



Financial Aid Policy

Policy Number:	01082012
Effective date:	August 1, 2012
Last reviewed date:	January 2025
Owner:	Senior Director for Student Processing
Summary:	This policy describes University of the People's financial aid options.

Policy Statement

The purpose of this policy is to describe the financial aid options available to University of the People ("UoPeople", the "University") admittees and students, and ensure that best efforts are made to provide financial support so that the inability of an applicant or student to pay the University's application and/or Assessment fees do not serve as a barrier to the attainment of a university education. This policy should be read in conjunction with the University's Payments Policy and the University catalog, where relevant.

University Fees and Financial Aid Options

University of the People is a tuition-free, non-profit institution. Applicants and students are asked, however, to pay modest application and Assessment fees. These fees cover the institution's cost of delivering its educational services.

I. Application Fees and Grants

- a. Applicants are required to pay an Application Processing Fee. Current pricing can be found in the University catalog. Applicants who cannot afford the cost of the Application Fee due to financial hardship may apply to the University and request a grant. Applicants may contact their Admissions Advisor to request a University Grant Request that will be considered by the Financial Aid Office.

II. Assessment Fees, Foundations Grants, and Scholarships

- a. Assessment fees are required payments for each course at the University. Current details can be found in the current University catalog. Students who are required to repeat courses incur added assessment fees for each additional course taken.
- b. Students who are not able to pay part or the entire Exam Processing Fee may apply for Foundations grants and/or scholarship.
- c. **Foundations Grants Guidelines**
 - i. Any individual who qualifies for admission to study at UoPeople and is unable to pay the



Assessment Fees for foundations courses is eligible to request a Foundations grant, which is funded by UoPeople.

- ii. To apply for a Foundations Grant, students must first complete their application and be admitted to UoPeople. Applicants request for Foundations Grants on the Applicant portal.
- iii. Foundations Grants cover fully two (2) Foundations courses, and up to one (1) retake of each course (a total of two (2) attempts per course). Applicants approved for a Foundation Grant may take other courses during Foundations at their own expense.
- iv. Students must be studying in a Foundations program for a bachelor's or associate's degree and have not earned a previous university degree to be eligible for a Foundation Grant.
- v. Eligibility or approval for a Foundations Grant does not guarantee approval for further Financial Aid.
- vi. A student who is unenrolled from the University relinquishes all claims to their Foundations Grants. UoPeople has no obligation to save funds for a particular student.
- vii. UoPeople reserves the right to set the eligibility for the Foundations Grants and may change it at any time.

d. Scholarship Guidelines

- i. Any Degree Seeking Student who at UoPeople and is unable to pay the Assessment Fees is eligible to request a scholarship.
- ii. To apply for a UoPeople scholarship, students must first complete Foundations and successfully become a Degree Seeking students. Applications for scholarships are accepted on the Student Portal.
- iii. Scholarship applicants are advised to review the descriptions and limitations of any available scholarships before applying; some of the scholarships are awarded on an annual basis and renewal to support additional years of study is subject to availability of funds.
- iv. Scholarship requests are reviewed by the Financial Aid Office in accordance with this policy.
- v. Partial or full scholarships may be requested and/or granted.
- vi. More than one scholarship may be assigned to an individual student.
- vii. A student who is unenrolled from the University relinquishes all claims to their scholarship. UoPeople has no obligation to save scholarship funds for any student.
- viii. Scholarships are awarded on a yearly basis, and renewal is based on meeting academic



and activity requirements.

- ix. Scholarship funds may not cover retake courses or courses repeated due to failures.
- e. There are two scholarship options for UoPeople applicants and students:
 - i. Dedicated Scholarships – These are scholarships funded by donors and UoPeople partners.
 - 1. Eligibility for dedicated scholarships is set by the donor criteria. More information can be found on UoPeople’s website at:
<https://www.uopeople.edu/tuition-free/our-scholarships>
 - ii. UoPeople Scholarship Fund – This scholarship is funded by UoPeople to assist students in need of Financial Aid, but who do not qualify for the current dedicated scholarships.
 - 1. Students must be studying for a bachelor's or associate’s degree and have not earned a previous university degree to be eligible for the UoPeople scholarship fund. They must also maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress and be active students.
 - 2. UoPeople reserves the right to set the eligibility for the UoPeople Scholarship Fund and may change it at any time.