Financial Aid Facts:
Cost of 2012-13 law tuition: $42,425
Total cost of attendance: $64,555
% of law students receiving merit and need-based aid from W&L: 67
Size of average financial aid award: $23,519
% of law students receiving scholarships or loans to finance all or part of their legal education: 92
Average law school debt for the Class of 2012: $111,825

Scholarships at Washington and Lee

A major obstacle stands in the way of recruiting accomplished students: the ever-escalating cost of education.

The need for scholarship support at Washington and Lee School of Law is not new. Indeed some of W&L’s most distinguished alumni attended this institution through the generosity of others. The tradition of educating the very best, regardless of financial circumstance, is strong at W&L. But today the need to support and build on this tradition is greater than ever. With the rising cost of tuition and the strained economic climate, it is difficult for many of the brightest students to afford the legal education they merit.

W&L Law offers a strong educational program, now bolstered by our new Third Year Program, and we want to ensure it is available to all talented students, no matter what their economic background.

We can make W&L affordable for more students and lower their average debt burden if we increase our scholarship endowment fund. While the Law School offers several named scholarships, many of our scholarship dollars are provided from the School’s operating budget. That is not a sustainable model, especially in the current economic climate. We can modify this with the help of our alumni and friends.

An enhanced scholarship endowment would also enable W&L to attract the very best students in what has become an extremely competitive market for the most qualified applicants. Increasing the funds available for scholarship aid would allow W&L Law to remain competitive in the national marketplace.

W&L seeks to raise $13 million (over 37 percent of the Law campaign’s total goal) in support of scholarships to fully address student aid needs in the years to come.

Scholarship aid helps to remove the financial pressure so that students can pursue the legal career of their dreams.
**Scholarship Endowment Opportunities**

*Named Honor Scholarships*  
$1,000,000  
These are individual named merit-based or need-based scholarships which cover 100% of the cost of tuition and the majority of the cost of room and board. These scholarships help Washington and Lee School of Law attract and support the very best students from around the nation.

*Distinguished Law Scholarships*  
$500,000  
These named scholarships support approximately 60-65% of the cost of tuition for the recipient. Donors may select broad preferences for the award.

*Washington and Lee Law Scholarships*  
$100,000  
These named scholarships support approximately 12-13% of the cost of tuition for students, and are usually pooled with other funds to create aid packages.

*Law Scholarship Fund*  
$50,000  
Gifts to this fund support Washington and Lee’s general scholarship endowment. Donors making an initial gift to the Law Scholarship Fund may add to their gift over time in order to build it to a named scholarship level.

**Dollar figures listed are the minimum endowment levels required to establish a fund for the given purpose.**