



Graduate Program Merit Scholarship Policies Academic Year 2026-2027

I. General Policies

- a. BU Wheelock's admissions review process gives consideration to every applicant for the awarding of merit scholarships. Award amounts are determined through a holistic application review process where all applicants are reviewed according to the same process and criteria.
- b. Merit scholarships are applied to tuition only and do not exceed the total cost of tuition. Merit scholarships cannot be applied to fees, health insurance, living expenses, or other additional expenses.
- c. Students enrolled in a multi-year degree program will be eligible to receive their scholarship in the same dollar or percentage amount (see sections II and III for more details) for all semesters of enrollment beyond their first year, unless otherwise specified in their letter of admission.
- d. Merit aid may be adjusted or revoked if the following requirements are not met:
 - Students must remain in good academic standing as defined by the federal standard of [Satisfactory Academic Progress](#), as well as the [BU Wheelock student handbook](#). The standard for Satisfactory Academic Progress will be a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.
 - Students must meet and fulfill the requirements for registration as outlined by the [University Registrar](#).
- e. Merit scholarships are awarded for the fall and spring semesters only. Students are responsible for tuition and fees at 100% of the posted per-unit rate for summer courses (note the exception for partnership scholarships outlined in section IV).
- f. The following principles apply to merit aid when students receive scholarship funds from third party institutions ("outside aid"):
 - All students who receive outside aid are required to disclose these funds to BU Wheelock's Graduate Admissions & Financial Aid office.



- Outside aid may be compounded with a BU Wheelock scholarship. If the compounding of the outside aid with the BU Wheelock scholarship exceeds the billed tuition, the student must provide documentation from the external agency that their outside award can be used for fees and/or personal/living expenses as detailed in Boston University's breakdown for standard [Cost of Attendance](#).
- When the sum of outside aid that is restricted to tuition charges by the awarding agency plus a student's BU Wheelock scholarship exceeds the cost of tuition, a student's BU Wheelock scholarship will be reduced to fit the billed tuition of the given semester.

II. Merit Scholarships for Full-time Enrollment

- a. BU Wheelock scholarships for full-time enrollment represent the **total dollar amount for the academic year**. The award amount is split evenly between the fall and spring semesters.
 - For example, a scholarship of \$20,000 will be applied as a \$10,000 scholarship in the fall and spring semester.
- b. Students who were offered a full-time scholarship but enroll part-time (less than 12 units) in any given semester will forfeit their merit scholarship.
- c. Students who return to full-time study will receive their initial full-time merit award amount for the semester of full-time study.

III. Merit Scholarships for Part-time Enrollment

- a. Scholarships for part-time enrollment are awarded as a percentage of billed tuition, rounded down to the nearest \$100.
- b. Calculations of scholarship may be subject to change based on the student's final course enrollment.
- c. Scholarships may not be applied to courses taken at other Boston University colleges or within the [Boston Area Consortia](#).
- d. Students that receive a failing grade for a given course will be responsible for the entirety of the billed tuition for all subsequent retakes of that course.



IV. Partnership Scholarship Policies

- a. Active affiliates of one of BU Wheelock's [participating partner organizations](#) are automatically eligible for a 33% partnership scholarship.
- b. Partner scholarships cover coursework taken within all three terms - fall, spring and summer.
- c. Partner scholarships may not be applied to courses taken at other Boston University colleges or within the [Boston Area Consortia](#).
- d. Partner scholarships are not compounded for students who are affiliated with more than one partner organization.
- e. If a student's affiliation with a partner organization ends while enrolled at BU Wheelock, the partner scholarship will be discontinued in the first full semester following the termination of affiliation.
- f. Students that receive a failing grade for a given course will be responsible for the entirety of the billed tuition for all subsequent retakes of that course

V. Deferring Admission

- a. Applicants who defer their admission will be subject to scholarship re-evaluation prior to their chosen semester of matriculation.

VI. Leaves of Absence

- a. Students who withdraw from classes or take a leave of absence (LOA) from the University after the [first day of classes](#) (fall or spring semesters), will be billed on a prorated basis according to the [Withdrawal and Tuition Refund Schedule](#).
- b. Students who withdraw from classes or take an LOA mid-semester semester will receive a prorated scholarship aligned with the refund schedule for the semester of withdrawal or leave.
- c. Students returning from an approved LOA within one calendar year are eligible for the reinstatement of their original scholarship.



- d. Students returning after withdrawing will be subject to a reduction or reevaluation of scholarship.

VII. Dual Degree Programs

- a. Dual degree applicants of BU Wheelock and the BU School of Social Work (SSW) are eligible to receive scholarship offers from BU Wheelock at the time of admission.
- b. A scholarship offered by the BU Wheelock Admissions & Financial Aid Office will only be applicable for the semesters when the majority of coursework is at BU Wheelock. Should a student begin their coursework with BU SSW, the financial aid office of SSW will be responsible for the inquiries and awarding for that portion of the program.
- c. The School of Social Work may choose to offer a scholarship to a dual degree applicant at time of admission. Scholarships offered and awarded by another school or college's financial aid office will not be applicable to BU Wheelock coursework nor can scholarships be compounded between schools and colleges.
- d. BU Wheelock Admissions & Financial Aid Office will not match scholarships offered by other BU schools or colleges.
- e. A scholarship offered by BU Wheelock will be communicated at time of admission for an assumed full-time enrollment, with the intention of being split evenly between a student's fall and spring semesters (sec. II.a). Should a dual degree student complete only a single semester within BU Wheelock, the student will be eligible for half of their offered scholarship as detailed in their letter of admission.

VIII. Scholarships and Tuition Remission

- a. Full-time employees and spouses of full-time employees at Boston University may be eligible for tuition remission for a percentage of their billed tuition as determined by the [BU Human Resources Office](#).
- b. BU employees are required to notify BU Wheelock Admissions and Financial Aid (wheaid@bu.edu) of their BU employment status.



- c. Should students that are eligible for tuition remission be offered a scholarship at time of admission, the higher discount between the two (but not both) will be honored.
- d. Employees who are newly eligible for tuition remission cannot combine existing merit scholarship with tuition remission but can access whichever of the two is higher between their merit scholarship and tuition remission.
- e. Students who lose eligibility to receive tuition may be eligible for a merit scholarship.