



**University of  
Northern Iowa**

Office of Financial  
Aid & Scholarships

## **FINANCIAL AID** 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

**DEDICATED SERVICE  
TO ENSURE ACCESS  
AND AFFORDABILITY.**





# DEAR COLLEAGUES,

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The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships is pleased to share the 2022 Annual Report on Student Aid. The information contained within this report includes financial aid data that spans the 2021-2022 academic year, (fall 2021, spring 2022, and summer 2022 semesters). The financial aid programs at UNI are dedicated to preserving student access to the university through need-based financial aid, recruiting academically talented students through merit aid, and supporting the institution's recruitment and retention efforts.

Our financial aid office currently employs 11 staff members, two graduate assistants, and 19 student employees. The financial aid staff offers personalized counseling to all of our students to assist in navigating the financial aid process. It is our goal to ensure that every student we encounter has a greater understanding of their available financial aid options, thereby allowing them to complete their degree. More than \$89 million in aid was awarded to nearly 8,400 students. In addition, we closed out the final chapter of COVID Relief funds (HEERF III) during the Spring 2022 semester; awarding the final \$10,759,830 to 4,386 students.

The annual report is available online at [finaid.uni.edu](https://finaid.uni.edu). Feel free to contact me regarding any information within this report. Thanks!



**Tim Bakula, Director**  
Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships

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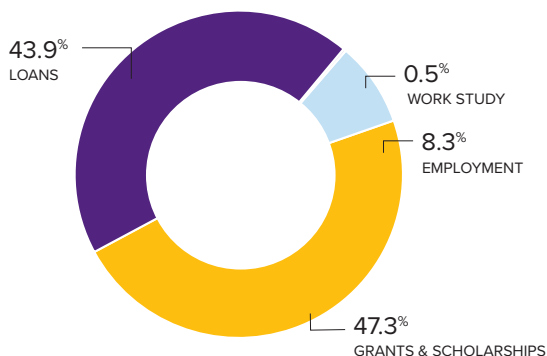
#### **Nondiscrimination Policy Statement**

The University of Northern Iowa does not discriminate in employment or education. Visit [policies.uni.edu/1303](https://policies.uni.edu/1303) for additional information.

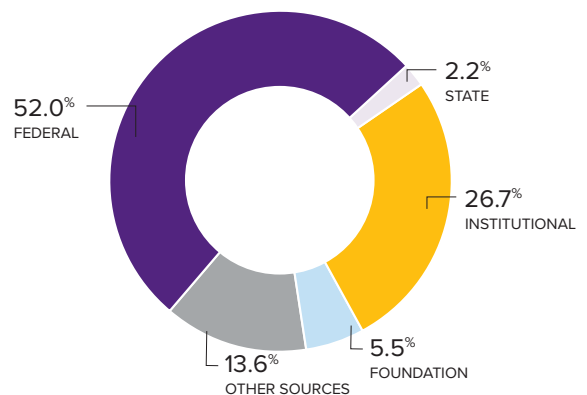
FY22 FACTS	UNDERGRADUATE	GRADUATE	ALL STUDENTS	FIRST-TIME, FULL-TIME FRESHMEN	NEW TRANSFERS
Total Aid Disbursed	\$78,686,060	\$10,557,067	\$89,243,127	\$17,796,932	\$6,589,146
Percentage of Aid Disbursed	88.2	11.8%	100.0%		
Aid Recipients (Unduplicated)	7,374	1,023	8,397	1,520	603
Resident	6,762	856	7,618	1,377	559
Non-Resident	612	167	779	143	44
Percentage of Students Receiving Aid	92.4%	81.8%	91.0%	98.4%	96.7%
Average Aid Accepted	\$10,671	\$10,320	\$10,628	\$11,709	\$10,982
Median Expected Family Contribution	\$9,301	\$0		\$14,812	\$7,984
Number of Students with No Financial Need	2,057	33		586	149
Median Student AGI	\$0	\$10,341		\$0	\$4,743
Median Parent AGI	\$78,818			\$101,431	\$70,757
Percent with Gift Aid (Grants/Scholarships)	86.8%	70.7%	84.8%	94.6%	85.7%
Percent with Pell Grants	29.6%			25.8%	37.3%
Average Gift Aid (Grant/Scholarship)	\$6,212	\$3,446	\$5,931	\$6,772	\$4,963
Percent with Student Loans	53.9%	40.4%	52.2%	53.6%	64.7%
Average Student Loan	\$7,233	\$14,454	\$7,913	\$7,235	\$7,696
Average Parent Loan	\$9,977			\$11,091	\$9,999
Number of Parent Borrowers	444			112	28
Percent Employed on Campus	28.2%	25.4%	27.8%	29.1%	20.1%

## \$89.2 MILLION IN AID

Categories of Funds



Sources of Funds



## STUDENT FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS 2021-2022

	Number of Awards*	Amount	Mean
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31,591</b>	<b>\$89,243,127</b>	<b>\$2,825</b>
<b>Institutional &amp; Private Gift Aid</b>	<b>16,036</b>	<b>\$28,356,875</b>	<b>\$1,768</b>
Institutional Scholarships/Grants	9,714	\$15,027,689	\$1,547
Corporate/Private Scholarships	5,775	\$9,373,080	\$1,623
Athletic Scholarships	547	\$3,956,106	\$7,232
<b>Federal &amp; State Grants</b>	<b>4,455</b>	<b>\$13,896,313</b>	<b>\$3,119</b>
Federal Pell Grant	2,381	\$9,650,812	\$4,053
Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant	754	\$644,443	\$855
TEACH Grant	484	\$1,395,581	\$2,883
Other Federal Grant/Scholarship Programs	69	\$280,730	\$4,069
All-Iowa Opportunity Scholarship	103	\$448,893	\$4,358
National Guard	83	\$555,625	\$6,694
Vocational Rehabilitation	91	\$276,083	\$3,034
Commission for the Blind	5	\$61,287	\$12,257
Other State Grants	485	\$582,859	\$1,202
<b>Loans</b>	<b>8,462</b>	<b>\$39,135,108</b>	<b>\$4,625</b>
Direct Loans	7,759	\$33,927,470	\$4,373
Alternative Loans	703	\$5,207,638	\$7,408
<b>Employment</b>	<b>2,638</b>	<b>\$7,854,831</b>	<b>\$2,978</b>
Federal Work Study	322	\$479,421	\$1,489
Graduate Teaching, Research Assistantships	227	\$1,717,725	\$7,567
UNI Employment	2,089	\$5,657,685	\$2,708

\*Number of awards NOT head count

# HEERF III

**\$10,759,830** given to **4,386** students.

Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) Act was a coronavirus relief package provided by Congress. UNI received funding to assist students who incurred expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to COVID-19.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are coordinated by several offices, including the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, Admissions, and individual departments and colleges. The University Scholarship Application is the application used by students to apply for all undergraduate scholarships.

- **4,433** UNI Scholarship Applications submitted
- **2,610** hometown scholarships
- **345** athletes reviewed for NCAA compliance

14,179 awards totaling

\$27.5 million

6,150 recipients

Scholarships by Source

Institutional .....	\$15,888,465
Foundation .....	\$4,894,854
Private .....	\$4,478,227
State .....	\$1,924,747
Federal .....	\$280,730

TEACH GRANT

- The University of Northern Iowa has actively participated in the Federal Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant program since it's inception in 2008.
- The program is designed for students planning to teach in a high-need field in a low-income school, and provides a grant up to \$4000 per year, for four years as an undergraduate student and two years as a graduate student.
- During FY22, 424 UNI students received TEACH Grant funding, totaling nearly \$1.4 million in aid. Some of the high need fields being pursued were Math, Sciences, Foreign Languages, TESOL, Technology Education and Special Education. Since the inception of the program, 2,677 students have received TEACH Grant funding.

98%

OF FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS  
RECEIVE AID

GRANTS

Grants are gift aid (no repayment required) generally awarded to undergraduate students who demonstrate financial need based on filing the FAFSA.

Federal Pell Grant .....	\$9,650,812
University Grants .....	\$3,095,330
Federal TEACH Grant.....	\$1,395,581
SEOG .....	\$644,443

6,303 awards totaling

\$14.8 million

2,967 recipients

Data as of 11-15-2021	Head Count	Percentage of Total
Currently With Grant (either in school or working on teaching obligation)	1335	49.9%
Completed Teaching Obligation	539	20.1%
Converted to Loan	463	17.3%
Paid Loan in Full	319	11.9%
Defaulted Loan	21	0.8%
Total Head Count	2677	100%

*\*Data based on most recent status of any TEACH Grants received by student.*

FEDERAL  
WORK-STUDY

Federal Work-Study (FWS) is funded 75% by the federal government and 25% by the institution. Awards are based on financial need. FWS includes the Federal Community Service Learning (CSL) component. CSL allows students to work at various community nonprofit agencies dedicated to improving community living. Students are paid through UNI. The nonprofit organizations handle 25% of the earnings. The program is available in the fall and spring semesters only.

Student Employment Types

Departmental Employment*	\$5,657,685
Graduate Assistantships	\$1,717,725
Federal Work-Study	\$479,421

\*Departmental Employment is available to students regardless of financial need and paid entirely by the hiring department.

\$7.9 million earned by  
2,343 students

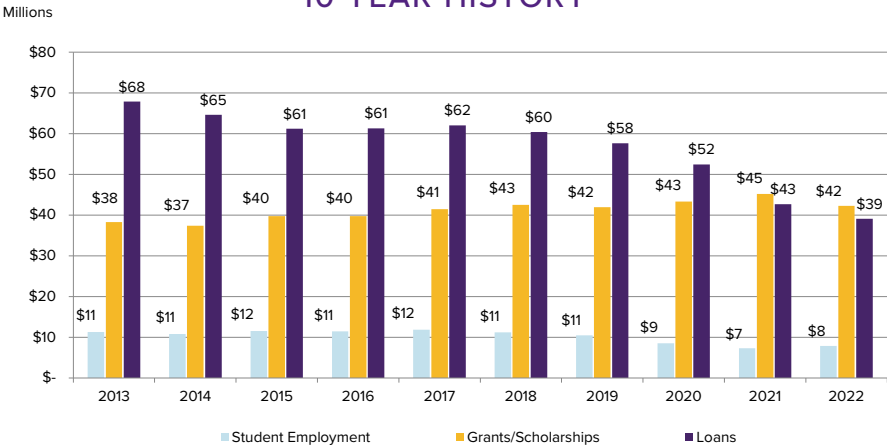
LOANS

Percent of Undergraduates Graduating

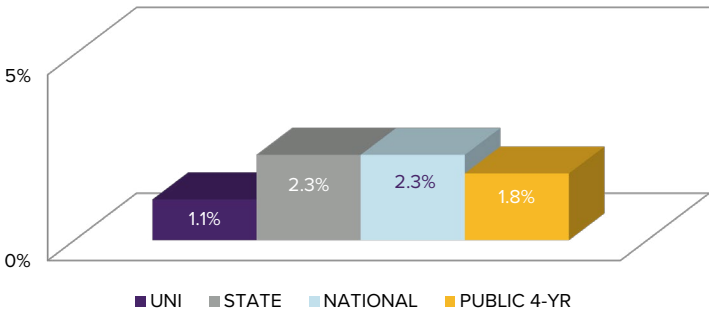
With debt	63.6%
Without debt	36.4%

8,462 awards totaling  
\$39.1 million  
4,419 recipients

10 YEAR HISTORY



THREE-YEAR DEFAULT RATE



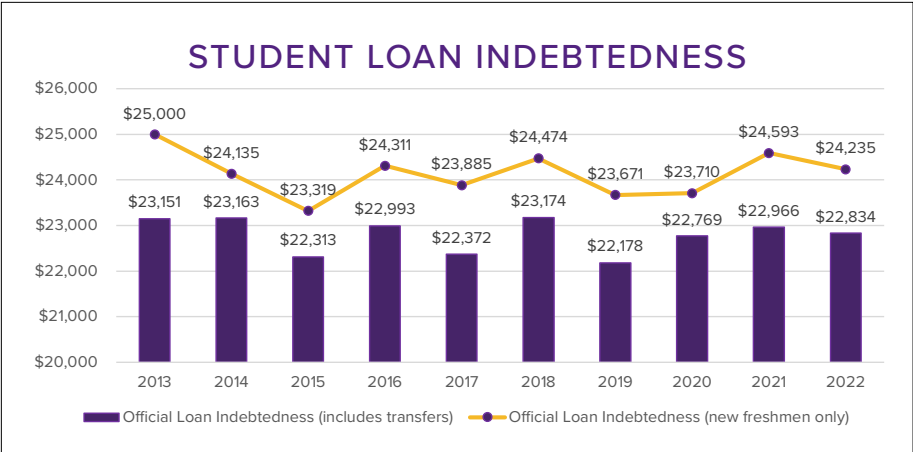
Undergraduate Indebtedness Remains Low

Breaking away from national trends in student borrowing, the University of Northern Iowa has seen student indebtedness remain well below state and national averages. The average student indebtedness at UNI is \$24,235. When including transfer students, the average indebtedness is \$22,834.

The overall steadiness in borrowing can be attributed to personalized counseling for any student borrowing a private loan, a strong TEACH Grant program, robust financial literacy efforts and an increasing number of students graduating sooner than in previous years.

Undergraduate Student Loan Indebtedness (includes transfers)

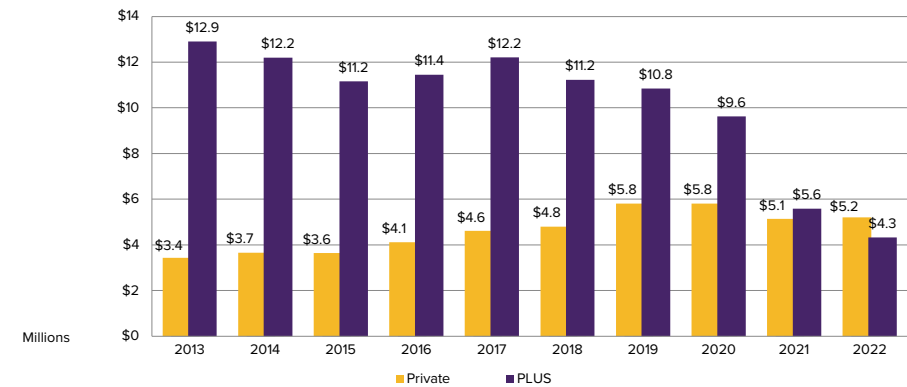
Average	\$22,834
Federal Direct Unsubsidized	\$19,052,744
Federal Direct Subsidized	\$10,096,267
Federal Parent Loan (PLUS)	\$4,320,580
Private Education Loan	\$5,207,638
Federal Graduate PLUS Loan	\$457,879



Private Loan Counseling

In 2007-08 the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships started one-on-one counseling for students seeking private loans. Private education loan borrowing has decreased from \$15.3 million in 2007-08 to \$5.2 million today (66% decrease). Beginning with the 2020-21 academic year, students financial aid offers were populated with “Other Financing Options,” thus providing more considerations for students/families to utilize savings or payment plans. While private loan borrowing decreased slightly from 2019-2020, the largest segment of decrease was in the form of parents borrowing less Parent PLUS Loans. The combination of higher interest rates on the PLUS Loans, combined with private loans becoming more competitive within the marketplace, will be worth monitoring to ensure affordability for all borrowers.

PLUS LOAN VS. PRIVATE EDUCATION LOAN HISTORY



Financial Literacy

+

Private Loan Counseling

+

TEACH Grants

+

15 Credits Per Term

=

LOWER DEBT

### AID PROCESSING

Once a student completes the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), results are transmitted electronically to the university. Verification is completed on files identified by the federal processor and any applicant with special situations. Typically, 90% of initial awards are made by the first day of the fall semester. Revisions and aid adjustments continue throughout the academic year.

- **13,317** FAFSA applicants
- **22,091** FAFSA transactions
- FAFSA verification was waived this year due to the COVID pandemic
- **9,275** students offered aid
- **8,218** students with paid aid
- **3,690** award revisions (e.g. additional aid, loan adjustments)
- **113** requests for aid adjustments due to unusual circumstances. **Primary situation:**
  - **101** with loss of income
- **1,588** students awarded summer aid
- **477** student records reviewed for Return of Title IV or repeated coursework
- **58** students completing consortium agreements for aid eligibility

### Student Success Efforts

Student employees handle the majority of the telephone calls, reception visits and emails.

- **9,520** telephone calls to the general office
- Roughly **1,482** reception visits
- Approximately **5,542** emails answered on published email address
- **2,219** scheduled counseling appointments (does not include walk-ins)
- **925** students suspended from aid
- **248** appeals reviewed (including 24 appeals waived due to CARES Act)

### Financial Literacy Initiatives



All incoming freshmen were required to complete either Live Like a Student or Panther Cash-Course (online) prior to the beginning of the fall 2018 semester.

**71%** completion rate for the Financial Literacy Requirement.



**University of Northern Iowa™**  
Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships