
Osher Reentry Scholarship Application 2011-2012

Each year, the University of Oklahoma awards a minimum of 20 Osher Reentry Scholarship/Tuition Waivers to undergraduate students enrolled in on-site or hybrid classes at any OU site, including Oklahoma City Community College, Rose State College, OU-Tulsa, OU-Norman, Ponca City and Lawton/Ft. Sill. While this scholarship is coordinated by the College of Liberal Studies, **all eligible University of Oklahoma undergraduates are eligible to apply.** Osher Reentry Scholarships are designed to help adult students (ideally aged 25-50) who have been out of school to complete their first undergraduate degree. Students awarded an Osher Reentry Scholarship will receive up to \$1,400 per semester in **tuition waivers** credited to their OU bursar account. Students may reapply for this scholarship each semester.

Deadline for submitting applications is 5 p.m. on the following dates:

Fall: Oct. 1, 2011

Spring: February 22, 2012

Summer: June 1, 2012

Applications will not be accepted after the deadline.

Criteria: Students must meet all criteria to be eligible for consideration.

- Minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA in previous coursework
- A cumulative gap of at least 5 years out of school from the time a student began undergraduate studies until present
- Full-time or part-time enrollment
- At least 50% of the awarding semester's enrollment or at least 50% of the sum of previous OU enrollment, including the awarding semester, is in on-site or hybrid coursework
- Demonstration of academic promise and commitment to obtaining an undergraduate degree
- Demonstration of financial need
- Student is expected to participate in the workforce following graduation

Required Application Materials: Please do not attach additional pages that are not required.

Application should be 4-6 pages.

Part I: Osher Reentry Scholarship Application Form

Part II: Statement of purpose responding to the following three questions (1-2 pages, double-spaced):

Question 1: What are your educational interests and goals?

Question 2: Why do you want to obtain a degree from the University of Oklahoma and/or from your college?

Question 3: Why do you need the Osher Reentry Scholarship and how will this scholarship be significant to you?

Part III: Resume (1-2 pages)

- There is no one correct resume format; however, your resume should include information about, but not limited to, the following categories that are applicable to you:

Education, community involvement, extracurricular activities, work experience/internships, honors, awards, scholarships, and any additional pertinent information

Part IV: Expected Family Contribution (EFC) score

- Your EFC score is listed on the confirmation page, upon completion of the 2010-2011 FAFSA. Please print the confirmation page and attach it to your application. The FAFSA is available online at www.financialaid.ou.edu/ls.

Selection Process and Important Notes: The recipients are selected by a committee comprised of faculty, staff and students after the deadline. **All required application materials must be submitted by the deadline in order to be reviewed. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure all application materials have been received.**

Presentation of Award: Scholarship recipients will be notified by email or regular mail after the Scholarship and Awards Committee has reached a decision. A tuition waiver of up to \$1,400 per semester will be posted to the award recipient's OU bursar account. Students will not receive a cash award.

Submit required application materials by the deadline to:

College of Liberal Studies
The University of Oklahoma
ATTN: Missy Mitchell

1610 Asp Avenue, Suite 108, Norman, OK 73072-6405

Application and supporting materials may also be faxed to (405) 325-7408 or emailed to mjmitchell@ou.edu.

For questions concerning this scholarship opportunity, please contact us:

Office: (405) 325-1061 or toll-free: (800) 522-4389 or mjmitchell@ou.edu.

Osher Reentry Scholarship Frequently Asked Questions

How do I obtain my Expected Family Contribution (EFC) score?

Your EFC score is generated upon completion of the FAFSA and is listed on the confirmation page of your FAFSA or Student Aid Report. It is also labeled as Transactions or Processing Information. A student cannot obtain his/her EFC score without completing a FAFSA. (Please do not submit entire FAFSA Application or Student Report along with your application).

Why would it be beneficial to submit a FAFSA?

FAFSA stands for Free Application for Student Aid. If it is determined that you are unable to contribute the entire cost of college based on the information you submit to federal aid, financial aid is available to bridge the gap. That's how the financial aid system works. The difference between the total cost and your EFC is considered your "financial need" and the amount of aid you're eligible to receive. (2009 collegeboard.com Inc.)

What is hybrid coursework?

This simply refers to courses that are not taken 100% online or 100% on a campus site. Hybrid courses blend in class learning (face-to-face) with independent online learning.

How do we evaluate the following criteria: 50% of each semester's enrollment must be in on-site (hybrid) coursework?

The Scholarship and Awards Committee will first ensure that a student's enrollment is made up of at least 50% on-site or hybrid courses for the semester in question. If the student's enrollment does not reflect this, the student may still be eligible for the scholarship if 50% or more of his/her courses from all previous semesters are on-site or hybrid. Please be aware that additional criteria, besides this one, exist for the Osher Reentry Scholarship.

If I receive the Osher Reentry Scholarship for a semester (e.g., fall), does it mean I will receive it again the following semester?

Not necessarily. You will need to submit a new application for consideration each semester and the scholarship criteria must also be met.

Can the Osher award be used for other items besides tuition, such as books, lab fees, child care services or transportation costs?

The Osher award may only be applied as a tuition waiver.

When will I know the result of my application and when can I expect to receive the scholarship award?

Shortly after the applications have been reviewed, you will be notified by email or regular mail whether you have or have not been awarded an Osher Reentry Scholarship award. The Osher award will be processed as a tuition waiver after the semester's drop-date and should be posted to the bursar account. It is the student's responsibility to ensure his/her scholarship application has been submitted by the deadline and received by the College of Liberal Studies.

How can I view a list of hybrid coursework?

Please check with your college for information on hybrid courses that may be offered by your college. A list of hybrid courses offered by the College of Liberal Studies each semester is provided on our website at www.ou.edu/cls/schedule or may be found by logging on to ozone.ou.edu, selecting Liberal Studies for campus, and searching by the appropriate semester.

If I am enrolled in eight-week courses and am awarded the Osher Reentry Scholarship for the first eight weeks of a semester (Session I), will I automatically receive it again for the second eight weeks (Session II)?

In most cases, yes, as long as you are enrolled full-time or part-time in the second eight weeks, continue to meet all of the scholarship criteria, and funds are still available. If you are selected to receive the scholarship for Session II, you will receive notice in your award letter.



**Osher Reentry Scholarship Application Form
2011 – 2012**

Part I: Application Form

Please type or print clearly in black ink. Unreadable submissions will not be considered.

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Home Phone: _____ **Work Phone:** _____

OU Email Address: _____

OU Student ID Number: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____

Cumulative Grade Point Average: _____ **Age:** _____

Applying for which semester: _____

College (Ex: Liberal Studies, Arts and Sciences etc): _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Note: Application is not complete without Part II: Statement of Purpose (responding to three questions), Part III: Resume, and Part IV: Expected Family Contribution (EFC) score. Please collate and staple to application form.