Work-Study FAQs

What is Work-Study?

- Work-study is a component of your financial aid package. A work study award enables you to receive a part-job opportunity. You are **not** paid to study; rather, you use your earnings from your job to pay for college related expenses.

Why is work-study part of my financial aid package?

- Work-study funds are subsidized by the federal or state government or by CSU. 70% of your wages are paid by work-study funds and 30% are paid by your employer.

Does my work-study wages to go my tuition?

- No. The wages get paid directly to you to pay various education-related expenses.

How much is a typical work-study award?

- A typical work-study award is $3500, but it can vary based on your financial aid package. This limit is enough for a work-study employee earning $13.65/hour to average around 10 hours a week throughout the school year.

Is there a limit on how much I can earn each semester?

- You can only earn half of your work-study award during the fall semester.

Can I work during breaks?

- You can work during fall and spring break
- Students can work during the semester break, as long as they have not hit the 50% limit.

I've already earned half of my work-study limit by November and want to continue to work. What are my options?

- Contact the Office of Financial Aid to see if your work-study limit can be increased. These funds do run out, and not all students will qualify.
- Your department has the option of letting your work as an hourly employee. Your department would be responsible for 100% of your wages, so not all departments are able to do this option.

Do I have to use my work-study award on campus?

- No. CSU contacts with a number of governmental agencies, elementary schools, and non-profits, so our students can get unique employment opportunities in the Fort Collins community. These jobs are posted on RAMweb, and can be found by filtering for work-study and paid roles.

More information on work-study can be found by checking out the [Work-study Award Terms](#).