

UC Berkeley Financial Assistance for International Students

As a public institution, UC Berkeley is primarily funded by U.S. and California tax payers. Unfortunately, this means that much, *but not all*, institutional aid is limited to U.S. citizens and California residents. Listed below are sources of UC Berkeley aid to which international students may apply. The following list is non-exhaustive and if information has changed, please contact Berkeley International Office at InternationalOffice@berkeley.edu

The Berkeley International Office (BIO) administers limited financial assistance for international students. Please see [Need-Based Awards Sponsored by BIO](#) for complete information.

NEWLY ADMITTED STUDENTS

[EducationUSA Advising Centers](#) located in countries all over the world help students with questions about studying in the U.S. and operate libraries of resources. Their website also maintains resources on planning your budget and finances your studies.

Undergraduate: All students who apply to UC Berkeley are automatically considered for certain scholarships. This means that there is no separate application process and is *by invitation only*.

[Cal Alumni Association:](#) Alumni Scholarships awards nearly \$2 million annually to undergraduate students at UC Berkeley. Scholarships are available to incoming freshmen & transfers as well as current Cal students.

Graduate: Financial assistance for graduate students is common and students should contact the Graduate Division and their department for possible financial assistance. When applying for admission, students should complete the appropriate section of the Graduate Application for Admission and Fellowships to be considered for University Graduate Fellowships, Departmental Block Grant Fellowships, and Diversity Fellowships. For a complete overview: [Financial Support for Graduate Students](#)

Note: The [Berkeley Law School](#) and the [Haas School of Business](#) have their own financial aid offices.

CURRENT STUDENTS (listed in alphabetical order)

[Berkeley International Clubs](#) are formed by Cal Alumni all around the world and aim to connect Berkeley alumni, students, faculty, parents and friends with each other. There are clubs located in many countries and regions of the world. Students may attempt to contact and network with members in their home countries for funding resources.

[Cal Alumni Association](#) (**Undergraduates only**) awards nearly \$2 million annually to undergraduate students at UC Berkeley. Scholarships are available to incoming freshmen & transfers as well as current Cal students.

[Cal Student Central](#) is a central location where students can ask questions and take care of key university business all in one place. In order to assist students with paying tuition & fees and becoming officially registered at the University, Cal Student Central offers several short-term interest-free loans.

Deferred Payment Plan (DPP) Enrolling in the Deferred Payment Plan allows for the fall and spring semester registration fees to be paid in five monthly installments of 20% each.

Emergency Loans are interest-free and available to undergraduate and graduate students usually the week before the semester starts until the last day of the semester.

- Living Expense Loans are available to help with short-term financial difficulties such as paying for rent, books, or travel.
- CoPayable Loans for Fees are available to help students become registered by making the minimum payment toward registration fees.

[College and Department Funds](#) are given primarily to **Graduate** students, however, **Undergraduate** students may wish to inquire with their major advisors or faculty members for any funding available in the form of research opportunities or grants. **Graduate students** should refer to their department and to the [Graduate Fellowship Office](#).

[Financial Aid & Scholarships Office](#) is unfortunately unable to award financial assistance to international students, but it does host some important resources including the Office of Prizes and Honors (see below) and Scholarship Connection, a scholarship database as well as tips for searching and applying for aid (see more information on our scholarships page).

[Graduate Fellowship Office](#) handles over 600 fellowship funds, each with unique criteria and terms for awarding. Approximately two-thirds of the graduate student population at UCB receives awards. *Note: The [Berkeley Law School](#) and the [Haas School of Business](#) have their own financial aid offices.*

[International House Room & Board Assistance](#) offers some assistance to help meet the cost of room and board at International House. Financial aid is available to graduate and upper-division international students (F1 or J1).

[Study Abroad Office](#) offers a variety of merit- and need-based study abroad awards are available to help fund summer or semester abroad programs. Explore the different sources by clicking on the scholarship listings. *NOTE: some may be limited to U.S. Citizens, but many are open to all students.*

[Office of Prizes and Honors](#) administers two types of award programs:

The **Prizes Program** at UC Berkeley is an important forum for rewarding creative expression and scholarly achievement by Cal's finest students. Winners receive both recognition and a cash prize. Prizes are open to any major and encompass categories from art, film, photography, philosophy, poetry, political science, and many more.

Honors at UC Berkeley are conferred upon qualified **undergraduate** students for academic achievement or outstanding service. These awards are by invitation only and require no application until the student is contacted.

[University Library](#) hosts a number of prizes and research fellowships.

[The Charlene Conrad Liebau Library Prize for Undergraduate Research](#) awards up to six annual prizes as part of for the best lower-division (\$750) and upper-division (\$1000) papers from courses taught in departments across the campus. Applications are typically accepted from December until April of every year.

[The Bancroft Library](#) awards various **Graduate** fellowships and prizes to students in a number of research fields.

For more information & resources about
UCB Aid, External (non-UCB) sources and BIO Aid, go to:
internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/aid