How to Pay for Centre and Why It's Worth It
“Centre alumni are the happiest group of graduates in the country.”

THE ALUMNI FACTOR
September 2013
A Wise Investment in Your Future

Centre offers an intensely personal and deeply engaging education. We prize great teaching at Centre. And because of nation-leading support from our satisfied alumni over the last 30 years, Centre is also a top value. Nine out of 10 first-year students receive financial aid and/or merit scholarships. Excellence and affordability can co-exist.

### 4-YEAR GRADUATION RATE (2011)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Davidson</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centre</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sewanee</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denison</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhodes</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transylvania</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U. of Kentucky</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TOTAL COST FOR 1 YEAR (2013-14)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Davidson</td>
<td>$54,683</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denison</td>
<td>$54,670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhodes</td>
<td>$49,678</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sewanee</td>
<td>$49,970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centre</td>
<td>$45,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transylvania</td>
<td>$40,535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U. of Kentucky</td>
<td>$23,800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Includes tuition, room, board, and fees; UK is in-state cost

### AVERAGE 1-YEAR UNDERGRADUATE FEDERAL LOAN (2011-12)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Loan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transylvania</td>
<td>$6,706</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhodes</td>
<td>$6,640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U. of Kentucky</td>
<td>$6,264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centre</td>
<td>$6,236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sewanee</td>
<td>$6,223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davidson</td>
<td>$5,819</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denison</td>
<td>$5,230</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data sources: institutional websites and the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) at nces.ed.gov/ipeds
“Centre has all the elements of a top-notch private school—excellent academics, close-knit community, service and leadership opportunities—without the huge price tag. The College goes to great lengths to make sure that it is affordable for its students, and I’m one of many grateful recipients.”

THOMAS BECKER ’15, Newark, Delaware. MAJOR: Economics
7 Reasons to Choose Centre

1 The Centre Commitment is guaranteed. You will study abroad, have an internship or research experience, and graduate in four years—or Centre will provide up to another year tuition-free.

2 Centre means value. Colleges That Change Lives praises Centre for having a price tag nearly $10,000 lower than its peers. Centre ranks No. 30 in the latest U.S. News list of Best Value Schools. Kiplinger’s has Centre at No. 22 on its list of the best values among private colleges.

3 Centre’s need-based aid and merit scholarship programs are among the most generous of any top school. Centre devotes nearly 40 percent of its total annual budget to aid and scholarships to ensure that it remains accessible.

4 Centre awards gift-based aid to all students with demonstrated need.

5 Nine out of 10 first-year students receive need-based aid and/or merit scholarships. They represent a broad range of financial backgrounds. Many students are pleased to learn they will pay substantially less than they initially thought.

6 A Centre degree is worth more. Outstanding teachers, students, and facilities, combined with one-on-one attention, result in a superior education. Centre’s national reputation provides real advantages in getting good jobs and into graduate and professional schools.

7 You will finish on time. Ninety-seven percent of the Centre students who graduated in 2013 completed their degree in four years or less. Check the graduation rate. It’s not a bargain if you have to pay for an extra semester . . . or more.
Four Types of Aid

There are four basic types of financial assistance: grants, scholarships, work-study, and loans.

GRANTS
A grant is a gift based on need. You don’t have to repay it. Grants from Centre’s endowment and from alumni gifts are a significant part of almost every need-based financial package. Grants can also come from the federal government or from your state. They are awarded for one year at a time, although they can be renewed. You must file an application for financial aid so that we can determine the amount of the grant award.

SCHOLARSHIPS
A scholarship is a gift based on achievement (academic, extracurricular, and personal). Scholarships are renewable through your four years at Centre and carry an obligation to perform at a certain level of achievement.

WORK-STUDY (CAMPUS EMPLOYMENT)
Work-study assignments on campus of up to 10 hours per week pay at least $7.25 per hour. You help pay for college and gain valuable experience. Your hours are arranged around your class schedule. You must be eligible for need-based financial aid to qualify for federal work-study support.

LOANS
The U.S. Department of Education offers several types of loans, most with low interest rates and repayment schedules that do not begin until you graduate. They are based on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and are available through Centre. Federal Direct Stafford Loans (subsidized) are the most common. Unsubsidized Stafford Loans and Federal Perkins Loans offer additional resources.
Understanding Need-Based Financial Aid

Need-based aid is based on a three-way partnership of the student’s family, Centre College, and the government (federal and state).

THE FAMILY
All colleges start with the assumption that achieving a college education is a family goal and that each family will do all it can to commit its financial resources to that goal.

THE COLLEGE
Centre provides more than $24 million of its own funds each year to assist families who can’t meet our full costs. We want to enroll able students from all backgrounds, and our nation-leading alumni giving allows us to provide this assistance.

STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
Both the state and federal governments support higher education by providing grants and low-interest loans to students needing assistance.
Determining Financial Need

Centre’s Student Financial Planning Office uses information from the FAFSA and the Centre Aid Form to determine your eligibility for various sources of aid. Factors that affect eligibility for aid include income, assets, family size, age of parents, and the number of family members attending college.

**FAMILY CONTRIBUTION**
The federal analysis of a student’s household financial picture determines an “expected family contribution” (EFC), made up of a parent contribution and a student contribution. The EFC is best understood as a relative measure of a family’s resources to pay for college. Your EFC may or may not reflect what your family feels it can afford to pay for college. However, it does establish a useful and fair comparative standard to measure a family’s ability to absorb the cost of college over time.

Because family circumstances may change from year to year, you will submit a new FAFSA application each year for a new analysis. If your family circumstances remain about the same, however, you can expect your aid to remain about the same level from one year to the next.

**NET PRICE CALCULATOR**
For an early indication of how much aid you might expect to receive, complete the net price calculator at www.centre.edu/afford. It will take about 10 minutes.
Applying for Need-Based Aid

APPLICATION FORMS
☐ Apply for all state and federal aid funds (grants, loans, and work-study) and Centre's own grant program by filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). To learn more, go to www.fafsa.gov.

☐ Centre requires its own short, supplemental Centre Aid Form, available at www.centre.edu.

APPLICATION DEADLINES
☐ Complete the FAFSA online at www.fafsa.gov as soon as possible after January 1. (Some state awards are made only until funds are depleted.) Centre's code is 001961.

☐ Submit the Centre Aid Form to Centre's Student Financial Planning Office as soon as possible after January 1. If you complete the financial aid application soon after January 1, you'll hear from us by late March.

☐ Keep copies of all materials sent.

ASSISTANCE OPEN TO ALL
Some financial assistance is available even if you don’t qualify for need-based aid.

- **TuitionPay** offers a 10-month, 11-month, or 12-month interest-free payment plan. The annual cost to enroll in this plan is $55.

- **Federal Direct Stafford Loans** (unsubsidized) are available to any student who files a FAFSA. Interest on the loan accrues while enrolled.

- **Federal Direct Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students (PLUS)** are available to parent borrowers. Unlike Perkins Loans and subsidized Stafford Loans, PLUS borrowers don’t have to show need, although they do undergo a credit analysis and must file a FAFSA.
Centre Scholarships for Academic and Personal Achievements

Merit Scholarships
Merit scholarships range from $5,000 to 100 percent of the comprehensive fee each year for four years. All applicants for admission are considered for general merit scholarships. The admission application must be completed by January 15 to be eligible. Merit scholarship recipients have academic achievements that distinguish them in our applicant pool and extracurricular accomplishments that show talent, variety, balance, commitment, leadership, and concern for others.

Brown Fellows: Centre’s Premier Scholarship
In partnership with the J. Graham Brown Foundation, Centre offers 10 extraordinary students each year a full-cost scholarship. Brown Fellows also receive financial support for individual summer leadership projects.

Special Scholarships
Centre’s music and drama programs award competitive Performing Arts Scholarships of up to $5,000 per year. Foreign Language Scholarships are competitive and worth up to $5,000 per year.

New Horizons Scholarships of $21,000 recognize students likely to provide diversity leadership and guarantee priority consideration for need-based aid.

Applications and more details for each of these programs are available at www.centre.edu.

State-Sponsored Award Match
Students from Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, South Carolina, Tennessee, and West Virginia may qualify for scholarships that match state-sponsored merit scholarships.
“Without a doubt, the advantages that have come as a result of the education and experiences I received at Centre have far exceeded what I could have anticipated. Not only were my four years at Centre worth every penny during my college days, but I continue to benefit from having Centre as my alma mater.”
CENTRE AID FACTS

Sixty-four percent of students in the Class of 2017 received need-based financial aid.

The average one-year aid package for first-year students receiving aid in 2013-14 was more than $27,400.

For the Class of 2017, financial aid awards ranged from $5,000 to the full comprehensive fee.

Cost
Centre’s 2013-14 comprehensive fee is $45,100. It includes all costs for an on-campus residential experience with the exception of books and elective costs. For 2013-14, we estimate an additional $2,900 for such items as books, transportation, and personal expenses.

CONTACT US

Phone
1.800.423.6236

Address
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600 West Walnut Street
Danville, KY 40422-1394

E-mail
finaid@centre.edu

Web
www.centre.edu

Web Scheduling and Applying
Request information, schedule a visit, apply, and more at www.centre.edu.

Social Media