



University Program Policy 2026-2027 UCA Commitment Policy

This policy applies to the UCA Commitment program and defines eligibility, renewal, and other details associated with the program.

Eligibility:

- To be eligible for UCA Commitment consideration, students must:
 - Apply for the UCA Commitment program;
 - Students who apply to the UCA Commitment program are automatically opted-in once deemed eligible based on admission, FAFSA, and AR Challenge documentation.
 - Submit all required [admission documentation](#) and test scores to the Office of Admissions & Enrollment Services, submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and send it to UCA using school code 001092, and submit [documentation of a completed Arkansas Academic Challenge application](#) to the UCA Commitment office;
 - Be a UCA first-time entering undergraduate;
 - Be an Arkansas resident as [defined by the Arkansas Division of Higher Education](#) (section 5.10) and a graduate from an Arkansas public school, private school, homeschool, or GED recipient;
 - Be Pell-eligible or have an annual household income of \$100,000 or less as documented by a submitted FAFSA.

Deadlines:

- Deadline to apply for UCA Commitment and meet all other eligibility requirements
 - **May 4, 2026**

Scholarship Award Requirements:

- Students must enroll in a minimum of 15 credit hours as of 4:30 pm on the 8th class day each fall and spring semester for the UCA Commitment scholarship to disburse.
 - Students not enrolled in the minimum 15 credit hours will forfeit their UCA Commitment eligibility for the current and future semesters.
- Students must maintain good academic standing as defined by the current UCA Undergraduate Bulletin during the term of their scholarship.

Renewal Requirements:

- To renew/continue eligibility for the UCA Commitment, students must:
 - Successfully complete all required service hours assigned for the semester by 11:59 pm on the date final grade reports are due (please reference the [Academic Calendar](#))
 - Failure to complete all assigned service hours for the semester by 11:59 pm the date on which final grade reports are due may result in forfeiture of future participation in the UCA Commitment program.
 - Students who do not receive any UCA Commitment funding for a semester are not required to complete service hours for that semester, but must meet all other requirements to renew to the following term.
 - Submit a FAFSA by June 1 annually and send to UCA using school code 001092
 - Earn a minimum 2.00 UCA undergraduate cumulative grade point average (GPA) for the first fall-to-spring term, then earn a minimum 2.50 UCA undergraduate cumulative GPA by the end of each subsequent fall and spring term.
 - Earn the minimum number of UCA credit hours per term, including:
 - Years one and after (Fall to Spring): Earn a minimum of 11 total UCA credit hours

- Year one (Spring to Fall): Earn a minimum of 27 total UCA credit hours
- Years two and after (Spring to Fall): Earn a minimum of 30 total UCA credit hours
- The renewal hour criterion is based on UCA undergraduate and transition credit hours only.
- Students must successfully complete all remediation requirements before program participation will be renewed to Year Two.
- If all requirements are completed at the end of the Spring term, then program participation will be renewed at that time.
- If GPA or credit hour requirements have not been completed at the end of the Spring semester, then UCA summer term credit hours and GPA will be considered in the renewal process.
 - Students who do not meet renewal requirements at the end of the spring semester must have attempted hours in one of the following terms: May Intersession, 13-week Summer Session, 10-week Summer Session, 8-week Summer Session, Summer I, or Summer II prior to submitting an exception request. Please refer to the Undergraduate Bulletin for more information on what counts as attempted hours.
- Any student who earns an incomplete (I) grade(s) must have the grade(s) resolved according to the Incomplete Grade Policy and meet renewal requirements to be considered for continued eligibility in the UCA Commitment. Otherwise, an exception request must be submitted in accordance with the Exception Policy.

Disclosures:

- There will be no reinstatement of lost UCA Commitment funding.
- Eligibility for the UCA Commitment only applies to summer or fall-entry first-time freshmen; spring-entry first-time freshmen are not eligible for the program at this time.
- Students who are eligible for the UCA Commitment may receive funds for the duration of eight (8) consecutive fall and spring semesters or through the completion of a bachelor's degree, whichever occurs first.
- Costs associated with Summer Courses are not covered by the UCA Commitment.
- UCA Commitment funds will only apply to charges for in-state tuition and fees directly assessed by the University except for approved programs through the Office of Education Abroad as of the 8th day of classes each fall and spring semester.
- Room and board (i.e., housing and food) charges are not covered by the program.
- UCA Commitment tuition and fee funding will not exceed 18 credit hours in a fall or spring term.
- Students enrolled in UCA Online programs (i.e., fully online programs), that receive flat rate tuition, are not eligible for the UCA Commitment program.
- Students who do not apply for the UCA Commitment program upon initial fall term eligibility are not eligible to participate in the program in future semesters or academic years.
- Students who elect to withdraw from the UCA Commitment must do so in writing.
- Students eligible for a UCA Entering Freshman Academic Scholarship or a Boys/Girls State Scholarship are not permitted to decline the scholarship funds if participating in the UCA Commitment.
- Students who fail to meet renewal requirements for a UCA Entering Freshman Academic Scholarship or a Boys/Girls State Scholarship will not receive additional UCA Commitment funds to replace lost scholarship dollars.
- Service hours completed after the end of a semester may count toward future term assignments
 - Hours completed after the completion of the spring semester but before the beginning of the fall semester will count toward the fall hour assignment.
 - Hours completed after the completion of the fall semester but before the beginning of the spring semester will count toward the spring hour assignment.



- Students' FAFSA must be verified by the last day to register for full-term courses in the following full (Fall or Spring) semester to receive funds through the UCA Commitment program.
- Students must maintain compliance with other applicable university policies to participate in the UCA Commitment program.
- Exceptions to this policy and information about placing UCA Commitment participation on hold can be found at uca.edu/scholarships/policies/.