

Chapter 3 Tuition and Fees

The tuition and fees for students entering ASL in the 2016-2017 academic year are listed below. Tuition is guaranteed not to increase during the three years as long as the student maintains uninterrupted enrollment. A withdrawal or leave will result in a change of tuition to the new current tuition rate upon the student's return. Each applicant's seat deposits are credited toward the first semester's tuition.

Tuition	\$31,000.00	(\$15,500 per semester)
Activity Fee	\$325.00	(\$162.50 per semester)
Laptop Computer	Market Price	(an optional one-time expense – up to \$1,500)
Summer Externship Fee	\$200.00	(payable Spring Semester of first year)
Part-time tuition rate of	\$990.00	(per credit hour/requires approval from Dean's office)
Summer/Intersession courses	\$1,000.00	(per credit hour)
Visitor administrative fee	\$1,000.00	(upon commencement of visit)
Transcripts	\$0.00	(current students and alumni for employment or bar applications)
Transcripts	\$5.00	(former students and non-employment or bar application purposes)
Transfer package fee	\$25.00	(per school application)
Expedited shipping	\$20.00	If expedited shipping is requested for any of the above transcript requests, the expedited shipping charge is required.
Graduation Fee	\$100.00	(payable Spring semester of Third year)

Withdrawal from Classes and Refund of Tuition

Students who voluntarily withdraw from the School are responsible for paying all assessed tuition and fees due for that semester. For purposes of determining the amount of tuition owed by a withdrawing student, ASL follows the method described by the federal Return of Title IV Funds regulations to calculate the percentage of the academic term completed. The amount of tuition owed by a student will be assessed based upon the percentage of time the student spent in academic attendance. For the purposes of this policy, the Introduction to Law class is included in the definition of semester for first-year students. This policy will apply to all students regardless of whether the student received Title IV funds. Student fees are not refundable.

Up through the 60% point in each period of enrollment, a pro rata schedule will be used to determine the amount of tuition the student owes at the time of withdrawal. After the 60% point in the period of enrollment, a student owes 100% of the tuition for that semester.

Because the amount of tuition owed depends on the number of calendar days of the academic term completed by the withdrawing student, any student contemplating withdrawal should contact the Financial Aid Office for a calculation of tuition and fees owed as of the student's intended withdrawal date.

Withdrawal forms are available from the Registrar's Office. Withdrawal is effective only upon completion of ASL's withdrawal form, approval of that form by the Dean or his or her designee, and payment of all tuition or fees owed to ASL. ASL will refund any tuition paid by the student prior to withdrawal that exceeds the amount for which the student is responsible to the student at the address provided to ASL by the student within three weeks of the date of withdrawal. However, if ASL is obligated under the terms of a student's loan program to remit the excess tuition to a lender or other appropriate agency, ASL will do so.

An interruption in enrollment will permanently deactivate all scholarship awards.

Financial Assistance

A legal education is a major investment of time and money. All potential students should plan early during the application process and consider carefully, before entering, the costs and obligations of a legal education. The first step in the financial aid process is the completion of a FAFSA.

Although some assistance is available, students and their families are expected to make every reasonable effort to contribute through their own resources. The importance of responsible borrowing cannot be stressed enough. Students who borrow conservatively will find more flexibility in their future legal employment options. Counseling on student budgeting and financing options is available from the Financial Aid Office. Prior to graduation or in the event that the student leaves law school, a student must complete exit counseling <https://www.studentloans.gov> before the end of the final semester or academic year. Federal regulations state that Appalachian School of Law is responsible for ensuring that all students who receive Federal Financial Aid while enrolled at ASL complete exit counseling.

Loans

Appalachian School of Law participates in the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program beginning July 1, 2010. Students who previously received loans through the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program will now borrow through the Direct Loan Program. Instead of a bank lending the money, the U.S. Department of Education lends the money directly to students through the student's school. Students should complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>. A Federal Student Aid ID is required to complete the FAFSA. Federal Student Aid ID may be obtained at <https://fsaid.ed.gov/>. First-Time Student Loan Borrowers must complete a Direct Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN) and complete Direct Loan Entrance Counseling. To complete a Direct Loan MPN electronically, the student must have a Federal Student Aid ID. The Federal Student Aid ID is the same ID used to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Direct Loan Entrance Counseling and Direct Loan Master Promissory notes must be completed electronically via the StudentLoans.gov Web site at <https://www.studentloans.gov>. For additional information, contact the Financial Aid Office at 800-895-7411, ext. 1211.

Merit Scholarships

Appalachian School of Law is committed to recognizing the outstanding scholastic achievements of its entering students. The School therefore has established several levels of academic scholarships. Prospective students should contact the Financial Aid Office or check ASL's website to determine the current eligibility criteria for these scholarships. The School will endeavor to make these awards to all applicants who meet these eligibility criteria. However, prospective students are encouraged to complete their applications and submit their seat deposits as soon as possible in the event that the scholarships become oversubscribed.

Other Scholarships

ASL annually allocates monies for scholarships that are either need- or merit-based. For the 2015-2016 academic year, ASL has set aside over one million dollars in scholarship money. In addition to the Merit Scholarship program described above, Appalachian School of Law Scholars and the Buchanan County Scholarship funds provide for awards that can range up to one half of tuition. Awards are given for one academic year and may be renewed, depending on need and academic performance. Appalachian School of Law Scholars are chosen by the Dean based on demonstrated financial need and either entering credentials or performance at ASL (for upper-level students). Buchanan County Scholarships are granted by the Buchanan County Board of Supervisors based on demonstrated financial need, entering credentials or performance, and place of permanent residence.

Veterans' Benefits

ASL has been approved under the provisions of Public Law 89-358 for eligible persons to receive veterans' benefits in connection with the J.D. degree. ASL is a Yellow Ribbon qualified school. For more information, contact ASL's Financial Aid Office at 1-800-895-7411, extension 1211.

Federal Work Study

ASL participates in the Federal Work Study (FWS) program. A limited number of employment opportunities are available to students enrolled at ASL. These jobs pay at least the minimum wage and may not exceed twenty hours per week. All students employed by ASL must participate in the FWS program.

Federal regulations require that eligible students selected to participate in the FWS program must file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and meet the federal definition of financial need. Students should be aware that FWS earnings are treated as a part of the student's overall financial aid package; that is, the total amount of a student's FWS earnings, scholarships, grants, loans, etc., may not exceed his or her cost of attendance.

Students interested in participating in the FWS program should contact the Financial Aid Office for a determination of their eligibility.