



AUWCL Financial Aid Merit Scholarship Policies for JD Students

The AUWCL Office of Admissions considers all applicants for merit scholarships based upon LSAT and GPA. Admitted students will be notified directly by their office if at any point they qualify. The Public Interest Public Service (PIPS) Scholarship requires a separate application.

The policies below govern the JD merit scholarship program at American University Washington College of Law. The first section, AUWCL Merit Scholarship Policy (pages 1-2), is applicable to JD students awarded the following scholarships: **Capital** (additional policies by program are listed at the bottom of the section on page 2), **Admissions, Dean's, Faculty, Judicial, Jurist, and WCL**. Students awarded the **Public Interest Public Service (PIPS) Scholarship** should refer to page 3 for applicable policies.

The AUWCL Financial Aid Office reserves the right to update the policies below at any time to remain in compliance with federal regulations and/or University policy.

If offered a scholarship, in addition to paying the seat deposit with the AUWCL Office of Admissions, the award must be accepted in the MyAU portal upon receipt of the financial aid award notice. Notices for incoming students begin to be emailed in late March for the 1L academic year and notices for continuing students are emailed over the summer. Awards are renewed by the AUWCL Financial Aid Office for recipients meeting the requirements outlined in the policies below. Please note: PIPS scholars have additional programmatic requirements which may need to be fulfilled for continued eligibility.

AUWCL Merit Scholarship Policy

Merit scholarship recipients are required to maintain a 2.00 or above cumulative grade point average (GPA), in addition to completing at least 67% of attempted credits. Students at-risk of not meeting the academic requirements should refer to the AUWCL satisfactory academic progress (SAP) policy.

Merit scholarships, in combination with tuition-only assistance, cannot exceed AUWCL tuition and do not cover other expenses or fees. Scholarships are only applicable to courses and requirements in furtherance of the degree.

Merit scholarships can only be used during fall and spring semesters, and cannot be applied during the summer term. Full-time students receive awards for a maximum of 6 fall/spring semesters and part-time students for a maximum of 8 fall/spring semesters.

Merit scholarship amounts cannot be increased at any time, including as a result of an updated LSAT score received on or after the first day of classes.

Students offered a merit scholarship with eligibility in the Yellow Ribbon Program (YRP) cannot receive funding from both sources simultaneously. YRP recipients are precluded from receiving payment of other institutional grants/scholarships and must have any previously accepted awards cancelled. If YRP eligibility expires prior to graduation, the merit scholarship may be reinstated and must abide by the

scholarship policies herein. Semester(s) in which YRP funding is received count toward maximum amount of merit scholarship semesters based on program of study.

Merit scholarship recipients participating in the dual degree program with main campus must be enrolled in a combination of law and main campus credits in order to receive the scholarship in a particular fall/spring semester. Master's degree semester/year tuition costs billed at main campus rates are not eligible.

Formally changing JD programs does not increase your annual award amount; aggregate awards cannot be adjusted.

Changing enrollment in a particular semester may result in a reduction of your merit award by actual tuition charges, as institutional aid cannot exceed tuition. Reductions cannot be applied to future terms.

Early graduation results in a loss of future merit eligibility and funds cannot be received early.

Recipients are responsible for any tax implications associated with the scholarship. AUWCL makes no representations or warranty to recipients concerning the tax treatment of the scholarship, and any tax consequences to the recipients which may arise out of the scholarship shall be recipient's sole responsibility.

Leave of Absence: Merit scholarship funds are only available within 5 years after the first date of matriculation at American University Washington College of Law. Partially attended semesters in which merit scholarships were received count as an entire semester of eligibility.

Additional Policies for Capital Merit Scholarship (Full-time)

Scholarship is capped at 17 credits per fall/spring semester. Tuition charges over 17 credits are not covered by the scholarship and are the responsibility of the student. Recipients are responsible for any tuition charges after completing the JD degree requirements.

Scholarship is not available during the summer term.

Recipients are precluded from receiving other AUWCL scholarships/need-based grants/other funding including but not limited to Myers Scholarship, Restricted Scholarships, and need-based financial aid grants.

Additional Policies for Capital Merit Scholarship (Part-time)

Scholarship is capped at 86 credits and is only applicable to AUWCL tuition.

Scholarship may be utilized in a summer term to fulfill the 86 credit degree requirement in accordance with enrollment guidelines for the part-time JD program.

Recipients are precluded from receiving other AUWCL scholarships/grants.

Public Interest Public Service (PIPS) Scholarship Policy

PIPS scholars are required to maintain a 3.00 or above cumulative grade point average (GPA), in addition to completing at least 67% of attempted credits. Falling below a 3.00 GPA may result in loss of the scholarship. Please refer to our [Standard 509 Information Report](#) for scholarship retention data.

PIPS scholarship, in combination with tuition-only assistance, cannot exceed AUWCL tuition and does not cover other expenses or fees. The scholarship can only be applied toward AUWCL tuition.

PIPS scholarship can only be used during maximum of 6 full-time fall/spring semesters. The scholarship only covers tuition up to 17 credits per semester. Tuition charges over 17 credits are not covered by the scholarship and are the responsibility of the student. Scholars are responsible for any tuition charges after completing the JD degree requirements.

PIPS scholarship covers up to the total cost of 6 on-campus credits during the combined summer sessions through AUWCL-sponsored courses, externships, or summer study abroad programs. PIPS scholarship covers 50% of the tuition charges for any AUWCL summer study abroad program. Scholars are responsible for covering remaining tuition and personal expenses. Scholars are expected to maintain residency at AUWCL during every fall and spring semester and not apply for or utilize other study abroad programs during those terms. Summer courses offered at other institutions are not covered by the scholarship.

PIPS scholars are precluded from receiving other AUWCL scholarships/need-based grants/other funding including but not limited to Myers Scholarship, Restricted Scholarships, and need-based financial aid grants. The scholarship replaces all previously awarded institutional financial aid, including merit scholarships, as all institutional aid is capped at tuition.

PIPS scholars participating in the dual degree program with main campus must be enrolled in a combination of law and main campus credits in order to receive the scholarship in a particular fall/spring semester. Master's degree semester/year tuition costs billed at main campus rates are not eligible.

Approved changes to enrollment by the Office of Public Interest in a particular semester will affect your PIPS scholarship by actual tuition charges (capped at 17 credits per semester for full-time students).

Early graduation results in a loss of future PIPS scholarship eligibility and funds cannot be received early.

Scholars are responsible for any tax implications associated with the scholarship. AUWCL makes no representations or warranty to Scholar concerning the tax treatment of the scholarship, and any tax consequences to Scholar which may arise out of the scholarship shall be Scholar's sole responsibility.

Leave of Absence: After completing a minimum of one academic year as a PIPS scholar, if granted a leave of absence, one can petition to have their scholarship reinstated, but scholarship funds are only available within 5 years after the first date of matriculation at American University Washington College of Law. Partially attended semesters in which merit scholarships were received count as an entire semester of eligibility.