

SOAR 2026

Financial Aid & Student Financial Services

2026 Financial Aid Guide and SOAR FAQs



Scan this code for the full guide

Includes video tutorials and other key resources



Student Financial Aid Portal:

financialaid.berry.edu

State Aid Resources

GAfutures.org

2026-27 FULL TIME AWARDS

HOPE/Zell Miller Scholarships

\$5,970/\$2,985 per semester

GTEG

\$1,100/\$550 per semester

Federal Direct Student Loans

Federal Direct Loans are categorized as **subsidized** and **unsubsidized**. Federal Subsidized Loans are available to students with demonstrated need, according to federal guidelines. This loan does not accrue interest while you are enrolled at least half-time. Federal Unsubsidized Loans accrue interest while the student is enrolled in college.

The fixed interest rate for Federal Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans was 6.39% during the 2025–26 academic year. If you are a dependent student according to your FAFSA information, you may expect the following eligibility in Federal Direct Loans during your college career.

	Freshmen	Sophomore	Junior	Senior
Maximum Subsidized (according to eligibility)	\$3,500	\$4,500	\$5,500	\$5,500
Unsubsidized	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Combined Total (Subsidized and Unsubsidized)	\$5,500	\$6,500	\$7,500	\$7,500

IMPORTANT REMINDERS FOR FEDERAL LOAN BORROWERS

- **Federal Direct Loan Adjustments.** Most undergraduate students enroll on a full-time basis (a minimum of 12 credit hours per semester), which is necessary to qualify for Berry scholarships and grants. However, there are occasions in which students register for fewer than the required full-time credits or withdraw from coursework that reduces their enrollment below full-time status. In such cases, when a student enrolls in less than 12 credit hours or withdraws coursework resulting in less than full-time status, the annual loan limit will be proportionally adjusted according to the reduced enrollment during the award year.
- Complete the **Federal Loan Entrance Counseling** and **Master Promissory Note** at studentaid.gov. Look for the Entrance Counseling and Master Promissory Note links. The Federal Loan Entrance Counseling and Master Promissory Note are two informative documents (mandatory for borrowers to complete) that provide awareness about the loans' terms and conditions and the borrower's rights and responsibilities.
- Once you decide whether you want to borrow your Federal Direct Loan(s), formally accept or decline your loan(s) offered in a "Pending" status by logging into financialaid.berry.edu. You will accept or decline your loans on an annual basis **each year** you file a FAFSA.
- At the time you graduate, take a leave of absence, withdraw, or cease to be enrolled in at least 6 credit hours, you must complete **Exit Counseling** at studentaid.gov.
- **Repayment of both Federal Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans begins six months after you graduate or cease to be enrolled at least half-time.**



FERPA

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

When a student reaches the age of 18 or begins attending college at any age, FERPA rights transfer from the parent to the student.

Students must give the college permission to speak to **ANYONE INCLUDING THE PARENTS** about their financial aid once they are enrolled.

Students can grant or update FERPA permissions by completing the Release of Information Form available in the student tab of VikingWeb, under the Security section.

How to Maintain Eligibility and Renew Financial Aid

- Berry Scholarships and grants renew by maintaining a 2.0 Berry GPA.
- The FAFSA must be submitted each year to be considered for financial aid. The application opens on October 1st at studentaid.gov
- Georgia residents receiving state aid must maintain a GAfutures HOPE-calculated GPA of 3.0, or 3.3 for Zell Miller Scholarship recipients. GAfutures reviews scholarship eligibility at 30, 60, and 90 attempted hours, as well as at the end of each spring term. For additional information, visit gafutures.org.
- Under all circumstances, students must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress, or SAP. Visit catalog.berry.edu for the full SAP policy and how to appeal SAP suspension of financial aid.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Additional Loan Options:

- Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS)
 - Up to \$20,000 per year per dependent student, and
 - Up to \$65,000 total (aggregate) per dependent student through the Parent PLUS loan program.
 - 2025-26 PLUS Interest Rate: 8.94% and Disbursement Fees: 4.228%
 - Must complete Counseling and MPN
- Private loans can be an option for families.
 - Please visit the resources available at <https://www.berry.edu/admission/scholarships-and-aid/loans>

Veteran Benefits Questions:

- Certifying Questions : registrar@berry.edu
- Financial Aid : financialaid@berry.edu

Frequently Asked Questions:

- Where do we send outside scholarship checks?

Berry College
ATTN: Cashier's Office
P O BOX 490129
Mount Berry, Georgia
30149-0129

Include student's full name and ID number.



Tuition & Fees Activity

- **Step 1:** student must grant you access in order for you to view their account
- Visit:
mycollegepaymentplan.com/berry





Payment Plan & Billing

[View Details](#)

Current Balance
\$7,532.55 [Transaction Details](#)

[Make a Payment](#)

[View Current Bill](#)

AS OF FALL 2026
Current Charges

AMOUNT DUE
\$7,532.55

[Set up a Payment Plan](#)

Fall Payment Deadline

❖ Fall Semester

- ❖ Payment in Full – **July 10th**
- ❖ Payment Plan – set up by **July 3rd**, first payment deducted **July 10th** (4 or 5 month installment)

IMPORTANT:

July 3rd payment plan deadline!!

Payment Options

- **Online** (payments in full or payment plans)
 - Nelnet Campus Commerce –
mycollegepaymentplan.com/berry
 - 4 or 5 installment payment plan - \$55 enrollment fee
 - Credit card (fee) or checking/savings account
- **By Mail** (payment in full)
 - Attn: Cashier's Office, PO Box 490129, Mount Berry, GA 30149
- **In Person** (payment in full)
 - Cashier's Office – Krannert Center – debit card, check, and cash



Are you ready for college?



Nearly 7 million college students were **diagnosed with anxiety** by a healthcare professional in 2023.



64% of students reporting concussions **say it caused a delay** in graduating.



The flu seriously affected **2.5 MILLION** college students in 2023.



GradGuard's **Tuition Insurance** can help students and parents avoid a financial loss due to a covered leave of absence from school.

gradguard.com/tuition



Numbers based on American College Health Assoc. Spring 2023 Survey
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GradGuard's Tuition Insurance

can reimburse tuition, room, board, and other eligible fees if a student withdraws at any time during the covered term for a covered reason such as:



Serious Injury or Illness

Such as mono, concussions or severe head injuries



Chronic Illness

Such as diabetes or an auto-immune disorder



Mental Health Conditions

Like depression, anxiety, suicide/attempted suicide

gradguard.com/tuition

Want to learn more about the benefits?



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Dining Services

- All new incoming residential freshmen are assigned the unlimited meal plan:
 - Unlimited entries into the dining hall per day
 - \$150 in flex bucks
- **berry.campusdish.com**
- Berry ID Card is used for access to the meal plan



Shipyard - Campus Store

- Purchase Vikings gear, class supplies, and misc gifts
- Pick up books ordered through e-Campus:

berry.ecampus.com

WELCOME TO YOUR OFFICIAL ONLINE BOOKSTORE

Why Buy from Books by eCampus? We make textbooks...

1 | **FAST**

Shop by course and view all of your required materials in one place. Enjoy **FREE** shipping on all orders over \$35!

2 | **EASY**

Eligible students can apply book vouchers to their order at checkout!

3 | **AFFORDABLE**

Save up to 80%! We competitively price our textbooks. Buy new, used, rental, eBook, and Marketplace! Plus, you have 30 days from the start of classes to return.

Mail Services

- Each student is issued a Berry PO Box number
- Located in the Krannert Center
- Regular mail and packages are delivered here
- **Amazon Lockers** – available for Amazon deliveries and returns
- Lockers Name: **AVELLINO** Zip code = **30149**



Thank you!

Financial Aid

financialaid@berry.edu

706-236-1714

Student Financial Services

sfs@berry.edu

706-236-2252



