

**GONZAGA UNIVERSITY’S “FOUR YEAR GUARANTEE”
(AND TWO YEAR GUARANTEE FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS)
OF INSTITUTIONAL FINANCIAL AID**

Date of Policy: October 9, 1999

This statement is intended to clarify the specific details and conditions regarding Gonzaga University’s “Four Year Guarantee” of institutional financial aid. A copy of the complete policy is available from the Financial Aid Office upon request.

I. Purpose of the Guarantee

Prior to the introduction of the Four Year Guarantee (in Fall of 1997), the financial aid awarded to students varied from year to year, depending upon a number of factors. One was academic performance: a student lost eligibility for aid if their cumulative grade point average fell below a 3.0 (on the 4.0 scale). Another was financial need: if the student’s need changed from year to year, so did his or her financial aid. The Guarantee was an important first step towards regulating the year-to-year value of the student’s institutional financial aid.

II. Definition of “Institutional Financial Aid”

“Institutional” financial aid includes the following: (a) Merit Scholarships (e.g., Trustee, Regent, Deans, Dussault); (b) Gonzaga Funding (e.g., Gonzaga grants); and (c) most Gonzaga Scholarships [see “Special Awards” section below]. “Institutional” financial aid does not include:

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| Federal or State Work Study | ROTC Scholarships |
| Federal Pell Grant or Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant | Room Waivers |
| Washington State Need Grant, or other State Grants | Outside Scholarships |
| Student Loans, including Stafford, Perkins, and Alaska State Loans | |

Special Awards

Certain Gonzaga grants, scholarships, and assistantships (e.g., Music scholarships, the Brajcich scholarship) have special conditions which may or may not be covered under the Guarantee. Other scholarships are awarded for one year only, by donor request. Special conditions or stipulations are communicated in those cases by the department which makes the award. *In general*, nearly all forms of institutional aid are covered by the Gonzaga Guarantee.

III. Eligibility Requirements – Four Year Guarantee (First Year Students Only)

- A. To qualify for the Four Year Guarantee, a student must:
1. Enter the University as a first-year, undergraduate student (that is, not classified as a “transfer” student);
 2. Be matriculated; and
 3. Be registered for twelve credits or more as of the end of the official Add/Drop period.
- B. To continue to qualify for institutional aid under the Four Year Guarantee, a student must:
1. Be enrolled over consecutive years (without transferring to another institution);
 2. Be registered for twelve or more credits as of the end of the official Add/Drop period for each term in which the student is pursuing an undergraduate degree; and
 3. Maintain “good academic standing,” as defined in the current University Catalogue.

Students who fail to maintain “good academic standing,” and whose aid is revoked, may refer to the Financial Aid Policy pertaining to the Reinstatement of Institutional Aid.

- C. The Four Year Guarantee remains in place until the end of the fourth consecutive year in which the student has been enrolled and receiving financial aid under this policy. No automatic renewal of institutional aid is guaranteed after the fourth year has been completed.

IV. Eligibility Requirements – Two Year Guarantee (Transfer Students Only)

- A. To qualify for the Two Year Guarantee, a student must:
 - 1. Enter the University as a transfer undergraduate student;
 - 2. Be matriculated; and
 - 3. Be registered for twelve credits or more as of the end of the official Add/Drop period.
- B. To continue to qualify for institutional aid under the Two Year Guarantee, a student must:
 - 1. Be enrolled over consecutive years (that is, without transferring to another institution);
 - 2. Be registered for twelve or more credits as of the end of the official Add/Drop period for each term in which the student is pursuing an undergraduate degree; and
 - 3. Maintain “good academic standing,” as defined in the current University Catalogue.

Students who fail to maintain “good academic standing,” and whose aid is revoked, may refer to the Financial Aid Policy pertaining to the Reinstatement of Institutional Aid.

- C. The Two Year Guarantee remains in place until the end of the second consecutive year in which the student has been enrolled and receiving financial aid under this policy. No automatic renewal of institutional aid is guaranteed after the second year has been completed.

V. Distribution of Institutional Aid

- A. A student’s annual institutional award (grants, scholarships) is paid to the student’s account in equal proportion, by semester. One half of the annual amount is disbursed at the beginning of Fall Semester, the other half is disbursed at the beginning of Spring Semester. At no time will the full annual amount be credited to only one semester within an academic year.
- B. Students under this policy whose first period of enrollment is Spring Semester will receive the proportional amount of their institutional award in the Spring.
- C. No institutional financial aid governed by this policy is provided to students during Summer sessions.
- D. Students under this policy whose first period of enrollment is Spring Semester will have the next consecutive year considered their first year under either the Four or Two Year Guarantee.

VI. Questions

Questions related to this policy may be directed to the Gonzaga University Financial Aid Office, Administration Building Room 129. Telephone: (509) 323-6582.