

Financial Aid Cost of Attendance (COA)

The **Financial Aid Cost of Attendance (COA)** is the estimated average expense of completing an academic year at Rasmussen University, which typically spans nine months, divided into three quarters. Even if you do not receive financial aid, the COA can help you estimate your expenses. The COA determines financial need and the amount of financial aid, which could include but is not limited to grants, scholarships, loans, and work-study opportunities, that can be offered to a student. It only includes costs for the individual student. The Student Financial Aid Office may adjust the COA on a case-by-case basis to address unique circumstances.

The actual charges for tuition and fees, known as **Direct Costs**, will differ from what is reflected in the financial aid COA because the COA is based on estimated averages. **Indirect Costs** are external expenses that students may incur during the academic year as part of their educational experience. These costs are **not billed to the student account**, but they are included in the Financial Aid COA.

COA figures are established through student surveys and other research and may include the components below:

- Tuition and Fees (*based upon projected enrollment*)
- Books, Course Materials, Supplies, and Equipment
- Living Expenses
- Personal Expenses
- Transportation
- Dependent Care Costs (*contact the financial aid office for additional information*)
- Professional Licensure Costs (*contact the financial aid office for additional information*)

The COA components shown below are for nine months and full-time (8+ credits per quarter) and part-time (4 – 7 credits per quarter). Students attending less than full-time are eligible for financial aid; however, the COA and maximum awards may be adjusted for attending less than full-time and/or less than an Academic Year.

EXAMPLE of 2026-27 Full-Time Graduate Financial Aid Cost of Attendance (COA)

Master of Science in Nursing/Nursing Post Graduate Certificate		
Average Direct Costs	Living with Parent(s)	Not Living with Parent(s)
Tuition	\$7,830	\$7,830
Fees	\$1,200	\$1,200
Books, course materials, supplies, and equipment	\$450	\$450
Administrative Fee ¹	\$125	\$125
TOTAL Average Direct Costs²	\$9,605	\$9,605
Estimated Indirect Costs		
Living Expenses ³	\$5,454	\$10,863
Personal Costs	\$3,411	\$3,411
Transportation	\$4,995	\$4,995
TOTAL Estimated Indirect Costs⁴	\$13,860	\$19,269
Total Estimated COA	\$23,465	\$28,874

EXAMPLE of 2026-27 Part-Time Graduate Financial Aid Cost of Attendance (COA)

Master of Science in Nursing/Nursing Post Graduate Certificate		
Average Direct Costs	Living with parent(s)	Not Living with Parent(s)
Tuition	\$3,483	\$3,483
Fees	\$600	\$600
Books, course materials, supplies, and equipment	\$225	\$225
Administrative Fee ¹	\$125	\$125
TOTAL Average Direct Costs²	\$4,433	\$4,433
Estimated Indirect Costs		
Living Expenses ³	\$5,454	\$10,863
Personal Costs	\$3,411	\$3,411
Transportation	\$4,995	\$4,995
TOTAL Estimated Indirect Costs⁴	\$13,860	\$19,269
Total Estimated COA	\$18,293	\$23,702

¹ One-time administrative fees are charged for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree programs.

² Actual tuition, fees, and book charges vary by student, credit load, and program of study. To view your actual charges, go to the Student Account Center.

³ Military students receiving Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) will have a reduced living expense due to it only including the food allowance within this component.

⁴ Actual costs vary by student, based on student choice and travel habits.