

Federal Work-Study Program

Recipient Overview

The UTD Office of Financial Aid awards Federal Work-Study (FWS) as part of your financial aid package when you complete your FAFSA each academic year. The Student Employment team manages your experience after you accept your FWS funds. Once you accept, you'll need to secure a job to earn those funds – which means you'll never have to repay it! Your FWS Award is an amount you work towards, not a grant, scholarship, or tuition credit that kicks in all at once.

In general, any on-campus job qualifies for earning your FWS funds and you can also work off-campus at one of our approved affiliate organizations. The work hours you log in these positions will be paid out to you via a paycheck - either direct deposit to your bank account or by a physical check, if you choose.

Benefits

- Exclusive access to FWS job postings. More than 25% of hourly student jobs are set to be “work study only” each year. This means you have a higher chance of being selected!
- The dollars you earn will not be counted as income for your financial aid eligibility determination next year
- On-the-job experience will give you an edge in the job market after graduation
- Working with professionals will provide you with valuable references for your post-graduate careers
- Your wages will be partially subsidized, making you even more attractive to employers than you already are

\$12.50 /hr

Average Hourly Wage
For Work Study employees

1st / 15th

Semimonthly Paychecks
Paychecks are distributed twice per month, usually on the 1st and 15th

20 hr/wk

Max Hours
Up to 20 hours per week (40 hr/wk during breaks); Work hours cannot interfere with class hours

Frequently Asked Questions

Where do I start?

Consider your priorities before you begin your job search. How many hours can you reasonably work? What types of jobs are you interested in? What experiences and skills do you hope to gain from your employment? A meeting with your Career Consultant may help!

How do I apply to FWS jobs?

All job listings are accessible online through Handshake, the UTD job portal. Use the “on-campus” or “work-study” filter. You will automatically receive a Handshake account once you are registered for courses.

What if I earn my entire FWS award amount?

Once you reach your award maximum, you can request an increase from Financial Aid or talk to your employer about a continuity plan. You can also reach out to workstudy@utdallas.edu and we'll facilitate these conversations on your behalf.

What if I have more questions?

We're always happy to discuss the intricacies of FWS with you directly. You can schedule a Federal Work Study Overview Appointment at utd.link/fws or send questions by email to workstudy@utdallas.edu.

