Summer Pell FAQ’s

If you still have questions about the Summer Pell Grant after reading these frequently asked questions, please [reach out to the Office of Undergraduate Financial Aid](#). We will be more than happy to answer your questions via email or schedule a videoconference.

**What is the Summer Pell Grant and why have I never heard of it?**

The Summer Pell Grant is an extension of the Federal Pell Grant program, which provides undergraduate students with need-based grants to promote access to postsecondary education.

The Summer Pell Grant program was reinstated by the U.S. Department of Education for the summer of 2018. Historically, it was common for Yale students to utilize the DSA, ISA, or intern during the summer. The Summer Pell Grant is being discussed more this summer due to the greater number of students planning to take summer courses.

**Who is eligible for a Summer Pell Grant?**

Students who received a Pell Grant during the 2019–2020 academic year are potentially eligible to receive the Summer Pell Grant. Your eligibility depends on your family’s 2019–2020 Federal Expected Family Contribution and the number of credits you decide to take.

**Who funds Summer Pell Grants?**

The U.S. Department of Education provides the funds.

**Could I be eligible for a Summer Pell Grant even if I was not eligible for a Pell Grant during the 2019–2020 year?**

No. You must be eligible for a Pell Grant during the 2019–2020 academic year to receive the Summer Pell Grant in 2020. The Department of Education utilizes your 2019–2020 Federal Expected Family Contribution in determining Pell eligibility for the 2020 summer session. Students on financial aid who do not qualify for the Summer Pell Grant may still be eligible to use the DSA for $4,000 and the YSS 50% tuition reduction for up to two courses.
How much financial support can I expect from the Summer Pell Grant?

The amount of Summer Pell Grant funding you can receive depends on your individual circumstances. Your eligibility is determined by your Federal Expected Family Contribution and the number of credits in which you enroll. To receive the grant, you need to enroll in at least 1.5 credits throughout Yale Summer Session.

Eligible students who enroll in 2 course credits during Yale Summer Session would receive a maximum Summer Pell Grant award of $1,549. Students who receive the maximum Summer Pell Grant and take only two courses could potentially have an account credit after applying DSA and YSS financial assistance.

If you decide to pursue more than 2 credits, the Summer Pell Grant funding might increase slightly; however, the amount of funding from the DSA is capped at $4,000 and the YSS Tuition reduction is capped at 2 courses. The maximum a student can get from Summer Pell Grant for taking 4 credits is $3,097.

When would the Summer Pell Grant funds be administered?
(Note that tuition is due May 22nd for YSS Session A.)

YSS and the Office of Undergraduate Financial Aid are working hard to ensure that students receive funding in a timely manner, especially in light of the challenges presented by the COVID-19 crisis. If you qualify for Summer Pell, UFA will place a temporary credit (or “memo”) on your student account. This will let YSS and the Bursar’s Office know that we expect this funding to pay soon and you will not be required to cover the amount of your temporary credit as long as you continue to meet enrollment and other eligibility requirements. In some cases, federal rules will not allow us to pay summer Pell funds to your account until the start of Summer Session B.

How can the Summer Pell Grant funds be used? Will I get a refund if there are leftover funds after the Summer Pell Grant, DSA, and 50% YSS tuition discounts?

The Summer Pell Grant funds will first be used to cover any billed expenses on your student account. In many cases, students may receive a refund. Whether you receive a refund will depend on multiple factors, such as your expected family contribution, number of Summer Session courses you are enrolled in, and whether there is an existing balance on your student account. If there is a credit on your student account after all billed charges are paid, you may request a refund through SIS as you would during the Fall or Spring semester.
Do we need to apply or reach out to the Financial Aid Office to receive the Summer Pell Grant?

It is not necessary to reach out to the Office of Undergraduate Financial Aid to receive a Summer Pell Grant. However, if you have questions about your eligibility or the amount of Pell Grant that you may qualify for, we will gladly answer your inquiries.

I am on Financial Aid but do not qualify for the Summer Pell Grant, what can I do?

All students receiving financial aid will still be eligible for the DSA of $4,000 (as long as you meet other DSA requirements and have not ever received a DSA) and the YSS Financial Assistance of 50% tuition discount for up to two credits. If you are currently enrolled in Yale College and plan to register for at least two course credits through Yale Summer Session, you may also apply for federal and private loans. Students interested in applying for a summer loan should contact the Financial Aid Office.

Does using the Summer Pell Grant this summer reduce the amount of Pell Grant you can receive during the school year?

No. Receiving a Summer Pell Grant will not impact eligibility for next year’s Pell Grant.

Can the Summer Pell Grant be used for 1 credit with YSS?

No. To be eligible for the Summer Pell Grant you must enroll in at least 1.5 credits.

Compared to other summers, is the Summer Pell Grant different this summer because of COVID-19?

No, the Summer Pell Grant program has been unaltered by COVID-19. However, there has been a heightened interest in the Summer Pell Grant due to the impact of COVID-19 on alternative summer options.