

2026-2027 Guide to Financial Aid

Claremont McKenna College adheres to core principles when packaging generous need-based financial aid. Our policies reinforce our belief that all qualified students should be able to attend CMC regardless of financial circumstances.



100%

Need-blind for U.S. citizens and eligible non-citizens

100%

Of CMC-determined financial need is met

48%

Of CMC students receive financial aid

Up to **\$5,000**

for each eligible rising sophomore on financial aid to use toward a summer internship or experience



How Aid Works



Cost of Attendance

Tuition, fees, housing, food, and estimated personal expenses



Family Contribution

Amount that you and your family can expect to contribute (Calculated by CMC based on information in student's financial aid application)



Your Financial Need

Scholarships, grants, work study, and/or loans

Estimate Your Aid



Scan the QR code to use our Net Price Calculator.



Cost of Attendance (2025-2026)

Tuition	\$71,700
Student Activity Fee (ASCMC Fee)	\$420
Orientation (First-Year Students Only)	\$500
Housing (Single/Double)	\$11,920
Food (19-Meals/Week, \$200 Flex Plan/Semester)	\$10,270
Total Direct Costs	\$94,810
Estimated Indirect Costs (Books, Transportation, and Miscellaneous)	\$2,700
Total Direct and Indirect Costs	\$97,510



TIMELINE

October 2025	November 2025	January 2026	February 2026	March 2026
- Create a student and parent Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at studentaid.gov. Complete the FAFSA application beginning October 1. CMC's federal school code is 001170. - Complete CSS Profile at https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org beginning October 1. CMC's CSS school code is 4054.	Early Decision I applicants must submit both the FAFSA and CSS Profile by November 8.	Early Decision II and Regular Decision applicants must submit both the FAFSA and CSS Profile by January 17.	Fall transfer applicants must submit both the FAFSA and CSS Profile by February 22.	California residents must submit the Cal Grant GPA verification form by March 2.

How to Apply for Institutional Aid Consideration

Complete the College Board's CSS Profile application and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by your deadline (see timeline above). Submit 2024 federal income tax information and other requested documents to the College Board's document imaging service (IDOC) at **idoc.collegeboard.org**.

Domestic students must reapply for financial aid each year as changes to direct costs and family financial circumstances can affect eligibility. CMC strives to maintain student award levels year-to-year while working within federal, state, and institutional policies and regulations.

Academic Scholarships

The Office of Admission awards a limited number of academic scholarships and funded research opportunities through the CMC Scholar Communities Program (nine individual experiential learning communities created to support students in a variety of disciplines and fields). For more information about the CMC Scholar Communities, visit **cmc.edu/admission/scholarships**.

Scholarships received from an outside agency or organization are incorporated into meeting the need of the student, and adjustments to existing aid may be made.

Student Loans

Students are typically packaged with a modest amount of federal and/or institutional student loans to meet their demonstrated financial need annually (see recent student debt information below). Federal Direct Loans are available to students regardless of income.

Student Employment

Student Employment, funded by both the federal government and CMC, enables students to earn part of their financial aid award through part-time employment. It provides all students, regardless of financial need, an opportunity to gain work experience.

CMC Student Debt for 2024-2025 Academic Year Graduates

Number of students who started as first-time postsecondary students and received a bachelor's degree between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025 = 345	Graduates who borrowed loans at any time while enrolled at CMC	Percent of graduates who borrowed loans	Average cumulative principal per borrower	Total principal borrowed
Graduates who borrowed through the Federal Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized, Institutional, State, and Private Loan Programs	119	34%	\$27,023	\$3,215,703
Graduates who borrowed a Federal Direct Subsidized and/or Unsubsidized Loan at any time	84	24%	\$12,709	\$1,067,574
Graduates who borrowed institutional loans	92	27%	\$10,612	\$976,270
Graduates who borrowed state loans	0	0%	\$0	\$0
Graduates who borrowed private alternative loans from a bank or a lender	15	4%	\$78,124	\$1,171,859