



Ohio Access Initiative Overview

What is the Ohio Access Initiative?

John Carroll University strives to eliminate family income as a barrier to affording a quality John Carroll education for low-income families from Ohio. Ohio students from families who meet the eligibility of the Federal Pell grant (typically an annual parental income under \$40,000) will be able to attend John Carroll University with no out-of-pocket payment toward tuition.

An *0910 Income Verification Form* is required of all students prior to any funds crediting a student account and will be sent after April 1, 2009.

Eligibility

- Recent Ohio high graduates who will be first-time, full-time freshmen.
- A filed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in which students meet all necessary citizenship requirements, eligibility requirements for the Pell Grant, as well as eligibility standards for institutional need-based financial aid.
- Additional financial documentation for verification to ensure the accuracy of eligibility. Forms required may include, but not be limited to: tax forms, W-2s, and 1099s. An annual Income Verification Form is required of all students prior to any funds crediting a student account.
- Annual financial aid review. If Pell eligibility changes during a student's college career, students can expect a JCU commitment comparable to other students with similar financial need. Students will receive priority consideration for additional institutional scholarships made possible through the generosity of our alumni and friends of the University.
- Willingness to engage in community service and social justice activities.
- Observance of the rules and regulation of John Carroll University as outlined in the Community Standards Manual and the JCU Undergraduate Bulletin. Serious infractions or sanctions may result in termination of financial assistance.

Awarding of Funds

John Carroll will meet the published full-time tuition and fees for students through the combinations of federal and state grant aid, the Federal Stafford loan, and John Carroll OAI grant assistance. Tuition-related charges beyond the flat full-time tuition will not change a student financial aid award. Fines and other fees assessed to the student account will not be counted. Students that have unique tuition and registration needs beyond a normal semester course load should consult with the Office of Financial Aid to assess the impact and cost of such decisions. For students wishing to live on campus, the Office of Financial Aid may award additional funds toward room and board for students on an individual basis.

Stafford Loan Borrowing

OAI students will be awarded the Federal Stafford Loan in their financial awards. Over four years, the total Stafford loan borrowing at the full level would be \$19,000. Our goal is to ensure that students graduate without an excessive loan burden. In certain situations, John Carroll may award federal Perkins loan funding. However we will monitor students to ensure that OAI students graduate with under \$25,000 in total borrowing – this amount ensures a realistic payment expectation for our graduates and is consistent with national borrowing averages. However, students are not required to borrow these funds. If a family has other means to pay their tuition balance, the loan amounts may be adjusted or declined. JCU will not replace a declined Stafford loan with additional institutional grant assistance.

What if I receive other outside scholarships and assistance?

An outside scholarship is any scholarship not awarded by the government or the school, such as a scholarship provided by a private sector company, philanthropist or foundation. Outside scholarships are considered resources to the student and may affect your financial aid award, dollar for dollar. John Carroll must adhere to various Federal guidelines concerning "overaward situations" when the total financial aid exceeds the school's cost of education. You are required to report any outside scholarships to the Office of Financial Aid.

Additional Help

John Carroll's financial aid staff is always available to answer any questions you may have concerning the FAFSA form and the application process. Please contact us at (216) 397-4212 or via email at msscotttaylor@jcu.edu.

Ohio Access Initiative 4-Year Service Plan

The Center for Service and Social Action (CSSA) along with the Coordinator for Access and Retention will support and monitor students in the Ohio Access Initiative to ensure a successful transition to campus, completion of OAI requirements, and success towards graduation.

Year One

Goal

At the conclusion of year one (1), students will be able to:

1. Differentiate between charity, service, social justice, and social action.
2. Relate service experiences to their coursework and personal development.
3. Increase their awareness of social justice issues.
4. Display a commitment to service.

Service Activities:

First-year students will work with CSSA to identify service activities that meet students' interests. First-year students can engage in one-time service projects or weekly activities to meet their service requirements.

Students must:

1. Attend a Pre-Service Orientation in the fall semester hosted by CSSA.
2. Enroll and register for service with CSSA.
3. Complete fifteen (15) hours of service in the fall and spring semester for a total of thirty (30) hour of service.
4. Engage in three (3), one hour reflections each semester, for a total of six (6) reflections for the year (reflection groups and dates will be assigned at the start of each semester).

Additionally, students will be encouraged to attend various social and social justice activities on campus.

Year Two

Goal

At the conclusion of year two (2), students will be able to:

1. Identify ways to work for social justice in their daily lives.
2. Value personal and guided reflection as a means to evaluating issues of social justice.
3. Use reflection to synthesize coursework, service, and personal development to identify possible solution to social justice issues.

Service Activities:

Second year students will work with CSSA to identify service activities that meet student's interests. Second year students must complete a majority of their service hours from a sustained commitment to one community partner.

Students must:

1. Attend a pre-service reflection/registration meeting in the fall semester hosted by CSSA.
2. Enroll for service with CSSA.
3. Complete fifteen (15) hours of service in the fall and spring semester for a total of thirty (30) hours of service.
4. Engage in three (3), one hour reflections each semester, for a total of six (6) reflection for the year (reflection groups and dates will be assigned at the start of each semester).

Additionally, students will be encouraged to attend various social and social justice activities on campus.

Years Three and Four

Goal

At the conclusion of year three (3) and four (4) students will be able to:

1. Determine how service, social justice, and social action are related to their career goals and vocation.
2. Demonstrate a lifelong commitment to service, social justice, and social action.

Service Activities

Third and fourth year students will have the option to fulfill their service obligation in one of 4 ways:

1. Sustained direct service (two semesters)
2. OAI Peer Mentoring (two semesters)
3. Service/Social Action Campus Based experience (one semester)
4. Service/Social Action Internship (one semester)

Student can choose from one of the following and must:

1) Sustained direct service

1. Enroll and register for service with CSSA.
2. Engage in service (30 hours each term).

2) OAI Student Mentoring

1. Attend mentor training.
2. Facilitate three (3) reflections per semester, six (6) per year with their mentees (new first or second year students).
3. Facilitate three (3) social activities and three (3) social justice-related activities per semester.
4. Meet bi-weekly with CSSA representative.

3) Campus-based Experience (50 hours)

1. Identify a campus-based site to perform service.
2. Have work plan approved by CSSA.
3. Complete hours.

4) Service/Social Action Internship

1. Identify the off-campus internship site.
2. Have work plan approved by CSSA.
3. Complete all internship requirements.

**For all service options, students must participate in one (1) pre-service reflection, one (1) post-service reflection, and bi-weekly blackboard reflections each semester.