

Cost of Attendance Policy: Limestone University

The U.S. Department of Education requires the University to determine costs for one academic year associated with attending Limestone University and for the purpose of determining eligibility for financial aid. Included in the Cost of Attendance (COA) budget are direct educational expenses such as tuition and fees, and housing and food if on campus. The COA also includes indirect costs related to your education such as an allowance for books and supplies, transportation, miscellaneous personal expenses, loan fees, and living expenses.

What is Cost of Attendance?

The Cost of Attendance (COA) is an estimate designed to help students determine what it may cost to attend Limestone University for an academic year. The COA is not a bill, but an estimate of educational expenses that you may incur.

Each student's initial cost of attendance is based upon full-time enrollment and residency status (on, off campus, or with parent). The Financial Aid Office reviews enrollment each semester after the drop/add period and adjusts a student's COA, if needed.

What is a direct vs indirect cost?

Direct costs are the expenses billed to the student by Limestone. These include tuition and fees, on campus housing and on campus food (meal plans).

Indirect costs are other costs you may incur but are not billed to the student by Limestone. Indirect costs vary from student to student and may include books and supplies, transportation, miscellaneous personal expenses, loan fees, and living expenses.

Cost of Attendance Components:

Tuition and Fees (direct)- an amount normally assessed for a student carrying the same academic workload, as determined by the institution.

Books, course materials, supplies, & equipment (indirect)- an allowance for books, course materials and equipment. Determined annually using College Board's 'Trends in College Pricing and Student Aid' for most recent year.

Housing and Food (direct if on campus)- allowances for students residing in institutionally owned or operated housing based on the average amount assessed to such residents for housing charges and the standard 21 meal plan. On campus housing is not available for students who are married or those with dependents.

Living Expenses (indirect)- an allowance for students attending on at least a half-time basis, not living in campus housing, that includes food, rent, or other housing costs as derived from College Board's nine- and twelve-month living expense budget using the most recent year's low base budget.

Transportation (indirect) - an allowance which includes transportation between campus, residences, and place of work as derived from College Board's nine- and twelve-month living expense budget using the most recent year's low base budget.

Personal/Miscellaneous (indirect)- an allowance for students attending on at least a half-time basis and is derived from College Board's nine- and twelve-month living expense budget using the most recent year's low base budget.

Loan fees (indirect)- an allowance for the cost of any Federal loan/origination fee that is based on the average loan fee for each student type (undergraduate/graduate) for the most recently completely award year.

The Financial Aid Office has the authority to use professional judgment to make reasonable adjustments to allowable expenses, on a case-by-case basis, when special circumstances exist. An adjustment may be requested to cover certain additional costs above the standard budget. Requests for review should be directed to the Financial Aid Office.

Students with expenses associated with dependent care, studying abroad, disability accommodations, or the purchase of a computer should contact the Financial Aid Office to have their COA and aid eligibility reviewed.