

## **Removing the Mystery of Costs at Bellarmine University**

Congratulations on your choice of Bellarmine University. We join you in the appreciation of a liberal arts education and we understand the commitment you are making financially. Through the benefit of the financial aid programs for which you qualify, and through the utilization of additional cost relief options, an affordable investment in a Bellarmine education is a reality. We are committed to delivering the highest quality education available and we will work with you so you can enjoy these advantages at the lowest possible cost.

**Cost of Attendance (COA):** The COA is the sum of tuition, fees, housing & food, combined with allowances for books, transportation, personal expenses, and if applicable, loan fees. This is the ‘cost’ figure used in determining the amount of financial aid eligibility you have, NOT the cost that you incur to attend Bellarmine. To determine your financial need, your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) is subtracted from the COA.

**Direct Cost:** The Direct Cost is the sum of tuition and fees (add housing & food to this figure if you are going to be living in an on-campus residence hall). This is the ‘cost’ figure used in determining the actual charges that will be placed on your statement of account, NOT the cost that you incur to attend Bellarmine.

**Out-of-Pocket Cost:** Out-of-Pocket Cost is the final cost to you after crediting all financial aid to your statement of account. This is the ‘cost’ figure used in working with you to determine what other cost relief options may exist, or how best to manage a payment arrangement through a combination of programs and benefits.

### **2023-2024 (Fall 2023, Spring 2024) COA Rationale**

#### **Tuition**

Full-time tuition for undergraduates is \$22,595 per semester.

Students who vary and take more courses than allotted in the budget may request the Office of Financial Aid to adjust the tuition component to reflect actual tuition charges.

#### **Fees**

Undergraduate full-time students have a fee total of \$1,590 per academic year. This amount represents \$795 per semester for the comprehensive fee, which includes student activities, technology, printing, parking, drop/add and transcript fees.

#### **Housing**

All students are allotted \$5,150 per year (\$2,575/sem.) for housing costs. This amount represents a weighted average cost of Bellarmine’s residence hall, plus a \$25 residence hall fee each semester. This cost is comparable to the allotted Living Expense Budget for housing for independent Kentucky students at the lowest budget rate as published by the College Board.

## **Food**

Students are allotted \$5,050 for food for the academic year (\$2,525/semester). This amount represents an average of meal plan options offered by Bellarmine. Various options are available for students in 23-24.

## **Books**

The cost of books and course materials are included in the tuition price for full-time undergraduate students. Part-time and all other students (graduate, second degree, and degree completers) will receive OnCourse materials at a cost of \$25 per credit hour.

## **Transportation**

Full-time students are allotted \$1,852 per year (\$926/sem.) for travel expenses. Students taking fewer hours have prorated transportation allowances. For instance, students going half-time are allowed \$463 per semester (50%) for transportation. These amounts are based upon the College Board's Living Expense Budget provided for 2023-2024. The rate is based upon the lowest budget category.

## **Personal**

Personal expenses are to include miscellaneous course fees, clothing, hygiene items, insurance, and other miscellaneous costs associated with attending Bellarmine University. Full-time students are allowed \$6,062 per year (\$3,031/sem.) for personal expenses. Students taking fewer hours have prorated personal allowances. For instance, students going half-time are allowed \$1,515 per semester (50%) for personal expenses. This cost is based upon the allotted Living Expense Budget at the lowest budget rate as published by the College Board.

## **Loan Fees**

Because the Department of Education charges 1.057% in a fee when disbursing Federal Direct Loans, Bellarmine is able to include estimated loan fees in the COA. Based on the average Direct Loan for the 22-23 award year, an average fee of \$92 per year (\$46/sem.) is added to the COA. This amount is removed from the COA if the student chooses not to borrow a Direct Loan.

If a student and parent participate in the PLUS Loan Program, or the graduate student participates in the Grad PLUS Program, an average fee of \$338 per semester (\$675/year) is added to the COA. The origination fee for Parent PLUS Loans is 4.228%.

## **Child Care**

Bellarmino will add child care costs incurred while attending class or studying to the cost of attendance upon request. Students who have child care costs may present those expenses to the Office of Financial Aid for inclusion in the COA.

## **Disability-Related Expenses**

Students who have disability-related expenses may present those expenses to the Office of Financial Aid for inclusion in the COA.

NOTE: Please refer to the spreadsheet below for specific cost of attendance information.

### LEGEND FOR SPREADSHEET:

FT = Full-Time Student

HT = Half-Time Student

FY = Full year figure

	<b>Tuition</b>	<b>Fees</b>	<b>Housing</b>	<b>Food</b>	<b>Books</b>	<b>Transportation</b>	<b>Personal</b>	<b>Loan Fees</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>UG- ON-Campus</b>									
FT/FY	45,190	1590	5150	5050	0	1852	6062	92	64,986
FT/SEM	22,595	795	2575	2525	0	926	3031	46	32,493