

M.A. INTERPRETING STUDIES
Frequently Asked Questions
Scholarship FAQs

1. *Is there any specific financial aid for MAIS students?*
Currently, the MAIS program has federal grant funding that provides a tuition fee remission + stipend for students who have been accepted into the program and agree to the service obligation of the scholarship (tuition fee remission + stipend = scholarship).
2. *Where can I get an application for the scholarship?*
There is no application for the scholarship. When you are accepted to the program you are automatically eligible for the scholarship. If you decide to accept the scholarship, you will need to complete/sign the required forms which can be found on the WOU MAIS website.
3. *When does eligibility for the scholarship begin and end?*
You begin receiving the scholarship at the beginning of your first term and continue as long as you are in the MAIS program.
4. *Do I have to accept the scholarship?*
You do not have to accept the scholarship. Most MAIS students do want to accept the scholarship, but some do not because of the service obligation requirements. The scholarship has a “payback” obligation in which you must work in an educational setting that serves students with disabilities. The students must be between the ages of 0 and 21 and be eligible for an (IEP) Individualized Education Program in pre-K or K-12 (not a community college transition).
5. *How much is the scholarship?*
The scholarship amount is determined at the beginning of the academic year and is periodically reviewed. The tuition fee remission amount is determined based on the amount of tuition per on-line credit and a stipend amount is based on the cost of EIPA testing and a fixed travel amount to help offset travel to WOU.
6. *Does the scholarship go into my overall financial aid package?*
The Financial Aid office does take the estimated scholarship into consideration when developing your overall financial aid package. You should let the Financial Aid office know as soon as possible if you intend to accept the OSEP scholarship.
7. *When do I receive my scholarship?*
You receive tuition fee remission each of the 6 terms you are enrolled. A stipend check will be produced and handed out during your on-campus time.
8. *Can my stipend be directly deposited into my bank account?*
No, they will be handed out during your on-campus time after your paperwork has been completed.

9. *When does my tuition fee remission arrive and how do I get it?*
You will receive the tuition fee remission as a credit on your student account bill every term.
10. *What is the payback or service obligation?*
See PDP FAQ document or contact (PDPDCS) Personnel Development Program Data Collection System.
11. *Do I have to pay back the stipend and the fee remission?*
See PDP FAQ document or contact (PDPDCS) Personnel Development Program Data Collection System.
12. *Does volunteer (unpaid) work fulfill the service obligation?*
See PDP FAQ document or contact (PDPDCS) Personnel Development Program Data Collection System.
13. *What if I take the scholarship and then decide that I don't want to work in a setting that serves children between the ages of 0 and 21 who qualify for an IEP?*
See PDP FAQ document or contact (PDPDCS) Personnel Development Program Data Collection System.
14. *What happens if I leave the program?*
If you have been receiving a scholarship, you will be obligated to either fulfill the service obligation or pay the scholarship back. If you have been receiving the scholarship for at least one academic year, you can pay back with service. If you have completed less than one year, the scholarship must be paid back in cash. In this case, the scholarship acts as a low-interest loan, similar to other student loans (the interest rate is determined by the Federal Reserve).
15. *How long do I have to fulfill the payback or service obligation?*
See PDP FAQ document or contact (PDPDCS) Personnel Development Program Data Collection System.
16. *What happens if I go back to school?*
See PDP FAQ document or contact (PDPDCS) Personnel Development Program Data Collection System.
17. *What happens if the service time expires?*
See PDP FAQ document or contact (PDPDCS) Personnel Development Program Data Collection System.

PDP FAQ and PDPDCS FAQ documents are on the WOU MAIS website and can be found at <https://pdp.ed.gov/OSEP/Home/faq/>