

The Work Study Program

The Federal Work-Study Program was established by Congress as a part of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. Its purpose is the promotion of part-time employment (up to 19 hours per week) for student with financial need in order to achieve three main goals:

- To assist students in earning money to meet their educational costs
- To provide work experience related to the student's chosen academic major or career field
- To improve relations between the University and the community.

Work-Study is a federally-subsidized program in which wage costs are shared by the federal government and the university. Because of its federal funding, the Federal Work-Study Program must adhere to strict regulations enacted by Congress and enforced by the U. S. Department of Education.

Participating in the Work-Study Program is determined by the student's financial need (total cost of attending Texas A&M University – Commerce, minus family contribution) and is awarded as part of a financial aid package. If you are interested in receiving Work-Study in your aid package, please answer question # 26 with #1 “work-study” or #3 “work-study and student loans” on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

When work study is awarded, students are granted a work-study earnings limit. This is the maximum amount which may be earned by the students during the academic terms covered. Students should be aware that their limits may be decreased during the academic year if unanticipated resources (e.g., scholarships) affect their aid packages.

Work-Study positions are hourly-wage jobs in which a student works for an employer according to a mutually agreed-upon schedule and is paid by check on a bi-weekly basis for the hours worked. The maximum number of hours a student may work per week is 19. Work-Study awards are not grants automatically applied towards one's tuition bill, nor is the amount of the award guaranteed. An award simply authorizes a student to participate in the program and sets a limit as to the amount of income a student can earn during the academic terms covered. It is the responsibility of the student to work enough hours to reach the earnings limit and to budget the money wisely throughout the year to meet necessary college costs.

If you have been awarded Work-Study, please click here. (link to the acceptance of Work-Study page)