

federal work study



what it is

Federal Work-Study (FWS) is a program offered to students who have demonstrated a high level of financial need as determined by the results of their FAFSA. Students must meet the awarding criteria and request FWS on their FAFSA in order to be offered FWS.

how it works



Students work to earn a regular bi-weekly pay check, which they can use to meet some of their day-to-day expenses. The FWS allotment (usually \$2,500 for the academic year) makes up a portion of the students total financial aid eligibility by reducing loan eligibility, thus helping reduce loan debt. Students can earn up to the offered FWS amount.

benefits

There are a number of good reasons to utilize your work-study award:

- ✓ You can work on-campus.
- ✓ Employers understand that you are a student and are usually flexible when it comes to scheduling.
- ✓ Working on campus allows you to make connections with faculty or staff on campus.
- ✓ Studies show that students who work part-time (5-15 hours) on campus tend to do better academically and are more satisfied with their college experience.



how to utilize work-study

Find and secure a job with a work-study eligible employer. You can search for jobs through your myPurdue under the "Financial Tab."



Turn in your **Payroll Authorization Form (PAF)** to your employer's payroll clerk. You will have received this via mail or email, or you can pick one up from the Student Employment office in Schleman Hall, Room 302.



Work scheduled hours to earn wages.

earnings

Students must work their scheduled hours to earn their wages. The employer will pay the students' earnings in bi-weekly paychecks. Direct deposit to the student's bank account is also an option with many employers. We highly recommend you sign up for direct deposit.

Earnings are not automatically applied to tuition, fees, or any other associated University expenses like some other sources of financial aid.



spending your money

A student's FWS earnings can be used to pay for:

- Fees
- Tuition
- Housing
- Books
- Supplies
- Any other expenses you might incur

You are not expected to save money from your FWS job toward next year's education the way that you are when you work for a regular employer.

reporting income

On the FAFSA you report the income that you made from your FWS job, just like you would any other job, but there is a second question that asks, "How much of the money you earned was from a Federal Need Based Program?" When you report the amount again here, it is deducted from your wages.

things to know

- FWS is to be used if a student wants a job while at Purdue.
- Purdue Promise does not require you to get a job on-campus if you are offered FWS.
- If you do not want to accept work-study funds, you will need to replace the funds through other sources such as loans (Division of Financial Aid can convert your FWS funds to a loan) or from another job.



for more information on student employment visit:

www.purdue.edu/dfa/stuemp/types.php

to start your job search visit:

<http://www.purdue.edu/webdb/JobPosting/JobSearch.cfm>