

# State Government

Many student financial aid programs in Alabama are administered by state agencies. This chapter provides information on state-administered programs.

**State Government**

**Federal Government**

**Public Universities**

**Private Colleges,  
Universities, and  
Seminaries**

**Two-Year  
Public Colleges**

**Alabama Companies  
and Organizations**

## Alabama Board of Nursing



**Contact:** Financial aid office or the Alabama Board of Nursing, RSA Plaza, Suite 250, 770 Washington Ave., Montgomery AL 36104; 334.293.5257 or 800.656.5201; [abn@abn.alabama.gov](mailto:abn@abn.alabama.gov); [www.abn.alabama.gov/alabama-nursing-resource-center/grad-students/#tab-scholarships](http://www.abn.alabama.gov/alabama-nursing-resource-center/grad-students/#tab-scholarships)

### Conversion scholarships/loans

#### Nursing Scholarship

**Eligibility:** The applicant must:

- have been a resident of Alabama for at least 1 year preceding application.
- provide 2 proofs of residency that include applicant's name and physical Alabama address (a P.O. box number is not acceptable).
- have an active, unencumbered Alabama RN license.
- be a person of good character.
- submit a complete electronic application on or before the deadline date.
- provide proof of admission to a graduate nursing program.
- agree to teach nursing full time at an Alabama college or university or practice in a nursing position in Alabama for at least 2 years immediately after graduation.

Recipients who do not perform the required service must repay the scholarship.

**Award:** Varies

**Deadline:** Sept. 7

### Loan repayment programs

#### Advanced Practice Nursing Loan Repayment Program

**Eligibility:** The applicant must:

- be a person of good character.
- have been a resident of Alabama for at least 1 year before applying.
- provide 1 proofs of residency that includes the applicant's name and a physical Alabama address.
- have an active, unencumbered Alabama RN license.
- have been admitted to an accredited graduate program seeking a certified registered nurse practitioner, certified nurse midwife or certified registered nurse anesthetist degree.
- remain enrolled in school full-time during the year she/he accepts the loan.
- submit a complete electronic application.
- submit with the loan application a signed attestation clearly defining all service obligations required under the program and the consequences that will ensue if those service obligations are not fulfilled.
- keep the board informed of any changes in enrollment before graduation and any changes in employment status after graduation.
- agree to work in a board-defined area of critical need for 18 months immediately following graduation.

**Award:** \$15,000 per year. If recipient does not meet the work requirement, loan must be repaid with interest.

**Deadline:** Sept. 7

## Alabama Commission on Higher Education



**Contact:** Unless otherwise noted, Alabama Commission on Higher Education, P.O. Box 302000, Montgomery, AL 36130-2000; 334.242.2273; <http://ache.edu/StudentAsst.aspx>

### Loan repayment programs

#### Alabama Math and Science Teacher Education Program

**Eligibility:** The applicant must:

- have graduated from an Alabama State Board of Education-approved in math or science at the bachelor's or master's level no earlier than spring 2018.
- hold a valid Alabama professional educator certificate endorsed in secondary math, science or both.
- be teaching math or science full time in an Alabama public school district or at a charter school approved by the Alabama Public Charter School Commission.
- be a citizen or a lawful permanent resident of the U.S.
- have been a resident of Alabama for at least 12 months before the application deadline and provide documentation proving a permanent connection to Alabama.
- have outstanding subsidized or unsubsidized federal student loans.
- submit a reimbursement form available at <https://amstep.ache.edu/>.

Preference given to teachers in public school systems where the shortage of math and science teachers, or both, is most acute.

**Award:** \$5,000 per year

## Grants

### Alabama Student Assistance Program Grant

**Eligibility:** The applicant must:

- be a financially needy Alabama resident.
- be an undergraduate at an eligible Alabama institution.
- submit the FAFSA.

**Award:** \$300–\$5,000

### Alabama Student Grant

**Eligibility:** The applicant must:

- be an Alabama resident.
- be an undergraduate student.
- be enrolled at an eligible independent Alabama college or university.

**Award:** Up to \$1,200 per year

**Contact:** Financial aid office

## Other student aid programs

### Alabama National Guard Educational Assistance Program

**Eligibility:** The applicant must:

- be at least 17 years old.
- be an Alabama resident.
- be an active member in good standing with a federally recognized unit of the Alabama National Guard.
- be enrolled in a certificate or degree program at an accredited community college or technical college in Alabama or in a degree program at an accredited college or university in Alabama.
- have completed basic training.
- maintain a cumulative 2.0 undergraduate GPA or 3.0 graduate GPA at end of each semester.
- have a FAFSA on file.
- demonstrate a financial need of at least \$100.

Based on need.

**Award:** Varies. Only 10 percent of the grant funds appropriated each year are available for graduate students.

**Number:** Limited

**Contact:** Local state education services officer or visit <http://ache.edu/StudentAsst.aspx> for link to application

### Police Officer's and Firefighter's Survivor's Educational Assistance Program

**Eligibility:** Must be the dependent or spouse of an Alabama police officer or firefighter killed or permanently disabled in the line of duty and be enrolled in an undergraduate program at an Alabama public college or university. Other criteria may apply.

**Award:** Tuition, fees, books and supplies

## Alabama Community College System



**Contact:** Alabama Community College System, 334.293.4500, [www.accs.edu](http://www.accs.edu)

## Scholarships

### Automotive Workforce Training Scholarship

**Eligibility:** The applicant must:

- be a high school student or a student in a public Alabama 2-year college.
  - be an Alabama resident.
  - have at least a 2.5 GPA.
  - major in an automotive-related field at a public Alabama community or technical college.
- In addition, the applicant must submit:
- an application.
  - an essay of no more than 500 words on why the student wants to work in Alabama's automotive industry.
  - a signed reference letter.
  - an unofficial college or high school transcript.
  - a headshot photo.

**Award:** Varies

**Number:** 50

**Contact:** Apply through <https://dreamit-doitalabama.com/aama/>

### Leadership in Child Care Scholarship

**Eligibility:** The applicant must:

- be an Alabama resident.
- be at least 19 years old.
- be employed in a licensed or exempt from licensure child care facility/setting in Alabama.
- be caring for pre-school children (birth to school age) or for school-age children (5 through 12 years) in a school-age child care program..
- have a high school diploma or GED.
- be seeking a first Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential, a certificate or degree in child development/early care and education at a designated institution.

An applicant who has a 2- or 4-year degree in a field other than child development/early care and education is eligible for a CDA scholarship only.

**Award:** Tuition and selected fees

**Number:** Varies

**Deadline:** April 1 (summer), June 1 (fall), September 1 (spring)

**Contact:** Leadership in Child Care Scholarship Program Assistant, 334.293.4552. Application can be downloaded from <https://www.accs.edu/community-college/leadership-in-childcare/>.

### Two-year College Institutional Scholarship

**Eligibility:** Must be accepted for enrollment at a 2-year public college in Alabama.

**Award:** Tuition

**Number:** Varies

**Contact:** Financial aid office

### Senior Adult Waiver

**Eligibility:** The applicant must:

- be at least 60 years old.
- attend a 2-year public college in Alabama.
- pay applicable fees.

An eligible student may register for a course only after the course has met minimum enrollment requirements and if there is space available.

**Award:** Tuition

**Number:** Varies

**Contact:** Financial aid office

## Alabama Department of Commerce



**Contact:** Alabama Department of Commerce, Workforce Development Division, P.O. Box 304103, Montgomery AL 36130-4103; 334.242.5417, <https://wioa-alabama.org/>. Visit <https://wioa-alabama.org/career-services/> to find your local Career Center.

### Other student aid programs

#### Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

**Eligibility:** Anyone at least 18 years can get services from a number of different programs through an Alabama Career Center. Youths 14–21 can receive education and employment services to prepare for the workforce. To receive services, youth must be low income and have at least 1 barrier to employment.

## Alabama Department of Labor



**Contact:** Alabama Department of Labor, 334.242.8635, [TRA@labor.alabama.gov](mailto:TRA@labor.alabama.gov), <http://labor.alabama.gov/>

### Other student aid programs

#### Trade Adjustment Assistance

**Eligibility:** The applicant must all of the following conditions:

- No suitable employment is available.
- The applicant would benefit from appropriate training.
- There is a reasonable expectation of employment following completion of training.
- Training is reasonably available

- The applicant is qualified to undertake and complete such training.
- Training is available at a reasonable cost.

**Award:** Additional unemployment compensation; Health Coverage Tax Credit; tuition, fees, supplies and tools for training worker to achieve reemployment; and wage supplement for workers age 50 and older (Reemployment Trade Adjustment Assistance).

## Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services



### Scholarships

#### Alabama Scholarship for Dependents of Blind Parents/Textbook Benefits for Dependents of Blind Parents

**Eligibility:** The applicant must:

- have been an Alabama resident for at least 5 years.
- be from a family in which the head of household is blind.
- be from a family whose family income is at or below 1.3 times the current poverty income level, as determined by federal poverty guidelines based on family size.
- begin attending an Alabama public college, university or technical college within 2 years after high school graduation but before the age of 23.

**Award:** Tuition and instructional fees (waived by college), plus textbook allowance; renewable up to 4 years

**Contact:** Coordinator of blind services, 334.293.7315 (Montgomery office) or 256.761.6825 (Talladega office)

### Other student aid programs

#### Vocational Rehabilitation

**Eligibility:** Must have a physical or mental impairment that results in a substantial barrier to employment and have a reasonable expectation that he or she can benefit from rehabilitation services in terms of becoming employed.

**Award:** Varies

**Number:** Varies

**Deadline:** Varies

**Contact:** Local Vocational Rehabilitation office or Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services, 602 South Lawrence Street, Montgomery, AL 36104; 334.293.7500 or 800.441.7607; [www.rehab.alabama.gov/](http://www.rehab.alabama.gov/)

## Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs



**Contact:** County veterans service officer or Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs, P.O. Box 1509, Montgomery, AL 36102-1509; 334.242.5077; [www.va.alabama.gov](http://www.va.alabama.gov)

### Scholarships

#### Alabama GI Dependents' Educational Benefit Program

**Eligibility:** The student must:

- be the child, stepchild, spouse or the unmarried widow(er) of an eligible veteran.
- be a current resident of Alabama at the time of application.
- attend a public Alabama college or university.
- complete a FAFSA each year the applicant is covered under the Alabama G.I. Dependent Scholarship Program.
- make satisfactory academic progress (SAP) as defined by the applicant's college.
- complete a Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)



release form for each college the applicant attends to authorize the release of personally identifiable information required to determine continued eligibility and as required for reporting.

The child or stepchild must initiate training under our program before his/her 26th birthday. In certain situations, a child or stepchild may be eligible up to the age of 30. If the applicant is a stepchild, the veteran and the stepchild's parent must have been legally married before the child's 19th birthday.

The veteran must:

- have honorably served at least 90 days of continuous active federal military service or been honorably discharged by reason of service-connected disability after serving less than 90 days of continuous active federal military service.
- meet 1 of the following criteria:
  - be rated 40 percent or more due to service-connected disabilities or have held the qualifying rating at the time of death. A veteran with less than a 40 percent rating may qualify under certain circumstances.
  - be a former prisoner of war.
  - have been declared missing in action.
  - have died as the result of a service-connected disability rating or died while on active military service in the line of duty.

In addition, the veteran must meet 1 of the 2 following requirements:

- (1) have been a bona fide permanent resident for at least 5 years immediately before the date of the application or the date of the veteran's death. This also applies to a veteran with a 100 percent permanent and total rating.
- (2) have been a permanent civilian resident for at least 1 year immediately before initial entry into federal active military service or any subsequent entry into federal active military service where a 12-month break in service occurred and 1 of the following:

- have been a current resident for at least 2 years immediately before the date of the application or date of veteran's death.
- be a current resident who was discharged from active duty within 12 months before the date of the application.
- have filed a resident Alabama income tax return for the past 10 consecutive years immediately before the date of the application.

**Award:** Varies depending on veteran's disability status

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## Alabama Indian Affairs Commission



**Contact:** Alabama Indian Affairs Commission, 771 South Lawrence Street, Suite 106, Montgomery, AL 36130; 334.240.0998; [aiac@att.net](mailto:aiac@att.net); [www.aiac.alabama.gov](http://www.aiac.alabama.gov)

### Scholarships

#### Alabama Indian Scholarship

**Eligibility:** The applicant must:

- be enrolled in a state or federally recognized tribe.
- submit a copy of the tribal roll card signed by a tribal official designated by the tribal chief.
- have been enrolled in that tribe for at least 3 years and meet other criteria if required by the tribe.
- be a resident of Alabama.
- attend an in-state school unless the program is not offered in Alabama or the program has no open slots.
- provide a transcript (if currently enrolled in an eligible college) or letter of acceptance (if not yet attending that college).
- not be receiving a Miss Indian Alabama Scholarship.

An applicant from a member of a federally recognized tribe must submit a letter from the tribal office stating that

the applicant is not eligible for tribal scholarships.

A recipient who receives an incomplete or failure or who is placed on academic probation or suspension may not receive an AIAC scholarship in the next calendar year.

**Award:** Up to \$2,000

**Number:** Varies. Each tribe may submit up to 25 applications.

**Deadline:** Usually in March

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#### Miss Indian Alabama Scholarship

**Eligibility:** Must be named Miss Indian Alabama. A contestant must:

- be a member of a state or federally recognized tribe, verified by the tribe.
- be a resident of Alabama.
- attend a school in Alabama.
- be a high school senior or college student age 17 to 23.
- be single, never married, and have no children.
- have at least a 3.0 GPA and submit a transcript.
- submit an application and a \$150 application fee.

Recipient may not apply for an Alabama Indian Scholarship until the year after the competition in which she competed.

**Award:** \$5,000

**Number:** 1

**Deadline:** September 30 to apply as contestant

## Alabama State Council on the Arts



**Contact:** Diana F. Green, AIE Program Manager, Alabama State Council on the Arts, 201 Monroe Street Montgomery, AL 36130; 334.242.4076; [diana.green@arts.alabama.gov](mailto:diana.green@arts.alabama.gov); <http://arts.alabama.gov/>

### Scholarships

#### Visual Arts Achievement Program Scholarship

**Eligibility:** Must be an Alabama high school senior and submit a digital portfolio in 1 of the following 3 options: 2-dimensional design, 3-dimensional design or drawing.

Applicants choosing 2-dimensional design must submit a total of 15 slides showing 5 works that demonstrate mastery of design, 5 works of a thematic 2-D series and 5 works that demonstrate a variety of 2-D concepts.

Applicants choosing 3-dimensional design must submit a total of 30 slides (2 views of each work) showing 5 works that demonstrate mastery of 3-D design, 5 works of a thematic 3-D series and 5 works that demonstrate a variety of 3-D concepts.

Applicants choosing drawing must submit a total of 15 slides showing 5 works that demonstrate mastery of painting or drawing concepts and composition, 5 works of a thematic drawing series and 5 works that demonstrate a variety of drawing concepts.

The digital images must be saved on CD or flash drive in a format compatible with PC or Mac. Images must be saved and labeled, in a separate folder, as JPEGs with the file size no larger than 500 KB.

All applicants must submit:

- the portfolio as individual images within a slide show in PowerPoint or Keynote.

- an official entry form (available at [www.arts.alabama.gov/programs/AIE/VAAP.aspx](http://www.arts.alabama.gov/programs/AIE/VAAP.aspx)).
- an artist's statement.
- an official copy of high school transcript.
- a copy of ACT/SAT scores.
- 2 letters of recommendation from an art instructor, teacher, counselor or principal.

**Award:** \$500. Amount increases to \$1,000 if recipient enrolls in an art program at a partnering institution.

**Number:** Up to 5

**Deadline:** Must be received by 5 p.m. on the first Monday in March

## Alabama

### State CollegeCounts

Alabama's 529 Fund

#### Treasury

**Contact:** Alabama State Treasurer's Office, 100 North Union Street, Suite 660, Montgomery, AL 36104; 334.242.7514; [alatreas@treasury.alabama.gov](mailto:alatreas@treasury.alabama.gov); [www.treasury.alabama.gov](http://www.treasury.alabama.gov)

### Scholarships

#### CollegeCounts Scholarship

**Eligibility:** The applicant must:

- be an Alabama resident.
- be a U. S. citizen.
- be a high school senior or first-time college freshman.
- have at least a 2.75 GPA.
- have a maximum 26 ACT score.
- have financial need.
- enroll in an eligible 2- or 4-year school in Alabama.

**Award:** \$4,000 (4-year school); \$2,000 (2-year school); nonrenewable

**Contact:** CollegeCounts Scholarship Program, c/o ISTS, 1321 Murfreesboro Road, Suite 800, Nashville, TN 37217; 800.309.1198; [collegecounts@applyists.com](mailto:collegecounts@applyists.com); <http://treasury.alabama.gov/collegecounts-scholarship/>

### Other student aid programs

#### CollegeCounts 529 Fund

**Description:** A tax-advantaged way to save for college costs. Alabama provides a state income tax deduction of up to \$5,000 (for single filers) or \$10,000 (for joint filers) for contributions made to Alabama's 529 college savings plan. CollegeCounts has no minimum or annual contribution requirements.

Funds can be used at most colleges, universities, trade, vocational, professional and graduate in the U.S. and at some foreign schools.

Qualified withdrawals for college are exempt from state and federal income tax and include payments for tuition, fees, room and board (if enrolled at least half-time), books, supplies and equipment required for enrollment, including computers.

**Deadline:** None

**Contact:** Alabama State Treasurer's Office, College Savings Programs, 100 North Union Street, Suite 660, Montgomery, AL 36104; 334.242.7514 or 866.529.2228; [alatreas@treasury.alabama.gov](mailto:alatreas@treasury.alabama.gov); [www.CollegeCounts529.com](http://www.CollegeCounts529.com)