHNS HOPKINS  
UNIVERSITY

Homewood Student Affairs  
Community Living

## OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING & FINANCIAL AID

The Role of Financial Aid in  
Living Off Campus





# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## How Will My Financial Aid Calculated?

Your financial aid will be based on a budget using your actual tuition cost, an estimate for books and personal expenses, and an estimate for 9 months of housing and food expenses. Since the cost of living off campus varies for each student depending on your living arrangements and spending habits, we use a standard estimate for everyone. The estimated cost for 2023-24 is \$14,498.

Given that the estimated cost of living off campus is less than the cost of university housing, students may see a reduction in their financial aid. This reduction will not result in additional out-of-pocket expenses provided that your off-campus living expenses do not exceed the estimated \$14,498 (\$1,610/month).

## Does Hopkins Provide Money for Rent/Food?

The refund you receive can be used to pay for some or all off-campus expenses upon your own discretion. It comes down to prioritizing your budget-- if you choose an apartment with fewer amenities, you may have a larger budget for food or other living expenses.

Housing and meal expenses for the summer months are not considered in the calculation of your financial aid. Your financial aid for the academic year will be based on the 9-month fall and spring period only. Therefore, any refunds received should be budgeted appropriately and are not intended to help meet summer expenses.

## How Do I Get A Refund For Living Expenses?

If you are registered for classes and your financial aid file is complete, grants and loans will be applied to your SIS billing account prior to the first day of classes. If your financial aid or other payments exceed your billed costs, the Student Accounts Office will automatically process the excess credit as a refund to assist with your living and other educational expenses.

**Bank Mobile** will process the refund as a direct deposit or check, depending on the preference you designated when you signed up for Bank Mobile. Student Accounts processes refunds automatically.

We strongly urge you to be prepared with two months' worth of living expenses when classes begin in August. Your financial aid will not be disbursed early under any circumstances, and it will be delayed if you have outstanding financial aid requirements.

## What If My Financial Aid Award Is Less Than Tuition?

If you are living off-campus in non-university housing, your bill will have a tuition charge, but will not have a charge for a room and meals. Your aid will be applied toward tuition, and your family will be responsible for the balance on the bill, as well as assisting with off-campus living expenses. What your family pays overall toward your education should remain consistent, provided financial circumstances remain consistent from year to year.

## Can I Take Out A Loan For My Living Expenses?

Yes, your family may utilize a Federal Direct PLUS loan, Federal Direct Student Loan or private educational loan (most students will need a credit-worthy co-signer). Off-campus living expenses are included in your total budget, so your family can borrow to cover them. Loans are credited first to your tuition bill. If this creates a credit balance on your account, the Student Accounts Office will issue a refund.

## What If My Expenses Exceed \$1,610 per month?

If your actual living expenses exceed the financial aid estimate, you and your family are responsible for the difference. It may be possible for you to borrow an additional amount for living expenses if you provide documentation for the higher expenses. Your financial aid adviser can provide further options if your budget does not meet your off-campus needs.

Be aware that you will incur start-up costs for your apartment (security deposits, phone installation, furnishing, etc.) that are not a part of the financial aid budget. Changes to your budget can be requested by using the Budget Adjustment Request Form, which is available at: <https://finaid.jhu.edu/forms>

## What If I Secure Space in University Housing?

If you will be living in university-sponsored housing, every attempt will be made to assist you in your choice of housing and meals. The university uses a standard on-campus living allowance for all students for determining financial aid awards.

If your university room and meal plan exceed the allotted amount for university housing, the difference will not be met with additional institutional grant funding. Depending on your eligibility, it may be possible to borrow additional loan funds. For more information, reach out to your financial aid advisor.

