STUDENT FINANCES

All admission decisions are made without regard to students’ financial need. Every attempt is made to provide full financial assistance through federal and private educational loans, grants, work-study and scholarships. Students applying for financial aid, private law scholarships or grants based on financial need must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA [http://www.fafsa.ed.gov]) and submit it to the processor as soon as possible after admission. The priority FAFSA filing deadline is Feb. 1.

Eligible students are awarded Federal Direct Stafford/Ford Loans up to a maximum of $20,500 per year. Graduate PLUS loans are available to students when financial need exceeds Stafford loan limit. Graduate PLUS loans are federally guaranteed, but unlike Stafford loans, they have good credit requirements for borrowers. Private alternative law loan programs have interest rates and fees that vary according to the lender, the credit rating of the student and whether there is a co-signer. Both loan fees and interest rates may be higher than those of the Stafford Direct loans and there is no cap on interest rates.

Scholarships, Fellowships and Awards

A number of scholarships, fellowships and awards are given annually on a competitive basis for academic and financial considerations. All admitted first-year students are considered for scholarships, as recipients are selected by the Admissions and Financial Aid Committee after an offer of admission has been made. It is possible for scholarships to be awarded through August. Colorado Law also offers some scholarship money to second-year and third-year students each spring. These scholarships are awarded based on academic performance and other criteria, such as economic need and demonstration of assistance in advancing the diversity of the student body.