

## Cost of Attendance Increase for Computer Purchase

The Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act that was signed into law on October 7, 1998 allows for the inclusion of documented computer costs in the personal allowance for a student's cost of attendance.

**Computer Policy:** Students may request the total cost of attendance be increased for the purchase of a computer and needed peripherals. The Office of Scholarships and Student Aid allows a cost of attendance increase for one computer purchase as an undergraduate and/or one computer purchase as a graduate or professional student. The computer must be purchased on or after **June 1** for the fall semester or on or after **January 1** for the spring semester. The completed computer purchase form must be submitted during the academic year in which the computer was purchased and by the final day of the semester which it was purchased.

**Amount:** The cost of attendance can be increased up to \$2,000.

**Educational technology permitted under this policy (you may purchase one of each item):**

- Laptop Computer and Case (and optional extended warranty)
- Desktop Computer (and optional extended warranty)
- Tablet Computer and Case (and optional extended warranty)
- External Hard Drive
- External Monitor
- Keyboard and Mouse
- Printer/Scanner
- USB cable
- Headphones

The following are examples of items that **cannot be included** in the cost of attendance increase:

- iPods
- digital cameras
- connecting cables for non-covered hardware
- spare batteries
- fax machines
- ink cartridges
- camcorders
- reams of paper

**Application Process:** The student must initiate the process to include computer costs in the cost of attendance by completing the [Cost of Attendance Increase for Computer Purchase Form](#). Costs will only be allowed if they are supported by a purchase receipt (no estimates). The computer must have been already purchased and paid in full. Please

upload a copy of a receipt showing your name, the computer purchased, and amount paid. The maximum amount to be added to the cost of attendance is \$2,000.

**Increasing Your Financial Aid to Purchase a Computer:** If you have additional student loan eligibility, you may request your loans be increased. There are federal annual and aggregate loan limits, increases to student loans are spread out over two semesters for the academic year. For example, if you purchased a \$2,000 computer for the fall semester, if you are eligible for a loan increase \$1,000 will be awarded for the fall and \$1,000 awarded for the spring. If you are not eligible to have your student loans (Stafford or Graduate Plus) increased due to loan limits, if you are a dependent student your parent may request to apply for or increase the PLUS loan. We strongly encourage you to speak with a financial aid representative before purchasing a computer.