ALMA COLLEGE

Alma College Financial Aid Programs 2027 - 2028

These programs, including eligibility, amounts, and renewal information, are effective for students who will start attending at Alma College during FA2027, WI2028, SP2028, or SU2028. These are subject to change with appropriate notice.

MERIT AWARDS

Alma merit scholarships are awarded based on the student's highest weighted or unweighted cumulative GPA as reflected on the transcript received by mid-January 2027.

Presidential Scholarship	$38,000	4.0+
Trustee Scholarship	$36,000	3.80 - 3.99
Dean's Scholarship	$34,000	3.60 - 3.79
Tartan Award	$32,000	3.30 - 3.59
Achievement Scholarship	$30,000	3.00 - 3.29
Alma Award	$28,000	<3.0

Merit Scholarship Renewal Requirements

1. Students must be enrolled full-time (12 or more credits per semester) in a degree-seeking program.
2. The annual scholarship amount is divided equally between the Fall and Winter semesters.
3. This scholarship is renewable for up to three additional academic years (six semesters total) or until the student completes the requirements for their first bachelor's degree, whichever occurs first. Students who graduate in fewer than eight semesters forfeit any remaining scholarship eligibility.
4. The scholarship will renew at the originally awarded amount unless an adjustment is required under the College's Off-Campus Aid Adjustment Policy due to a change in housing and/or meal plan status. For additional information, please visit: https://www.alma.edu/financial-aid/policies-forms-and-resources/
5. To remain eligible for renewal, students must meet the minimum cumulative GPA and completion rate requirements outlined in Alma College's Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Policy. The SAP Policy is available at: https://www.alma.edu/financial-aid/policies-forms-and-resources/

FULL TUITION AWARD

Distinguished Scholar Scholarship (formerly Distinguished Presidential Scholarship) – Full Tuition
Separate Application Required

The Distinguished Scholar Scholarship provides up to 15 four-year, full-tuition scholarships annually to graduating high school seniors with a cumulative high school GPA of 3.8 or higher. This scholarship replaces all other Alma College institutional aid; however, recipients may use eligible federal and state financial aid to assist with housing and meal plan costs.

The scholarship covers tuition for enrollment in up to 17 credits per semester and up to two spring terms. Funding through the Alma Venture Program is limited to $1,000.

Consideration for this scholarship requires submission of a separate application.

Renewal Requirements for Distinguished Scholar Scholarship *(full tuition)*

1. Students must be enrolled full-time (12 or more credits per semester) in a degree-seeking program. Tuition overload fees associated with enrollment above 17 credits in a semester are not covered by this scholarship.
2. The annual scholarship amount is divided equally between the Fall and Winter semesters.
3. This scholarship is renewable for up to three additional academic years (six semesters total) or until the student completes the requirements for their first bachelor's degree, whichever occurs first. Students who graduate in fewer than eight semesters forfeit any remaining scholarship eligibility.
4. Recipients are required to reside on campus.
5. To remain eligible for renewal, students must meet the minimum cumulative GPA and completion rate requirements outlined in Alma College's Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Policy. The SAP Policy is available at: https://www.alma.edu/financial-aid/policies-forms-and-resources/
6. Students must file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) annually by March 1.

GEOGRAPHIC AWARDS

Detroit Futures Scholarship — Amount varies – based on need *

Alma College awards up to 15 Detroit Futures Scholarships annually to qualified students who reside in Wayne County or attend a high school within Wayne County and whose household income is $85,000 or less.

The Detroit Futures Scholarship is designed to help make an Alma College education more affordable by providing substantial assistance based on demonstrated financial need. Award amounts vary by student and are determined through a review of financial circumstances and eligibility for need-based aid.

Award amounts may change from year to year based on a student's financial need. The FAFSA must be filed annually to be considered for this scholarship.

Tartan Edge

The Alma College Tartan Edge initiative provides an affordable pathway to an Alma College education for new first-year and transfer students who reside in or graduated from a high school located in **Gratiot, Isabella, or Montcalm counties**. Homeschooled students who reside in one of these counties are also eligible. Students must meet Alma College's admission requirements to participate.

The Tartan Edge initiative offers a predictable annual cost for tuition, housing, and meals. The cost for the 2027-2028 academic year is $18,500, regardless of whether a student lives on or off campus, with a scheduled increase of $1,500 every year. Eligible federal and state financial aid may be applied toward this cost.

The Tartan Edge initiative replaces all other Alma College institutional scholarships and grants. The award also covers tuition for two Spring Terms. Funding through the Alma Venture Program is limited to $1,000.

Conditions

- Students must reside in or have graduated from a high school located in Gratiot, Isabella, or Montcalm counties. This requirement applies to both first-year and transfer students.
- Students are not eligible to receive other Alma College institutional scholarships or grants while participating in the Tartan Edge initiative.
- Students living on campus must reside in a standard double-occupancy room.
- The initiative covers enrollment in up to 17 credits per semester and tuition charges for up to two Spring Terms. Any tuition or fees associated with enrollment above 17 credits are the responsibility of the student.
- Students requiring health insurance are responsible for any associated charges.
- Students are responsible for all required fees, including orientation, student organization, and individual course fees.
- Students must maintain continuous enrollment during the Fall and Winter semesters.
- Students must file the FAFSA for their entering year.

Renewal Requirements for Tartan Edge

1. Students must be enrolled full-time (12 to 17 credits per semester) in a degree-seeking program. Tuition overload fees associated with enrollment above 17 credits in a semester are not covered by this scholarship.
2. The annual scholarship amount is divided equally between the Fall and Winter semesters.
3. This scholarship is renewable for up to three additional academic years (six semesters total) or until the student completes the requirements for their first bachelor's degree, whichever occurs first. Students who graduate in fewer than eight semesters forfeit any remaining scholarship eligibility.
4. To remain eligible for renewal, students must meet the minimum cumulative GPA and completion rate requirements outlined in Alma College's Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Policy. The SAP Policy is available at: https://www.alma.edu/financial-aid/policies-forms-and-resources/
5. Students must file the FAFSA annually.

TRANSFER SPECIFIC STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS / GRANTS / AWARDS

Merit Scholarship

Transfer merit scholarships are awarded based on the student's cumulative GPA as calculated from transcripts received from all previously attended institutions. The amount awarded upon acceptance to the College is the amount renewed annually.

Average GPA	Amount
3.50 +	$34,000/year
3.25 - 3.49	$32,000/year
3.00 - 3.24	$30,000/year
<3.00	$28,000/year

Phi Theta Kappa Transfer Scholarship **$2,000/year**

Awarded to transfer students who are recognized as Phi Theta Kappa Scholars at their previous institution. Students must submit their Phi Theta Kappa membership certificate to receive this award.

Transfer students are also eligible for the following programs. Please refer to the applicable sections of this guide for detailed eligibility and renewal requirements.

- Tartan Edge
- Performance Arts Scholarship
- Legacy Scholarship
- Scottish Hospitality Scholarship
- FAFSA Filing Scholarship
- Detroit Promise, Kalamazoo Promise, and Bearcat Advantage

Transfer Scholarship Renewal Requirements

1. Students must be enrolled full-time (12 or more credits per semester) in a degree-seeking program.
2. The annual scholarship amount is divided equally between the Fall and Winter semesters.
3. This scholarship is renewable for up to three additional academic years (six semesters total) or until the student completes the requirements for their first bachelor's degree, whichever occurs first. Students who graduate in fewer than eight semesters forfeit any remaining scholarship eligibility.
4. The scholarship will renew at the originally awarded amount unless an adjustment is required under the College's Off-Campus Aid Adjustment Policy due to a change in housing and/or meal plan status. For additional information, please visit: https://www.alma.edu/financial-aid/policies-forms-and-resources/
5. To remain eligible for renewal, students must meet the minimum cumulative GPA and completion rate requirements outlined in Alma College's Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Policy. The SAP Policy is available at: https://www.alma.edu/financial-aid/policies-forms-and-resources/

PERFORMANCE SCHOLARSHIPS

Performance scholarships are available to talented students in art, dance, music (vocal and instrumental), and Scottish Arts. Students who demonstrate exceptional talent in one of these areas may be considered for performance scholarships beginning at $1,500 annually.

Awards are determined at the discretion of the Fine and Performing Arts faculty. A student's intended major or minor is not considered during the selection process. Students who receive a performance scholarship as incoming freshmen will retain their original award amount throughout their enrollment, provided all renewal requirements are met.

Students interested in auditioning can contact the Admissions Office at admissions@alma.edu or 1-800-321-ALMA.

Students are only eligible to receive one scholarship per year in the performance scholarships.

- Students are able to receive an Art and Design Scholarship as well as one other performance scholarship.
- Students offered awards from multiple departments must select one scholarship.
- Students may continue to participate in multiple performance areas regardless of the scholarship selected.
- If a student is awarded a distinguished performance scholarship, it will replace any previously awarded standard performance scholarship.
- Current renewal requirements established by each department are available at: https://www.alma.edu/financial-aid/scholarships/.

Art and Design

$1,500/year: The Department of Art & Design awards scholarships to students who demonstrate artistic talent through the submission of a portfolio. Scholarships are available to artists working in any medium.

Dance

$1,500/year: The Dance Department awards scholarships to students who demonstrate excellence in dance through a group or individual audition.

Dance Team

$1,500/year: Awarded to incoming first-year and transfer students who are selected to compete on the Alma College Dance Team. Interested students should complete the Dance for Alma Form and/or contact Coach Tracy Burton at burtonte@alma.edu.

Music

$1,500/year: Awarded to instrumentalists and vocalists who demonstrate musical talent through an audition. Auditions are scheduled individually. Additional information is available through the Music Department.

Scottish Arts Scholarship

$1,500/year: Awarded to students who demonstrate a high level of achievement in Highland dancing or piping, regardless of intended major.

E-Sports Scholarship

$1,500/year: Awarded to incoming first-year and transfer students who are selected to compete on Alma College's E-Sports team.

Performance Scholarship Renewal Requirements

1. Students must be enrolled full-time (12 or more credits per semester) in a degree-seeking program.
2. The annual scholarship amount is divided equally between the Fall and Winter semesters.
3. This scholarship is renewable for up to three additional academic years (six semesters total) or until the student completes the requirements for their first bachelor's degree, whichever occurs first. Students who graduate in fewer than eight semesters forfeit any remaining scholarship eligibility.
4. The scholarship will renew at the originally awarded amount unless an adjustment is required under the College's Off-Campus Aid Adjustment Policy due to a change in housing and/or meal plan status. For additional information, please visit: https://www.alma.edu/financial-aid/policies-forms-and-resources/
5. To remain eligible for renewal, students must meet the minimum cumulative GPA and completion rate requirements outlined in Alma College's Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Policy. The SAP Policy is available at: https://www.alma.edu/financial-aid/policies-forms-and-resources/

OTHER ALMA SCHOLARSHIPS

These scholarships are available to students who meet specific eligibility criteria or have interests in particular areas of study. Some scholarships are automatically awarded based on established criteria, while others require a separate application and may have application deadlines.

Many of these scholarships are available only to incoming first-year and transfer students. Unless otherwise noted, most awards are renewable for future years provided students continue to meet all applicable scholarship, award, or grant requirements.

Scottish Hospitality Scholarship **$3,000/year**

Students who complete an eligible campus visit will receive this renewable scholarship.

College Game Day Saturday visits are excluded. While multiple visits are encouraged, students may receive only one visit-based scholarship.

FAFSA Filing Scholarship **$1,000/year**

Awarded to students who file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by the established deadline.

Legacy Scholarship **$1,500/year** **(Formerly Alma Alumni Scholarship)**

Students whose parent, grandparent, or sibling attended Alma College may be eligible for this renewable scholarship. A Legacy Scholarship application is required.

Highland Award **$1,000/year**

Awarded to students whose permanent residence is outside the state of Michigan.

Academic Discovery Day Scholarship **$2,000/year**

Students who participate in an Academic Discovery Day event will receive this renewable scholarship.

Participation in an Academic Discovery Day event does not satisfy the eligibility requirement for the Alma College Visit Scholarship. Students wishing to be considered for both scholarships must complete a separate qualifying campus visit through the Admissions Office.

Provost Scholarship **$2,000/year**

Awarded to students who participate in the Distinguished Scholar Scholarship selection process but are not selected to receive the full-tuition Distinguished Scholar Scholarship.

Kim Kaye Leadership Scholarship **Up to $4,000/year**

Eligible students entering their senior year of high school who have a minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA and apply for admission to Alma College by the scholarship deadline will be considered for this renewable scholarship.

Other Alma Scholarship Renewal Requirements

1. Students must be enrolled full-time (12 or more credits per semester) in a degree-seeking program.
2. The annual scholarship amount is divided equally between the Fall and Winter semesters.
3. This scholarship is renewable for up to three additional academic years (six semesters total) or until the student completes the requirements for their first bachelor's degree, whichever occurs first. Students who graduate in fewer than eight semesters forfeit any remaining scholarship eligibility.
4. The scholarship will renew at the originally awarded amount unless an adjustment is required under the College's Off-Campus Aid Adjustment Policy due to a change in housing and/or meal plan status. For additional information, please visit: https://www.alma.edu/financial-aid/policies-forms-and-resources/
5. To remain eligible for renewal, students must meet the minimum cumulative GPA and completion rate requirements outlined in Alma College's Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Policy. The SAP Policy is available at: https://www.alma.edu/financial-aid/policies-forms-and-resources/

Promise Zone Scholarships

Detroit Promise Scholarship **Amount varies – based on need ***

Students should visit http://www.detroitchamber.com/econdev/education-and-talent/detroit-promise/ for more information on eligibility and awarding.

Kalamazoo Promise Scholarship **Amount varies – Determined by Kalamazoo Promise Foundation**

Students should visit https://www.kalamazoopromise.com/ for more information on eligibility and awarding.

Bearcat Advantage Scholarship **Amount varies – Determined by Battle Creek Community Foundation**

Students should visit https://www.battlecreekpublicschools.org/bearcatadvantage for more information on eligibility and awarding.

Buchanan Promise Scholarship **Amount varies – Determined by Michigan Gateway Community Foundation**

Students should visit https://www.buchananpromise.com/ for more information on eligibility and awarding.

INTERNATIONAL SPECIFIC STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS / GRANTS / AWARDS

Merit Scholarship

International students are automatically considered for academic merit scholarships during the admission review process. Merit scholarships, valued at up **to** $38,000 per year for students entering in Fall 2027 or later, are awarded based on the academic credentials submitted as part of the application for admission.

International grade point averages are converted to the U.S. 4.0 scale for evaluation purposes. The scholarship amount awarded at the time of admission is renewable at the same annual amount, provided all renewal requirements continue to be met.

Presidential Scholarship	$38,000	4.0+
Trustee Scholarship	$36,000	3.80 - 3.99
Dean's Scholarship	$34,000	3.60 - 3.79
Tartan Award	$32,000	3.30 - 3.59
Achievement Scholarship	$30,000	3.00 - 3.29
Alma Award	$28,000	<3.0

International Scholarship Renewal Requirements

1. Students must be enrolled full-time (12 or more credits per semester) in a degree-seeking program.
2. The annual scholarship amount is divided equally between the Fall and Winter semesters.
3. This scholarship is renewable for up to three additional academic years (six semesters total) or until the student completes the requirements for their first bachelor's degree, whichever occurs first. Students who graduate in fewer than eight semesters forfeit any remaining scholarship eligibility.
4. The scholarship will renew at the originally awarded amount unless an adjustment is required under the College's Off-Campus Aid Adjustment Policy due to a change in housing and/or meal plan status. For additional information, please visit: https://www.alma.edu/financial-aid/policies-forms-and-resources/
5. To remain eligible for renewal, students must meet the minimum cumulative GPA and completion rate requirements outlined in Alma College's Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Policy. The SAP Policy is available at: https://www.alma.edu/financial-aid/policies-forms-and-resources/

International students may also be eligible for the following programs. Please refer to the eligibility and renewal requirements outlined earlier in this guide.

- Performance Arts Scholarship
- Legacy Scholarship
- Scottish Hospitality Scholarship

ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

International and Off-Campus Study

Alma College grants, scholarships, and institutional awards are not available for international or off-campus study programs unless specifically designated for those programs. Additional information about these opportunities is available at:

https://www.alma.edu/about/offices-services/center-for-college-and-community-engagement/international-and-off-campus-study/

Exception: Students participating in approved *Exchange Programs* and students majoring in *World Languages and Cultures* may be eligible to apply Alma College aid toward these educational experiences. Eligibility will be determined by the Financial Aid Office following submission and review of a cost estimate form.

Spring and Summer Term

Alma College grants, scholarships, and institutional awards are not available for use during Spring or Summer Terms unless specifically designated for those terms. Information regarding programs that may be used for Spring or Summer Terms is available under **"Current Student Scholarships"** at: https://www.alma.edu/financial-aid/scholarships/

Conditions of Financial Aid Disclaimer

Unless otherwise specified, students must enroll in 12 to 17 credits per semester to maintain eligibility for Alma College grants, scholarships, and institutional awards. Students enrolled in fewer than 12 credits may have their financial aid adjusted based on enrollment status. Additional charges associated with enrollment above 17 credits are the responsibility of the student unless otherwise stated by a specific scholarship or program.