

## Financial Policies: Traditional Programs

### TUITION AND FEES

The College is aware that the cost of higher education is a major outlay for a family and makes every effort to keep its charges as reasonable as possible, consistent with providing an opportunity for a first-class education. Because of support from earnings on endowment investments and gifts from friends of the College, the individual student is able to attend Shorter College for much less than the real cost of his or her education.

<b>FULL-TIME CHARGES FOR 2008-2009</b>		
<b>TYPICAL COSTS FOR TWO SEMESTERS</b>	<b>Boarding Students</b>	<b>Non-Boarding Students</b>
Tuition	\$15,440	\$15,440
*Basic room and Board (unlimited plan) (Basic Room is \$4,000 , unlimited meal plan is \$3,400 )	7,400	
Student Activity Fee	160	160
Technology Fee	170	170
**Room Deposit Fee	200	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$23,370</b>	<b>\$15,770</b>
 <b>PAYMENT SCHEDULE</b>		
**Tuition Deposit	\$200	\$200
Freshmen and transfers remit upon acceptance; returning students remit by April 10		
#Due on or before August 15	11,080	7,380
#Due or before December 10	11,080	7,580
 <b>TYPICAL COSTS FOR STUDENTS ENTERING SECOND SEMESTER</b>		
#Tuition and Fees	\$7,885	\$7,885
*Basic Room and Board	3,700	
**Room Deposit Fee	200	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,785</b>	<b>\$7,885</b>
Payment due on or before date of second semester registration		
 <b>ROOM AND BOARD ALTERNATIVES</b>		
Apartment Housing	\$4,400/4,700	
15 Meal per Week Plan	\$2,800	
10 Meal per Week Plan	\$2,400	

\* Most rooms are designed to be shared by two roommates; basic charge is for such accommodations. For information about availability and cost of other accommodations, which carry a surcharge, inquiry may be made of the Student Life Office.

\*\* This tuition deposit, required of all returning students, is refundable (before the student enrolls) until April 10, upon written request; thereafter it is not refundable. The deposit is required regardless of financial aid awarded or anticipated. The Room Deposit fee is refundable after moving out, less any damage charges or other charges incurred.

# Financial aid for which the student is eligible will be deducted from stated charges.

## OTHER CHARGES 2008-2009

### APPLIED MUSIC:

Private instruction in one instrument, or voice, per semester.....\$250  
Voice class instruction, per semester.....\$125

### GRADUATION FEE:

For diploma, academic regalia, and related expenses .....\$150

### SPECIAL TUITION PROVISIONS:

Tuition for part-time students (less than 12 hours per semester) each semester hour .....\$420

Tuition for full-time students enrolled for more than 19 hours credit per semester, each semester hour above 19 .....\$120

Joint enrollment, per credit hour .....\$210  
Senior Citizen-age 65 or older ..... no charge  
Summer School: Per hour .....\$240

### AUDITING:

For part-time students, half the charge for a credit course; no extra charge for full-time students or senior citizens. Studio and laboratory courses may not be audited but may be attended on a noncredit basis upon payment of stated tuition.

### TRANSCRIPTS OF ACADEMIC RECORD:

Regular service (allow 24 hours or more)..... \$1  
Immediate service..... \$5  
FAX charge, in addition to standard transcript fee... \$6

Transcripts must be requested in writing and will be issued only if all financial obligations to the College have been met. Official transcripts will not be issued to students.

### MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION:

Required of all student vehicles on campus; liability insurance is also mandatory.

Annual registration fee .....\$50

### PAYMENT OPTIONS

The College recognizes the desire of many parents to be able to budget educational expenses and makes available the following plan to provide such services:

**Option 1** – Remit payment in full to Shorter College each semester. Payments by MasterCard, VISA, and Discover are accepted.

**Option 2** – Use the Academic Management Services (AMS) Payment Plan, which is free of interest, to pay each semester's expenses as stated on your bill. There is a \$55.00 per year set-up charge for this service. The fall semester bill will be available during summer 2008 and it is due in full on August 15, 2008. The spring semester bill will be due December 10, 2008.

A pamphlet is available to incoming students; further information may also be obtained directly from the company as follows:

Academic Management Services (AMS)  
463 Swansea Mall Drive  
Swansea, MA 02777  
(800) 635-0120  
[www.TuitionPay.com](http://www.TuitionPay.com)

**Option 3** – Shorter College offers our own payment plan of three, four or five payments for each semester. There is a \$50.00 per year set-up charge for this service which is due with the first payment. The amount due per semester is based on preliminary financial aid and will be adjusted if the awarded amount is different. Forms for these plans are available in the business office or by calling 706/233-7211 or 7313.

## ROOM & BOARD CHARGES

**Board Plan:** All on-campus residents are required to purchase the board plan unless they have a medically-ordered diet which the food service is unable to accommodate.

1. Unlimited Meal Plan: \$3,400
2. 15 Meal Plan: \$2800

3. 10 Meal Plan: \$2,400 (only students living in apartment-style housing are eligible for this plan)

**Room Charges:** All full-time students are required to live in campus residence halls unless married, living with parents, 23 years of age, or having received

written authorization from the Vice President for Student Affairs due to extenuating circumstances.

1. Traditional Residence Halls: \$4,000
2. Bass Housing Complex: \$4400
3. New Apartment Complex: \$4,700
4. Private Room Charge: \$200, per semester. A limited number of private rooms are available on a first come, first served basis.
5. Summer School/Maymester Room: Part-time students, enrolled less than 12 hours, \$400 per month; Full-time students, enrolled 12 hours or more, no charge. Summer School Tuition,

Room, and Board charges are subject to change annually

### REFUND POLICY

In the event of a complete withdrawal, the institution will calculate a refund through the 60% point of the semester. After 60% of the semester has been completed, there will be no refund of tuition. A refund is calculated by dividing the date of withdrawal by the number of federally defined days in the semester. Board fees will be refunded on a pro-rata basis. There is no refund of room after the fifth day of class. Refunds for students receiving federal aid will be calculated using the current federal policy.

## GENERAL FINANCIAL STIPULATIONS

Students must have settled all financial obligations to the College in order to receive grade reports, have a transcript issued, or be granted a diploma.

Because of the uncertainty of economic conditions and changing prices of food and other costs, the College reserves the right to vary charges at any time, including during any session, without prior notice.

The registration of a student signifies the assumption of definitive obligations between that student and the College. It is an agreement on the student's part and that of his parents to fulfill the terms of the contract for the semester, and indicates acceptance of financial and general regulations of the current catalog.

Accounts for the semester are payable as specified in the schedule of payments and in full before

completion of registration. The College may assess interest at the rate of 1.0% per month (an annual rate of 12%) on accounts unpaid according to these terms. Such interest will not be levied, however, on balances which will be settled during the semester by federal, state or college grants and loans.

Shorter College cannot assume responsibility for loss or damage of personal property on the campus. Ordinarily the insurance coverage of a parent automatically provides for this or can be extended for this purpose. The institution's annual campus security report can be accessed at [www.shorter.edu](http://www.shorter.edu).

No salespersons are permitted to canvass on the campus without prior written approval. Book salespersons must secure written approval from the Provost; all other salespersons must secure written approval from the Senior Vice President.

## FINANCIAL AID

Shorter College has a long-standing tradition of assisting students in financing their college education. Financial aid is available from a variety of sources, including: the College, through its own funds and through endowments; the state of Georgia; and the Federal Government.

The best source of information about sources of financial assistance for educational expenses while enrolled in college is the Financial Aid Office. This office seeks to enable all qualified persons to attend Shorter College by putting together the best financial aid package possible for each student applicant. Guidelines must be observed in order to make the financial aid program equitable and to provide financial assistance for as many students as possible.

### GENERAL REGULATIONS

**Students must apply for financial aid each year.** The financial aid office will coordinate which documents are required for application and renewal each year. These processes are electronic. For need-based programs, proper need analysis must be used to determine eligibility for those programs by completing the FAFSA at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). Shorter College's online financial aid system can be accessed at [finaid.shorter.edu](http://finaid.shorter.edu). Student's can apply for the state grant programs at [www.gacollege411.org](http://www.gacollege411.org).

Once a student has been properly admitted to Shorter College, and the financial aid processes completed, an award package will be available to the student through Shorter College's online financial aid system. Please review the financial aid policies and procedures regarding the receipt of your financial aid. In the Shorter College financial aid office, we use the Shorter

College email system as our official means of documented communication. If you prefer to receive printed correspondence, please let us know. Upon being awarded, we will email a notification to you stating that your financial aid awards are ready for your review. The financial aid will not be disbursed to the student's account until the student is properly enrolled and attending classes for the specific period of enrollment. Most financial aid is based on full-time enrollment status, which is defined as a minimum of 12 semester hours for traditional semester programs and a minimum of 24 semester hours over a minimum of 30 weeks of instruction for non-term programs (Professional Studies). Any deviation from full-time status may result in re-calculation of financial aid awards.

A student's eligibility to participate in the financial aid programs is contingent upon the student's academic standing. Regulations regarding Satisfactory Academic Progress for financial aid are found in this section.

Students receiving institutional scholarships and wish for those scholarships to continue to the following year must complete the necessary financial aid forms and register for fall semester classes in the previous spring semester in order to maintain those scholarships.

### INSTITUTIONAL AID

Shorter College offers a wide variety of scholarships funded from the college's own resources as well as from endowed contributions. Deadlines and criteria for these scholarship programs vary greatly, so students are advised to check with the Financial Aid Office or the Admissions Office as far in advance as possible to apply for institutional scholarships. Institutional scholarships include, but are not limited to, competitive academic scholarships, academic excellence scholarships, music department scholarships, athletic scholarships, etc.

**Students must be enrolled full-time to receive any institutional aid.** Institutional aid is available to transfer students based on the difference between the number of transferable credits received and the number of semesters required to complete a degree at Shorter. For example, if a student transfers in 60 semester hours, institutional aid would be available for the remaining four semesters.

No institutional aid is available for summer enrollment. Because students enrolled in the non-term accelerated programs already receive a special tuition structure, no institutional aid is available for those programs.

NOTE: Shorter College reserves the right to adjust institutional aid when that aid in combination

with other forms of aid (except Pell Grant and Stafford/Perkins Loans) exceeds the cost of tuition plus the federal allowance for books.

Shorter College reserves the right to change all policies concerning the awarding of financial aid and scholarships without notice due to financial and regulatory considerations and changes.

### ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

The Application for Admission to Shorter College is also the application for Academic Scholarships (Academic Excellence, Dean's, Faculty, and Shorter College Grant), excluding Competitive Scholarships.

If awarded an Academic Excellence or Dean's Scholarship, a student must maintain at least a 3.0 grade point average on a four-point scale to be eligible to retain the scholarship. If awarded a Faculty Scholarship, a student must maintain at least a 2.75 grade point average on a four-point scale to be eligible to retain the scholarship. If awarded a Shorter College Grant, a student must maintain at least a 2.0 grade point average on a four-point scale to be eligible to retain the scholarship. A higher grade-point average may be required to maintain Competitive Scholarships. One-half of the Academic Scholarship is applied to tuition charges at registration for fall semester, and the other half is applied to tuition charges at registration for spring semester. If a prospective student is eligible for more than one non-underwritten scholarship, scholarships which Shorter College finances from its own resources, only the larger scholarship will be granted, not a combination of the scholarships.

Scholarships are awarded for one year at a time. In order to establish eligibility, it is necessary for the student to have been accepted for admission to Shorter College. Renewal eligibility is determined at the end of spring semester each year once a student has re-applied and completed all necessary financial aid applications.

### ABILITY AND SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Shorter College offers scholarships in the areas of athletics, music, and in academic departments. Other scholarships are available to persons with special characteristics: senior citizens, children of church employees, etc. Please contact the Financial Aid Office for more information.

### SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED BY GIFTS

The generous gifts of persons and organizations are available to help finance a Shorter College education for those who qualify. A detailed list of such special scholarships is found at the end of this section.

## CHURCH-RELATED GRANTS

Students who are active members of churches within the Georgia Baptist Convention may be eligible for the Baptist Appreciation Scholarship. A recommendation from a church pastor is required.

Students planning to enter a ministerial-related vocation may be eligible for the Ministerial Vocation

Grant. If the student does not enter a ministerial-related vocation after receiving this grant, the grant turns into a loan which must be repaid to Shorter College.

Applications for church-related grants must be renewed each year. Applications are available from the Financial Aid Office.

## STATE AID

### GEORGIA TUITION EQUALIZATION GRANT (GTEG)

Under current regulations, qualified Georgia residents are eligible to receive the Georgia Tuition Equalization Grant (GTEG) to be applied directly to reduce the costs of tuition for full-time undergraduate students who attend private colleges and universities in Georgia. Application for the GTEG is made once by applying online at [www.gacollege411.org](http://www.gacollege411.org) at the student's initial registration at Shorter College. Residency status is checked each year to verify the student's eligibility to renew and maintain the GTEG. GTEG awards are established each year by the legislature of the State of Georgia and are subject to change.

### HOPE SCHOLARSHIP

Initial HOPE scholarship eligibility is determined by the student's high school GPA of 3.0 or higher in all core classes. Student's apply online once at [www.gacollege411.org](http://www.gacollege411.org). HOPE scholarship recipients are reviewed by Shorter College for continued eligibility in the spring semester each year as well as at the 30th, 60th, and 90th attempted semester hour levels. Continued eligibility is based on the number of hours attempted and cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher. HOPE and GTEG recipients can currently receive the scholarship for up to **127 attempted** credit hours. HOPE awards and regulations are established by the legislature of the State of Georgia and are subject to change. For further information about the HOPE Scholarship, contact the Georgia Student Finance Commission at 1-800-546-HOPE.

## FEDERAL AID

All Federal Student Aid programs are subject to regulations set forth by the US Department of Education and are subject to change or cancellation by Congressional action. Eligibility for Federal Student Aid programs is determined by a student's submission of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA must be renewed each year. The FAFSA is available electronically at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). For current information concerning Federal Student Aid programs, go to [www.shorter.edu/academics/financial\\_aid/home.htm](http://www.shorter.edu/academics/financial_aid/home.htm).

### PELL GRANTS

Pell Grants are federal grants made available to undergraduate students who demonstrate sufficient financial need. As a grant program, the funds do not have to be repaid. Application for Pell grant eligibility is made with the submission of the FAFSA.

### FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY GRANTS (FSEOG)

FSEOG funds are provided by the US Department of Education for undergraduate students with exceptional financial need in connection with college expenses. As a grant program, FSEOG funds do not have to be repaid. FSEOG funds are limited each year. Recipients of FSEOG funds must also be eligible to receive Pell grant funds unless otherwise determined by the Financial Aid office.

### ACADEMIC COMPETITIVENESS GRANT (ACG)

An Academic Competitiveness Grant will provide up to \$750 for the first year of undergraduate study and up to \$1,300 for the second year of undergraduate study to full-time students who are U.S. citizens, eligible for a Federal Pell Grant, and who had successfully completed a rigorous high school program, as determined by the state or local education agency and recognized by the Secretary of Education.

### **NATIONAL SCIENCE & MATHEMATICS ACCESS TO RETAIN TALENT GRANT (SMART)**

The National SMART Grant is available during the third and fourth years of undergraduate study to full-time students who are eligible for the Federal Pell Grant and who are majoring in physical, life, or computer sciences, mathematics, technology, or engineering or in a foreign language determined critical to national security. \$4000 per year is the award for the 2008-2009 award year.

### **TEACHER EDUCATION ASSISTANCE FOR COLLEGE AND HIGHER EDUCATION GRANT (TEACH)**

The TEACH Grant Program provides grants of up to \$4,000 per year to students who intend to teach. In exchange for receiving a TEACH Grant, you must agree to serve as a full-time teacher in a high-need field in a public or private elementary or secondary school that serves low-income students. As a recipient of a TEACH Grant, you must teach for at least four academic years within eight calendar years of completing the program of study for which you received a TEACH Grant. **IMPORTANT:** If you fail to complete this service obligation, all amounts of TEACH Grants that you received will be converted to a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan. You must then repay this loan to the U.S. Department of Education. You will be charged interest from the date the grant(s) was disbursed.

### **FEDERAL WORK-STUDY PROGRAM (FWS)**

The FWS program provides job opportunities to students demonstrating financial need so they can earn part of their educational expenses. Eligibility for the work-study program is determined by the Financial Aid office based on a student's indication of interest, demonstration of financial need, and the availability of campus work-study positions. Work-study funds are limited, but are available to undergraduate and graduate students. Students are paid monthly by check based on the hours worked.

### **LOAN PROGRAMS**

Shorter College participates in the Stafford Loan program, the PLUS Parent Loan program, and the Perkins Loan Program. Each of these loan programs is regulated by the US Department of Education. As loan programs, the funds must be repaid, and a variety of deferred repayment options exist. Application for these loan programs begins with the submission of the FAFSA each year. Students and parents can go online to Shorter College's online lender list at [www.elmselect.com](http://www.elmselect.com) to compare and choose from a list of lenders. Shorter College will process a loan through any lender of your choice. Loan funds are available to undergraduate and graduate students.

Post-baccalaureate students returning to Shorter for teacher certification are eligible for Stafford loans and Perkins loans for one year. Stafford loans are available to students enrolled in graduate programs.

## SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS FOR FINANCIAL AID

In order for a Shorter College student to receive financial aid from federal assistance programs, the student must demonstrate satisfactory academic progress. Evaluation of satisfactory academic progress will be based on all courses at Shorter College and all previous credits transferred in and applied to the student's degree program at Shorter. Hours attempted at previous colleges but not applied to the student's degree program will not be included in the assessment of Satisfactory Academic Progress for financial aid. At Shorter College, satisfactory academic progress for financial aid will be evaluated by the Offices of the Registrar and Financial Aid according to the following schedule:

**Semester-based programs** – at the end of the fall and spring semesters.

**Non-term programs** – at the end of each student's financial aid award year (24 credit hours minimum) prior to processing the next award year.

Per federal statute, satisfactory academic progress for continued receipt of federal financial aid is measured in terms of three components:

- a qualitative component (GPA)
- quantitative component (completion of attempted credit hours)
- length of time to complete the program.

### Qualitative Component:

Students must have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 for Satisfactory Academic Progress in order to retain federal financial aid. These standards apply to full-time and part-time enrolled students.

### Quantitative Component:

Full-time enrolled students must successfully complete 12 credit hours each semester and part-time students must successfully complete 2/3 (67%) of their attempted coursework for each academic year at the appropriate checkpoint for Satisfactory Academic Progress. Successful completion of courses means the student has received a grade of A, B, C, D, S or P. (Exception: some courses require a C or higher) Receipt of grades F, I, W, WF, WA, or NG (except labs) does not constitute successful completion.

- Successfully complete (earn credit toward your degree) 24 credit hours each academic year.

### Timeframe Component

Students must complete their degree program within 150% of the normal timeframe. All attempted

classes at all colleges that are attributable to your degree at Shorter College must be considered in this calculation. Normally 126 credit hours are required to earn a bachelor's degree at Shorter College. Therefore, an undergraduate student shall be deemed in good standing and eligible to receive federal financial aid for up to 189 credit hours. If the degree requires more than 126 credit hours, the maximum timeframe to receive aid is 150% of the required hours for that program. All semesters enrolled and credit hours attempted are counted toward the SAP maximum time allowance, regardless of whether or not a student received financial aid for the period of enrollment. All repeated courses, failed courses, withdrawals and transfer hours will be counted as credit hours attempted toward the maximum time frame.

A first-time financial aid recipient (not including first-time freshmen or transfer students) must satisfy the necessary standards for the timeframe in which the student has been enrolled at Shorter. For example, suppose a student becomes eligible to receive financial aid for the first time after the fourth semester of enrollment. The student must have attained a cumulative GPA of 2.00 for federal aid to be disbursed. An entering freshman will be understood to be maintaining satisfactory academic progress during the first two semesters of attendance; a transfer student will be understood to be maintaining satisfactory academic progress during the first semester at Shorter College.

No student will be awarded federal aid for more than twelve (12) semesters of enrollment at Shorter College (excluding summers). In the case of transfer students, remaining full-time terms of eligibility will be determined according to the number of semester hours accepted by Shorter College.

<u>Hours Accepted For Transfer</u>	Remaining Semesters of Eligibility <u>(Term-Based)</u>	Remaining Award Years of Eligibility <u>(Non-Term)</u>
1 - 9	12	6
10-19	11	5 ½
20-31	10	5
32-44	9	4 ½
45-57	8	4
58-69	7	3 ½
70-96	6	3

If a student finds it necessary to change his/her major upon reaching SENIOR status, an extension of two semesters may be granted for receipt of federal financial aid. If a degree change is necessary, a maximum of one year extension will be granted. These changes must be officially recorded in the Office of the Registrar, and the student must notify the Financial Aid office in writing. Students who find it necessary to change degree or major prior to reaching senior status are expected to complete the objective within a total of 10 full-time semesters.

Incomplete coursework ("I" grades) will not be used in calculating hours earned for satisfactory academic progress. In the case of a student who has an incomplete grade, the GPA will be calculated for that enrollment period without the "I" grade being used. The incomplete, when cleared to a letter grade, will be counted in the cumulative GPA for the next period of eligibility (next payment period). A course that is required to be repeated to fulfill graduation requirements or satisfy major field standards will be used in its repetition to calculate hours. (If a course is repeated which was previously passed successfully, these hours will not be used in the quantitative calculations for satisfactory academic progress but will be used in calculating the cumulative GPA). A student will have a maximum of two (2) repeats of a course to bring up a grade.

Should a student have a deficiency at the end of the regular school year, summer school may be used to make up the deficiency. However, it should be pointed out that no federal aid will be awarded to the student for that period. Transient work approved by the Provost or Registrar may be used to make up deficiencies. Transcripts of such work must be received by the Office of the Registrar before federal aid will be disbursed. (Hours will be converted to semester hours for evaluation).

Students not maintaining satisfactory academic progress will have only one probationary period of enrollment (one semester or one 12-hour sequence for non-term programs) during which they may receive federal and/or state aid (no institutional aid is available to students who fall on a probationary financial aid status). At the end of the probationary period of enrollment, the student must have maintained a 2.0 GPA and successfully completed 12 credit hours for that specific term in order to retain financial aid for future terms. If the student maintains the 2.0 GPA during the probationary term but does not increase his/her cumulative GPA to required standards, the probationary period may continue at the discretion of the Director of Financial Aid. A meeting with the Director of Financial Aid will be required at this point. If the student does not successfully maintain a 2.0 GPA during the probationary period of enrollment, no financial aid will be made available to the student until he/she meets the appropriate requirements for Satisfactory Academic Progress based on GPA and hours specified for the specific enrollment status and classification.

Students who experience mitigating circumstances, such as personal illness or injury, injury or death of an immediate family member, fire or violent crime which requires the student to withdraw temporarily from college, drop out, or receive grades of incomplete, may have one semester extension of time in meeting the foregoing requirements for satisfactory academic progress. To receive the extension, the student must provide a personal statement and/or other documentation as required by the Director of Financial Aid. The Financial Aid Committee will have final discretion.

This statement of Satisfactory Academic Progress for financial aid supersedes all previous regulations regarding Satisfactory Academic Progress for financial aid at Shorter College.