

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers - Summer Financial Aid – Summer Student Tuition Assistance (STA)

Is there financial aid available for the summer? Yes, there are two options available for financial aid. The first option is to apply for Summer Student Tuition Assistance (STA). STA is a 20% discount towards summer tuition. This option does not affect the 8 semesters of eligibility. The other option is to use a "prorated" semester of your eligible RPI aid if you will be taking 6 or more credits. The aid office typically advises students not to use their RPI aid unless replacing a full COOP or future semester with summer classes. Students have 8 semesters of RPI aid eligibility, and if a student is considering this option they should discuss with their financial adviser if it would be to their benefit. Federal Financial Aid is awarded for students graduating at the end of summer or in the fall.

What paperwork do I need to submit? If you are interested in applying for financial aid you must file the 2010-11 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA - www.fafsa.ed.gov) as well as the 2010 Rensselaer Summer Financial Aid Application [Summer Financial Aid Application Form](#). Please note, if the federal processor selects your FAFSA for verification you will be required to submit additional documents, in which case you will be notified by the Financial Aid Office.

Who is eligible for summer aid? Students must be an undergraduate, and you must have financial need, as demonstrated by the FAFSA analysis to receive STA. If a student wishes to use Rensselaer Scholarship eligibility instead of STA he/she must take at least 6 credits.

What is the timeline for notification of summer aid? There is no set date for when Summer@Rensselaer students receive notification. It is done on a rolling basis. The sooner you meet with a financial advisor and file the forms, the sooner you will be notified. The 10-11 FAFSA is available after January 1st.

How much aid is available to students in the summer? If a student uses a semester of their aid eligibility, their financial aid will be prorated for their summer course load. If a student uses STA, they will receive a 20% discount towards their tuition costs for the summer.

Is the aid per student or per course I register for? The aid is determined by the amount of courses you are taking, as well as meeting the eligibility requirements stated above.

Should I register for a course first or apply for aid? You must be registered for summer courses before your aid award will be mailed. However, you can meet with your financial aid counselor to discuss the amount of aid you may receive, assuming you have already filed the FAFSA.

Is there a deadline to apply for the summer aid? There is no set deadline, however you must apply before the end of the summer. The sooner you apply the sooner your award may be calculated. Please note that your summer bill is due the end of May, so your aid should be in place at that time or you will be expected to pay the balance yourself.

Who can I talk to if I have any questions? If you are considering applying for either type of summer aid discussed above, meeting with your financial adviser is the best way to start! They will be able to discuss all of your options with you. You can contact the financial aid office at (518) 276-6813 to set up an appointment.