

Dollars and Sense

Be Mindful and Plan Ahead

Before you arrive on campus, you will need to have a plan for how you are going to pay for the expenses that you can expect during the academic year. Examples include:

Books and Supplies

\$420 (estimated) at the beginning of each semester



Personal Expenses

Laundry, toiletries, entertainment, eating out, etc.

Travel Costs Home

How often? Mode of travel?
Plan ahead for better rates!



Cold-Weather Clothing

Warm coat, socks, boots, etc.

While some of these expenses are accounted for in your financial aid budget, you will need to make sure you have money available to pay for them when you arrive on campus. For most students, the parent contribution will cover indirect expenses, so it is important for you and your family to plan ahead for these expenses prior to the beginning of the semester. If you have any questions or need help figuring out how this is going to work, please get in touch with the Bowdoin Office of Student Aid.

Here are a few ideas for ways to manage your costs at Bowdoin.



Create a budget. It can be as simple as listing on a piece of paper all of your forms of income for the year and all of your anticipated expenses and making sure it balances. There are also many online tools available, including [Mint](#), [PocketGuard](#), and [studentaid.ed.gov](#).



Be smart about your textbooks.

Bowdoin partners with [eCampus](#) to keep the costs of the books you will need for your classes to a minimum. Rather than purchasing books, you can also borrow or rent them. Compare prices on sites such as [booksprice.com](#) and [textsurf.com](#).



Take advantage of student discounts.

Many local and national businesses offer discounts to Bowdoin students. For a complete list, see the Office of the Dean of Students.

For more ideas and information, go to bowdoin.edu/student-aid.