



2026-2027 Out-of-State National Merit Award

Important Information

The information below only pertains to the OSU Merit Scholarship and Rising Scholar tuition waiver portions of your National Merit Scholarship program. The National Merit Stipend is administered by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation and the \$2,000 Dean's Award is administered by the Dean of the College in which you're enrolled. If, after reviewing this information, you have any questions, please contact our office by email at finaid@okstate.edu, by phone at 405-744-6604 or in person in 119 Student Union.

About the OSU Merit Scholarship:

- OSU Merit Scholarship of **up to \$7,200 per year**
- The OSU Merit Scholarship may be received for a total of four years (see "Renewal Requirements").
- One-half of the OSU Merit Scholarship will be credited to your OSU Bursar account each fall and spring semester.
- You must enroll as a degree-seeking student in at least 12 credit hours per semester (fall/spring) to receive the OSU Merit Scholarship and tuition waiver, **and** you must also meet the annual "Renewal Requirements," below. .
- You must begin using your scholarship the first semester it's available and use it continuously every fall and spring semester it's available, with no breaks in attendance at OSU, or it will be rescinded (see "Deferments").
- If you attend OSU only one fall or spring semester during any academic year of eligibility for this award, you will receive no more than one-half of this scholarship's value that academic year.

Coordination with Other Aid and Cost of Attendance:

- ***Recipients cannot exceed cost of attendance when combining their OSU Merit Scholarship award with other scholarships and aid. The National Merit Scholarship amount may be reduced if additional grants and scholarships are received and exceed OSU's out-of-state cost of attendance.***
- Students should enroll in at least 12 degree-applicable hours each semester to maximize this scholarship, as enrolling in fewer than 12 hours that count toward your degree can reduce your cost or attendance and may limit the amount of scholarship funding you receive.

OSU Tuition Waiver Award Duration and Limitations:

- The tuition waiver portion of this award waives the tuition portion of the block rate only, not fees.
- You are eligible for only one tuition waiver scholarship per semester (see "Other Awards," below).
- The tuition waiver may be received for a total of five years (see "Renewal Requirements").
- The tuition waiver may be used in undergraduate and, in certain circumstances, graduate school at OSU. Please contact our office for information regarding eligibility while taking graduate courses.

Summer Eligibility:

- The OSU tuition waiver is normally available for fall and spring semester only; however National Merit Finalists who receive approval from the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid to receive the OSU Merit Scholarship for summer also receive a tuition waiver that term.
- If you wish to receive part of your OSU Merit Scholarship during the summer, you must contact the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid for approval, prior to enrolling in OSU summer courses.
- If you use a portion of your eligibility in a summer term, your total award amount will be reduced by the amount of scholarship you received in the summer.

Changes in Award Amount:

- If, between now and the beginning of school, your admission status or academic credentials change because of new information, OSU reserves the right to retract this scholarship as only fully admissible, degree-seeking students in good academic standing are eligible for the award.

Deferment:

- In general, you must use your awards continuously every fall and spring semester it is available; however, you may be eligible for a deferment in some cases.
- An approved deferment request lets you leave OSU for a time and retain your scholarship when you return, provided that you met the terms of the deferment. Deferments are not automatic. If needed, please contact our office to initiate the process.
- You can request a deferment by completing the [Request for Scholarship Deferment Form](#).
- You must meet the scholarship retention criteria, including GPA and hours earned (one-half of the required hours if here only one term that year), before you leave to be eligible for a deferment.

OSU Merit Scholarship Renewal Requirements:

- **You must earn 24 hours each academic year and achieve a 3.25 cumulative graduation/retention grade point average (GPA) to retain the OSU Merit Scholarship. There is no probationary period.**
- A check will be made at the end of the spring semester to determine if you have met the criteria for renewal of your tuition waiver for the following year.
- You are not contacted if you fail to meet the OSU Merit Scholarship renewal requirements and there is no appeal process for it.
- Your OSU Merit Scholarship will cease until you satisfy the renewal requirements to repair your eligibility.
- If you do not satisfy the repair requirements *within the next academic year*, any future OSU Merit Scholarship eligibility will be permanently lost.

Tuition Waiver Award Renewal Requirements:

- **You must enroll full-time each fall and spring and achieve a 2.00 cumulative graduation/retention grade point average (GPA) to retain the tuition waiver portion of your award. There is no probationary period.**
- A check will be made at the end of the spring semester to determine if you have met the criteria for renewal of your tuition waiver for the following year.
- If you fail to enroll full-time each semester and maintain the required 2.00 cumulative graduation/retention GPA, you'll receive a letter and/or email from this office soon after the end of the spring semester with information regarding repair/appeal options.
- You must successfully appeal or repair your eligibility before the start of the immediately following school year or your tuition waiver scholarship will be permanently rescinded.

Renewal Requirement Information for both OSU Merit Scholarship and Tuition Waiver:

- You must earn credit hours at OSU, during the fall and spring semesters, for them to count toward your scholarship renewal requirements. For example, taking an online course during the fall semester at another institution will not count toward those hours needed for renewal.
- If you attend OSU only one fall or spring semester in any year of eligibility, you will receive no more than one-half of your scholarship's value that year and you must earn at least one-half of your required number of credit hours as well as attain the required GPA to renew your award for the following year (provided you have eligibility remaining).
- It's your responsibility to keep your postal and email address information current in the OSU Self-Service System at my.okstate.edu.