



ENROLLMENT AND FINANCIAL AID

Wabash encourages its students to be broadly educated and pursue academic interests across a variety of programs. Wabash's graduation requirements specify that a student must complete one major and one minor (or two majors), a broad range of distribution requirements, and 34 credits.

As a student nears completion of his graduation requirements, issues can sometimes arise with a course not being eligible for federal financial aid. This is because according to federal regulations, only courses that count towards graduation requirements can be considered when determining aid eligibility. However, institutional financial aid from Wabash may still be applied to course completion in cases where students have remaining required credits, but do not need to be enrolled on a full-time basis. Eligibility for federal aid, including Pell Grants, SEOG Grants, and Direct Loans will be reduced if a student's *required* enrollment for the semester falls below full-time (i.e. below three credits). What follows explains some common scenarios, but please consult with the Financial Aid Office to understand how required enrollment at less than full-time status may impact your specific eligibility for financial aid.

Required Full-Time Enrollment During Final Semester: If you complete your second-to-last semester with 31 or fewer credits, you must enroll as a full-time student (minimum 3 credits) in your final semester to complete graduation requirements. As a full-time student, you will remain eligible for your full financial aid as long as you are meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress, have not already used eight (8) semesters of Wabash aid, and satisfy any scholarship-specific requirements. You may also enroll in more than three credits since you qualify for full-time student aid based on your graduation requirements.

Students entering their final semester with more than 31 credits: If you will finish your 7th Wabash semester with more than 31 credits, review your degree audit to determine if you require at least three credits to complete your remaining major, minor, and distribution requirements. If you require fewer than three such credits to graduate, your financial aid eligibility may be affected as explained above. You should review your academic record and remaining requirements with your academic advisor and then, as needed, contact the Registrar's Office (registrar@wabash.edu) with any questions about those requirements.

Part-Time Enrollment During Final Semester: Students in their final semester (not to exceed the 8th semester) and enrolled less than full time may be eligible to receive prorated amounts of their financial aid.

Example: Wally has a Wabash merit-based scholarship worth \$10,000 per semester. Wally only needs to enroll in two credits in his 8th semester at Wabash to complete his degree requirements. Two credits are $\frac{2}{3}$ the standard full-time enrollment of three credits. Therefore, Wally can receive \$6,667 ($\frac{2}{3} \times \$10,000$) during his final semester at Wabash, even though he is not enrolled full-time. Wally may also be eligible for prorated federal grants and loans, if eligible.

Elective Full-Time Enrollment During Final Semester: Students in their final semester (not to exceed the 8th semester) who still have required credits to complete, but do not *need* to be enrolled full-time, will remain eligible for their full Wabash institutional aid if enrolled on a full-time basis. However, federal grants and loans may need to be reduced and/or eliminated based on the number of courses the student *needs* in order to graduate, even if the student is otherwise enrolled full-time.

Example: Wally is completing an academic program with one major and two minors. Entering his last semester, he has earned 32 credits and needs two more credits to graduate. He needs to complete one credit in his major, one credit in one minor, and one credit in his second minor, to satisfy the requirements of all three programs. Based on this, Wally registers for three credits (full-time status). If Wally receives federal financial aid, including a Pell Grant, SEOG Grant, or Direct Loan his final-semester eligibility for this aid will be reduced to 2/3 of what he would receive as a full-time student, because he only needs **two** credits to reach 34 total credits and to satisfy the requirement of one major and one minor. If Wally receives institutional financial aid from Wabash (and has not already used eight semesters of eligibility), he will remain eligible for his full Wabash institutional aid if he enrolls full-time. **Wally should consult with the Financial Aid Office prior to the beginning of his final semester to understand how his enrollment choices affect his financial aid options.**

Certain named Wabash scholarships have separate eligibility and renewal requirements. Recipients are notified of the details of their named scholarship at the time the award is made.

Note: Eligibility for Wabash aid is based on the student's total enrollment. However, under federal and state regulations, only courses that fulfill degree requirements can be used to determine eligibility for federal and state financial aid. If a student is enrolled in fewer than 3 credits that count towards degree completion, the student's federal or state financial aid, including grants and loans, may be reduced.

Duration of Aid: Most financial aid, including scholarships, awards, grants, and student employment, is available for eight academic semesters (four complete years). If you do not graduate within eight semesters, you may receive reduced financial assistance for your 9th or future terms.

More Information: For additional information about enrollment and financial aid, consult the 2026-27 Financial Aid Handbook (<https://www.wabash.edu/admissions/docs/2026-2027-Financial-Aid-Handbook-1.pdf>). You may also contact the Financial Aid Office at **financialaid@wabash.edu** with questions about your financial aid eligibility, including whether your planned Fall and Spring schedule qualifies for full-time aid. For questions about charges, you may contact the Business Office at **studentaccounts@wabash.edu**.