**Program Criteria**

- Arizona residents admitted to ASU for fall 2010 as a degree-seeking, full-time freshman (pursuing first undergraduate degree).
- Students must begin ASU the fall semester immediately after their Arizona high school graduation.
- Native American high school seniors not residing in Arizona who meet the Arizona residency criteria for tuition purposes at ASU are eligible.
- Students must demonstrate a total annual family income of $60,000 or less on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). See E and F below for additional details.

**Important Details**

A. If you choose to delay enrollment at ASU beyond high school graduation, you will not be eligible for future participation in the program.
B. Special class fees, study abroad program fees, academic program fees, and summer and winter tuition/fees will not be covered as part of the program.
C. Expected Family Contribution (EFC), as determined from your FAFSA, and work-study are included toward estimated direct costs.
D. Classes and costs associated with enrollment at any other institution are not covered.
E. Your awards may be adjusted, under the terms of the program, if you receive any additional funding (e.g., merit award) after you have been awarded from the Obama Scholars Program.
F. You must file a FAFSA by March 1 each year for continuation in the program. There are no exceptions to this date. The FAFSA must be free of errors. Be sure to apply early in order to resolve any errors before this date. This program is designed for students whose family income is consistently $60,000 or less, as demonstrated by the FAFSA. If your total family income in any given year exceeds $60,000, you will no longer be considered for this program. Family assets sufficient to help pay for college costs are considered.
G. ASU will verify your FAFSA information. All documents required to complete the verification process must be submitted by June 1 each year for continuation in the program. There are no exceptions to this date. These documents must be complete and free of errors. Be sure to submit all requested documents early to resolve any errors or omissions before this date. If, after verification, you do not meet the program criteria, you will not be eligible for program participation for that and future semesters.
H. You must confirm your housing by June 1 for your housing assignment to be finalized by Aug. 1. If your housing assignment is not finalized by Aug. 1, your budget will be reduced to a commuter budget and your awards will be adjusted accordingly.
I. You must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.50 by the end of spring 2011 and a cumulative GPA of 2.75 by the end of spring 2012 and 2013.
J. You are required to successfully complete a minimum of 24 ASU credit hours during each academic year (fall and spring semesters only).
K. You must remain eligible for federal aid to participate in this program each year. For details, visit students.asu.edu/obama.
L. You must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress as detailed at students.asu.edu/policies/sap; however, the GPA requirements of this program as noted above supersede the Satisfactory Academic Progress GPA.
M. You may choose to spend one semester in an ASU-sponsored study abroad program only after completion of your first year in the Obama Scholars Program. This will count as one semester toward the eight-semester maximum. Your funding will continue to be based on ASU cost of attendance and will not cover any study abroad program fees. Your cost of attendance will reflect ASU’s standard off-campus budget. Students with ASU tuition waivers (i.e., dependent waivers) may only use their waivers for study abroad programs that require participants to pay tuition directly to ASU. For programs that do not require this, an ASU tuition waiver cannot be used, and additional funds through the Obama program will not be awarded to cover the value of the tuition waiver.
N. If you were awarded scholarships or outside resources, you must review and meet any annual renewal criteria unique to those awards.
O. ASU Online degree programs are not eligible. If you change your major to an ASU Online major, you will be removed from the Obama Scholars Program and adjustments will be made to your awards.
P. You must be in a full-time degree program at ASU’s Tempe, Downtown Phoenix, Polytechnic or West campus.
Q. Student Financial Assistance determines final eligibility for this program.
R. In your first year at ASU, you will be expected to participate in the ASU Obama Scholars Success Program. The program is designed to connect you with resources and services to ease your transition and enhance your success at ASU. You will be connected with a mentor, who will help you navigate through your first year at ASU. A complete description of the success program will be emailed to you.

**Options for Students Not Meeting Renewal Criteria**

- If you do not meet or exceed the renewal criteria, you may file an appeal for reinstatement into the program provided you experienced significant, extenuating circumstances beyond your control (such as an extended, serious medical emergency). Completed appeals must be submitted no later than close of business July 1.
- If you experience other challenges throughout the year, such as difficulty with classes, time management, work or family responsibilities, or other curricular commitments, be aware that these are not considered extenuating circumstances. In these cases, consult your academic advisor and use ASU resources to ensure that you receive the guidance and assistance necessary to remain on track and continue to meet criteria for renewal and graduation.

**You May Also Need To Work or Borrow**

Our goal with the Obama Scholars Program is to help minimize the amount of money students will have to borrow while attending ASU. In some cases, you may need to borrow student loans to meet your costs or to replace your Federal Work-Study (FWS) award.

Please use the budget worksheet on the back to determine your need to either accept your FWS award or borrow your offered loans.

**Self-Help Opportunities – Working and Borrowing Loans**

FWS and federally funded Direct Stafford Student Loans, are programs designed to help students invest in themselves and their education.

- You are encouraged to apply for on-campus employment if you have been offered an FWS award. Working on campus not only allows you to earn money for college, it also creates valuable on-campus support networks while you develop marketable skills for your résumé. For more information and to search for current job openings, visit students.asu.edu/employment. On-campus job fairs are hosted on each campus. For more information about job fairs, call Career Services at 480-965-2350 or Student Employment at 480-965-5186.
- Low-interest rate loans are also available to you as an option. If you are eligible for student loans, they will be listed on your award letter and on My ASU (my.asu.edu). You are encouraged to discuss your alternatives for financing your education with a counselor in the Student Financial Assistance Office.

**Example Financial Aid Package**

View samples of different Obama Scholars financial aid packages at students.asu.edu/obama.
Violations of Student Code of Conduct

Regardless of circumstances, all scholars in the President Barack Obama Scholars Program who are suspended, expelled or administratively withdrawn by ASU Student Life become ineligible for the program due to the break in enrollment. This decision is final and cannot be appealed. A student in violation is otherwise eligible to file the FAFSA and receive need-based aid. However, ASU would no longer award to cover this student’s total direct costs after EFC.

Budget and Planning Worksheet

Use the following budget worksheet to determine estimated expenses as well as the possibility for the need to work or borrow your offered loans. We have listed our standard allowances for expenses that the Obama Scholars funds will cover as a way to compare them with your actual costs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COSTS</th>
<th>YEARLY AMOUNT</th>
<th>ASU’S STANDARD ALLOWANCES FOR DIRECT COSTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>LIVING ON-CAMPUS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total amount of gift aid (i.e., scholarships,</td>
<td></td>
<td>$8,132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>grants and employee/veteran’s benefits):</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$8,132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listed on your award letter and My ASU (my.asu.edu).</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$8,132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition and Mandatory Fees:</td>
<td>- $</td>
<td>$8,132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available at students.asu.edu/costs.</td>
<td></td>
<td>$8,132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Fees (dependent upon your major):</td>
<td>- $</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available at students.asu.edu/costs.</td>
<td></td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books/Supplies:</td>
<td>- $</td>
<td>$1,290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prices listed at bookstore.asu.edu.</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residence Hall or Living With Parent</td>
<td>- $</td>
<td>$5,640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residence hall prices listed atasu.edu/housing.</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$5,640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meal Plan/Food/Groceries:</td>
<td>- $</td>
<td>$4,066</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meal plan prices listed atasu.edu/housing.</td>
<td></td>
<td>$4,066</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking Decal:</td>
<td>- $</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prices listed at uabf.asu.edu/parking_permits_locations.</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (gift aid minus expenses):</td>
<td></td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A negative amount means you will most likely not have enough gift aid to pay for your expenses and will need to investigate working in an on-campus job or borrowing your student and/or parent loans.

A positive amount means you will most likely be expecting a refund each semester to be used for any additional educational expenses throughout the academic year.

Why Does My Gift Aid Not Cover All My Expenses?

Remember that the program is not designed to cover all of your expenses. The Obama Scholars Program is designed to cover your direct costs, minus your EFC as determined from your FAFSA, with gift aid and Federal Work-Study. Direct costs covered include actual tuition and mandatory fees plus a standardized allowance for books/supplies, room and board. Your awards are made after subtracting your EFC. Program fees and special class fees associated with your specific major are not covered. In addition, if you made residence hall and meal plan selections that exceed our standard allowances, those costs are above the amount of gift aid and work-study provided for the program.

Did you factor in your EFC and your Federal Work-Study offer to meet your direct costs?

This program is designed to cover your direct costs, minus your EFC as determined from the FAFSA, with gift aid and Federal Work-Study.

Did you select housing and meal plans that exceed our standard allowances? Do your books exceed the standard allowance?

ASU uses a standardized allowance for books/supplies, room and board expenses for each student attending ASU, including Obama Scholars. You may need to use your work-study award or borrow your offered loans in order to pay your remaining costs. Remember that work-study funds are disbursed as you work (e.g., in a paycheck) and not before the semester begins like most other aid. This means you may need to borrow your offered loans to pay your ASU charges in a timely manner.

You may want to consider changing your housing and/or meal plan selections in order to best use the gift aid that this program offers and minimize the amount you may need to work or borrow.

If your major requires specific housing that exceeds ASU’s standard allowances, changes will be made to your budget and awards to reflect an adjusted standard allowance provided you have confirmed your housing by June 1. If your estimated direct costs (minus your EFC) are already met with your current awards after your budget adjustment, no additional award will be made. To view current residence hall prices, please visit asu.edu/housing.