

Federal Work Study Overview

Fall 2023-Spring 2024





Overview of FWS

NEED BASED EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Funded by Federal Government

YOU MUST WORK TO EARN THE FUNDS

- No funds are given up front to your student bill
- Earned through employment with FWS employers
- Bi-Weekly paychecks given directly to students
- FWS earnings can be spent on educational and personal expenses.



Benefits of FWS

STUDENT BENEFITS

- Provides jobs that offer flexibility
- Fosters professional development
- Offers networking opportunities
- Builds leadership
- Provides funds for daily expenses

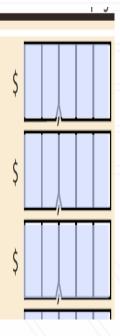


Student Benefits

FWS Earnings do not count against your financial need for the next academic year!



- a. Education credits (American Opportunity, Hope or Lifetime Learning tax credits) from IRS Form 1040—line 49 or 1040A—line 31.
- b. Child support paid because of divorce or separation or as a result of a legal requirement. **Don't include** support for children in your household, as reported in question 93.
- c. Taxable earnings from need-based employment programs, such as Federal Work-Study and need-based employment portions of fellowships and assistantships.





FWS Application & Award Process

- ✓ Complete FAFSA and submit by January 1st annually
 - FWS Funds are limited. Not all eligible students will receive FWS, especially if FAFSA is received late
- ✓ Indicate interest in FWS on the FAFSA
- ✓ Must demonstrate financial need to be awarded
 - No Guarantee that you will be eligible for FWS in the future if you receive FWS one year.
- Must accept FWS offer on Testudo



FWS Periods FALL/SPRING & SUMMER

Fall 2023- Spring 2024 Work Period:

August 20, 2023- May 18, 2024

Winter is part of Fall/Spring

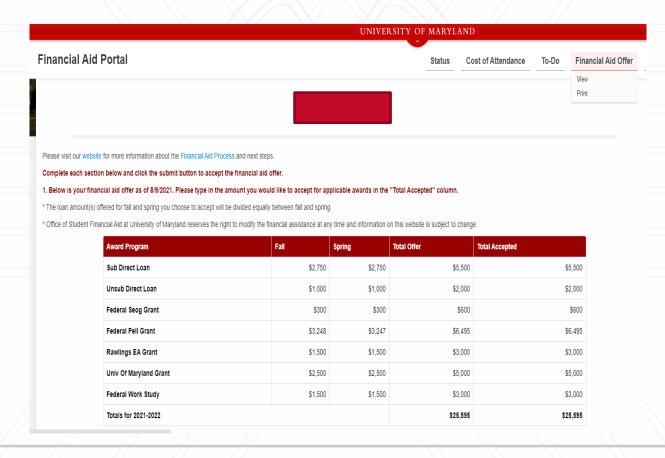
Summer requires a separate award.

- 1. There is a separate summer FWS request form
- 2. Contact fws-admin@umd.edu for more information



Accessing Your Financial Aid Award Page

Financial Aid Award Page from "Financial Aid Offer"





FWS Jobs

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- Over 90% of jobs are with on-campus employers
- On-Campus Job Categories:

Accounting, Computers/IT, General Labor, Office/Clerical, Research/Lab, Tutoring

Maryland Mentor Corps:

Earn your Federal Work Study while helping local kids! Join the Maryland Mentor Corps and work with one of our great programs



Job Listings

Job Categories/Descriptions

Accounting: Positions involving accounting/bookkeeping tasks to support accounts payable/receivable, payroll, timekeeping, auditing, or other accounting functions.

America Reads/America Counts Jobs: Positions include mentor/tutor in math or literacy to Prince George's County elementary school children.

Computers/IT: Positions related to computer operations, web design, hardware/software maintenance, and/or providing instruction on the usage of software programs.

General Labor: Positions in facilities operations/maintenance/security.

Office/Clerical: Positions involving general office work such as data entry, copying, sorting, filing, answering phones, faxing, word processing, greeting students/visitors, running errands, and/ or preparing bulk mailings.

Research/Lab: Positions requiring assistance with laboratory activities including preparing, collecting, logging, and labeling specimens as well as cleaning, sterilizing and stocking lab equipment.

Tutoring: Positions involve providing individual/group instruction to children and/or adults in 1 or more topics.



Job Search HOW TO!

Primary way to find a FWS job:

- Openings are posted on FWS website
- Search these listings and apply to employers

Secondary way to find a FWS job:

- The UM Career Fair sponsors Fall and Spring part-time job fairs
- http://careercenter.umd.edu
- Some employers also advertise by flyers, listservs and word of mouth

We offer referrals to students who request assistance

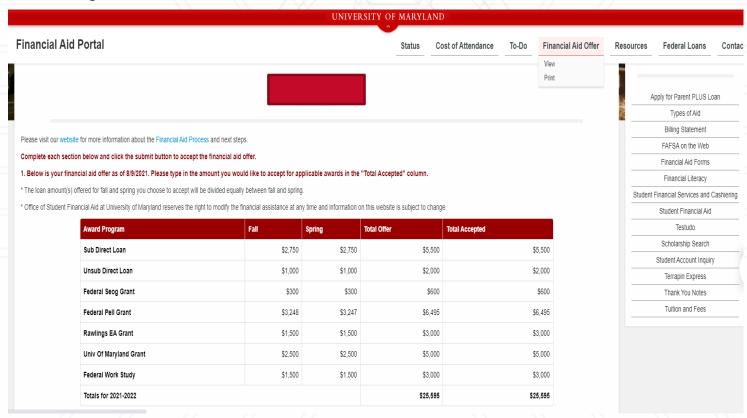


Job Search Forms:

- ✓ A print out of your Financial Aid Offer Page
- ✓ Your resume and a list of references
- ✓ Copy of your class schedule
- ✓ A Potential work schedule
- ✓ FWS Work Authorization Form
 - ✓ When hired, the FWS Work Authorization form must be completed and returned to the FWS office BEFORE you begin working. Failure to submit your work authorization may result in the cancelation of your award!

Financial Aid Award Page

Example:





Employment Guidelines

- You may only choose to work one FWS job at a time
- You may have a FWS job and a non FWS job on campus, but you can only work a maximum of 20 hrs/wk between the two
- If you switch FWS employers, you must submit a NEW FWS work authorization form for your new FWS employer
 - Should give 2 weeks notice
 - Be sure to terminate the 1st employment before starting 2nd
- If enrolled, you may work up to 20 hrs/wk
- During breaks you can up work to 40 hrs/wk, if not enrolled
- You can NEVER work more than 40 hrs/wk
- You can NEVER earn over time



Employment Payroll Processes

- You must track and record work hours online through the University Payroll Human Resources Website:
 - http://www.phr.umd.edu
- Direct Deposit is recommended but takes longer to set up, so expect your first payment to be a paycheck
- If you encounter payroll delays or problems, please contact your supervisor or your employer's payroll officer
 - If this is your first time working at UM, you will receive your first paycheck about 4 weeks after you start working
- You may only be paid for hours worked
 - Fraudulent time cards or time sheets are addressed by the UM Judicial Affairs office



FWS Earnings, How does it work?

- FWS funds DO NOT PAY towards the university bill
- You will receive bi-weekly paychecks for the hours you work
- You may not work during scheduled class times
- You must maintain at least 6 credits of enrollment
- Your employer can require a 30 minute unpaid break after 5 consecutive hours of work
- Earnings are subject to Federal & State taxes



About FWS Earnings Award Earning Limits

- Your FWS Award Establishes the MAXIMUM earnings per award period
- Earnings per semester do NOT matter as long as total Fall/Spring earnings don't exceed your Fall/Spring award funds
- FWS program office will send notifications of your award status:

You will receive an email when you have earned over 65%, 80% and 100% of your award

 Be aware that these e-mails reflect earnings that are one pay period behind



Monitor Student Earning Tools:

3 tools to monitor your award available on the FWS Website: https://financialaid.umd.edu

'How Many Hours Can I Work?'

To help figure out how many hours you can work per week to earn award

To help figure out the maximum hours you can work so that you can continue to earn FWS award through the year

'How Much Do I Have Left?'

To help calculate how much you've earned

To help calculate your last day of work

'FWS Award Payment Tracking' Worksheet

To help track your total payment amount in the award year To help track your remaining funds after each pay period



FWS Appeals Overview

FWS Appeals allow students to:

- Ask for a new FWS award
- Ask for an increase after earning at least 50% of their FWS award

If you run out of FWS funds:

- Your FWS employment must be terminated
 - or -
- Your employer must start paying you from their own department funds



Student Responsibilities Professional Development

Know your employers' job expectations and office culture

- Do not study while at work
- Dress appropriately
- Adhere to your selected schedule
 - Notify your employer of changes in schedule or if you will be late

Be aware of your work performance

- Be open to learning and taking on new challenges
- Be reliable and productive
- Communicate your work progress and ask questions
- Form relationships with your supervisor and other staff for networking opportunities
- Utilize your strengths and build upon your weaknesses



FWS Handbook

- ✓ Details all FWS policies and procedures
- ✓ Contains pay wage guide

https://financialaid.umd.edu/types-aidfederal-aid/fws-jobs



FWS Contact Information

Campus Location:

Ground Floor Mitchell Building Front Counter

Email:

•fws-admin@umd.edu

Mail:

•0115 Mitchell Building7999 Regents DriveCollege Park, MD 20742

Phone:

- •(301) 314-8377
- •(301) 314-9587



