



AUWCL Financial Aid Required Reading for Merit Scholarships for JD Students

AUWCL JD Merit Scholarship Information

The AUWCL Office of Admissions (JD) considers all applicants for merit scholarships. Merit scholarships are primarily determined by applicant academic indicators (LSAT or GRE and undergraduate GPA). Admitted students will be notified directly by their office if at any point they qualify. The Public Interest Public Service (PIPS) Scholarship requires a separate application. Once a student is matriculated into the program, eligibility is not reconsidered and scholarships cannot be awarded or increased at any time, including as a result of an updated LSAT score received on or after the first day of classes.

The policies below govern the JD merit scholarship program at American University Washington College of Law. The first section, [AUWCL Merit Scholarship Policy \(pages 1-2\)](#), is applicable to JD students awarded the following scholarships: **Capital** (additional policies by program are listed on page 3), **Admissions, Dean's, Eagle, Business Law, Faculty, Judicial, Jurist, and WCL**. Students awarded the **Public Interest Public Service (PIPS) Scholarship** should refer to pages 3-4 for applicable policies.

The AUWCL Financial Aid Office reserves the right to update the policies below at any time to remain in compliance with federal regulations and/or University policy.

If offered a scholarship, in addition to paying the seat deposit with the AUWCL Office of Admissions, the award must be accepted in the MyAU portal upon receipt of the financial aid award notice. Notices for incoming students begin to be emailed in late March for the 1L academic year and notices for continuing students are emailed over the summer. Awards are renewed by the AUWCL Financial Aid Office for recipients meeting the requirements outlined in the policies below. Please note: PIPS scholars have additional programmatic requirements which may need to be fulfilled for continued eligibility.

AUWCL JD Merit Scholarship Policy

Institutional merit scholarships are awarded through the admissions process primarily determined by applicant academic indicators (LSAT or GRE and undergraduate GPA). Eligibility is reconsidered and scholarship may be adjusted if the program is changed prior to the first day of classes.

Should a scholarship recipient withdraw prior to completing their first fall term and be required to re-apply through admissions in order to return to AUWCL, the student's prior scholarship determination is cancelled, and eligibility is reassessed according to the scholarship criteria at the time of re-admission.

Merit scholarship recipients are required to maintain a 2.00 or above cumulative grade point average (GPA), in addition to completing at least 67% of attempted credits. Students at-risk of not meeting the academic requirements should refer to the AUWCL satisfactory academic progress (SAP) policy.

Merit scholarships, in combination with tuition-only assistance, cannot exceed AUWCL tuition and mandatory fees, and do not cover other expenses or fees such as health insurance or parking. Scholarships are only applicable to courses and requirements in furtherance of the degree.

Merit scholarships can only be used during fall and spring terms and cannot be applied during the summer term except as noted for Eagle Scholarship, Part-Time Capital and PIPS. Full-time students receive awards for a maximum of 6 fall/spring terms and part-time students for a maximum of 8 fall/spring terms.

Eagles Scholarship recipients whose awards are reduced in the fall/spring due to the scholarship amount exceeding their tuition rate may appeal to have the remaining amount applied to the following summer term only. The amount awarded will be the amount of summer tuition or the unused amount from the prior fall/spring, whichever is less. Funds cannot be received early and cannot be applied retroactively.

Merit scholarship recipients participating in the dual degree program with main campus must be enrolled in a combination of law and main campus credits in order to receive the scholarship in a particular fall/spring term. Master's degree term/year tuition costs billed at main campus rates are not eligible. Merit scholarships are not applicable to courses taken at other universities.

Formally changing JD programs (post-matriculation) does not increase your fall/spring term, aggregate, and/or annual award amount; funds cannot be received early or during the summer term. For example: a part-time JD student who formally changes to the full-time JD program retains eligibility for their annual award amount and forgoes eligibility for their final disbursement(s) as determined by graduation date; a full-time JD student who formally changes to the part-time JD program retains eligibility for their annual and aggregate award and cannot receive scholarship in their fourth year.

Changing enrollment in a particular term may result in a reduction of your merit award by actual tuition charges, as institutional aid cannot exceed tuition. Reductions cannot apply to future terms.

Early graduation results in a loss of future merit eligibility and funds cannot be received early.

Recipients are responsible for any tax implications associated with the scholarship. AUWCL makes no representations or warranty to recipients concerning the tax treatment of the scholarship, and any tax consequences to the recipients which may arise out of the scholarship shall be recipient's sole responsibility.

Merit scholarship funds are only available within 5 years after the first date of matriculation at American University Washington College of Law. Partially attended terms in which merit scholarships were received count as an entire term of eligibility.

Receipt of a partial or full disbursement of scholarship during the initial 1L term counts toward the total number of terms, if eligible upon re-admission.

Additional Policies for Capital Merit Scholarship (Full-time)

Scholarship is capped at 17 credits per fall/spring term. Mandatory student fees and any tuition charges over 17 credits are not covered by the scholarship and are the responsibility of the student. Recipients are responsible for any tuition charges after completing the JD degree requirements.

Scholarship is not available during the summer term.

Recipients are precluded from receiving other AUWCL scholarships/need-based grants/other tuition-applicable funding including but not limited to Myers Scholarship, Restricted Scholarships, and need-based financial aid grants.

Additional Policies for Capital Merit Scholarship (Part-time)

Scholarship is capped at 86 credits and is only applicable to part-time AUWCL tuition. Mandatory student fees are the responsibility of the student.

Scholarship may be utilized in a summer term to fulfill the 86 credit degree requirement in accordance with enrollment guidelines for the part-time JD program.

Recipients must appeal for their scholarship to be applied to a course overload (12 or more credits fall/spring).

Recipients are precluded from receiving other AUWCL scholarships/grants.

If approved by the AUWCL Registrar to formally change from the part-time program to the full-time program after your 1L year, the scholarship will be adjusted up to the full-time tuition during fall/spring terms and remains capped at 86 credits. Please note that students in the full-time program are not eligible to receive merit scholarships during the summer term.

Should a scholarship recipient withdraw prior to completing their first fall term and be required to re-apply through admissions in order to return to AUWCL, the student's prior scholarship determination is cancelled, and eligibility is reassessed according to the scholarship criteria at the time of re-admission.

Receipt of a partial or full disbursement of scholarship during the initial 1L term counts toward the total number of credits, if eligible upon re-admission. Re-admitted students who are eligible for Capital Scholarship (part-time) will have 76 credits of scholarship remaining.

Public Interest Public Service (PIPS) Scholarship Policy

PIPS scholars are required to maintain a 2.00 or above cumulative grade point average (GPA), in addition to completing at least 67% of attempted credits. Students at-risk of not meeting the academic requirements should refer to the AUWCL satisfactory academic progress (SAP) policy.

PIPS scholarship, in combination with outside tuition-only assistance, cannot exceed AUWCL tuition and

mandatory fees, and does not cover other expenses or fees such as health insurance or parking. The scholarship is only applied toward AUWCL tuition.

PIPS scholarship can only be used during maximum of 6 full-time fall/spring terms. The scholarship only covers tuition up to 17 credits per term and is not applicable to mandatory student fees. Tuition charges over 17 credits are not covered by the scholarship and are the responsibility of the student. Scholars are responsible for any tuition charges after completing the JD degree requirements.

PIPS scholarship is applicable up to the total cost of 3 credits per summer through AUWCL-sponsored courses, externships, or summer study abroad programs. The PIPS scholarship can apply to any course that counts towards the scholar's JD degree requirements. Each summer, the PIPS scholarship may be applied to either guaranteed summer funding or 3 credits of academic credit, but not both. The scholar is responsible for any summer tuition charges not paid by the scholarship, as well as all student fees.

PIPS scholars are expected to maintain residency at AUWCL during every fall and spring term and not apply for or utilize other study abroad programs during those terms. Courses offered at other institutions are not covered by the scholarship.

PIPS scholars are precluded from receiving other AUWCL scholarships/need-based grants/other funding including but not limited to Myers Scholarship, Restricted Scholarships, and need-based financial aid grants. The scholarship replaces all previously awarded institutional financial aid, including merit scholarships, as all institutional aid is capped at tuition.

PIPS scholars participating in the dual degree program with main campus must be enrolled in a combination of law and main campus credits in order to receive the scholarship in a particular fall/spring term. Master's degree term /year tuition costs billed at main campus rates are not eligible.

Approved changes to enrollment by the Office of Public Interest in a particular term will affect your PIPS scholarship by actual tuition charges (capped at 17 credits per fall/spring term for full-time students).

Early graduation results in a loss of future PIPS scholarship eligibility and funds cannot be received early.

If granted a leave of absence, one can petition to have their scholarship reinstated prior to the start of the term in which they return, but scholarship funds are only available within 5 years after the first date of matriculation at American University Washington College of Law. Partially attended terms in which merit scholarships were received count as an entire term of eligibility.

Should a scholarship recipient withdraw prior to completing their first fall term and be required to re-apply through admissions in order to return to AUWCL, the student's prior scholarship determination is cancelled and eligibility is reassessed according to the scholarship criteria at the time of re-admission. Receipt of a partial or full disbursement of scholarship during the initial 1L term counts toward the total number of terms, if eligible upon re-admission.