

SPA Online Programs 2026-2027 Cost of Attendance

The cost of attendance (COA) for your program includes both direct expenses and indirect expenses in each term. The direct expenses are the items such as tuition or fees for which American University will bill you directly. The indirect expenses are items for which you may need to pay out of pocket such as off-campus housing, food, transportation, and books/supplies. Off campus housing and other indirect expenses are based on average costs for the U.S and may increase or decrease based on the cost of living at that time. The optional Books & Materials Fee in the billing statement is included as part of the total Books & Supplies amounts below.

Public Administration & Policy

MPAP.PAPL:OL

Half time - 6 credits/term

Tuition per credit - \$1352

Direct Expenses:

Tuition	\$16224
Fees	\$330

Indirect Expenses:

Housing	\$14382
Food	\$5850
Books/Supplies	\$600
Transportation	\$918
Personal Expenses	\$1494
Loan Fees	\$192

TOTAL COA \$39990

Counter Terrorism & Homeland Security

MS.CTHS:OL

Half Time - 6 credits/term

Tuition per credit - \$936

Direct Expenses:

Tuition	\$11232
Fees	\$330

Indirect Expenses:

Housing	\$14382
Food	\$5850
Books/Supplies	\$600
Transportation	\$918
Personal Expenses	\$1494
Loan Fees	\$192

TOTAL COA \$34998

The Office of Financial Aid will use the cost of attendance listed above to determine the amounts of Federal financial aid that you are eligible for. If your actual expenses are higher, you can contact your financial aid counselor at financialaid@american.edu regarding whether or not your cost of attendance can be adjusted. All numbers above are estimated and may be updated at any time.

To apply for Federal financial aid for the fall 2026, spring 2027, or summer 2027 terms, you will need to submit the 2026-2027 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at <https://studentaid.gov>. Include the AU Federal School Code 001434 so results are forwarded to AU.

For more information about the cost of attendance and application deadlines, see our website at www.american.edu/financialaid.