Special Scholarships vs. Per Credit Rate: Understanding Your Award
For Hamilton Students Only
Not Applicable To MACO or D.Min Students

Special Scholarships:

• “Special Scholarships” include the Kern, Partnership, Hispanic Ministries, Graham, Trustee and all merit-based awards.
  ▪ These awards and others may be viewed at:
• Students with special scholarships are billed for full-tuition (which is equivalent to the cost of 10 three-credit courses per academic year) minus the amount of their scholarship.
  ▪ Visit the “Tuition and Fees” webpage for this year’s special scholarship tuition rate:
    http://www.gordonconwell.edu/financial-aid/Hamilton-Tuition-and-Fees.cfm
• Students are NOT required to take 10 courses per academic year. At minimum, a student must be full-time (taking at least 7 credits in the fall and 7 credits in the spring) in order to qualify for a special scholarship. However, students taking 8 or fewer courses may wish to consider declining the special scholarship and paying per credit as it may be cheaper. See the worksheet(s) below for details.
• Students may take more than 10 courses per year at no extra tuition.
  ▪ Students are still responsible to pay registration and course-based fees.
• January and summer term courses are included under the student’s cost of tuition.
• US students with special scholarships may also be eligible for federal student aid.
• Special scholarships may not be combined with any other GCTS institutional aid (except the Jon and Lois Pierce scholarship).
• For more details about special scholarships see the “Special Scholarship Policies” form:

Paying Per Credit:

• Most courses at GCTS are 3 credits.
  ▪ Visit the Financial Aid “Tuition and Fees” page for this year’s per-credit cost:
    http://www.gordonconwell.edu/financial-aid/Hamilton-Tuition-and-Fees.cfm
• Students paying per credit may be eligible for federal student loans if they are at least half-time (taking 4 credits in the fall and 4 credits in the spring).
• Students paying per credit MAY be eligible for GCTS need-based grant aid, which ranges from $100-$300 per course, IF they are taking 7 credits or more in the fall and 7 credits or more in the spring AND demonstrate financial need.
  ▪ GCTS need-based aid cannot be combined with any other GCTS institutional aid.
  ▪ U.S. students awarded GCTS grant aid may also qualify for federal student loans.
  ▪ To apply for GCTS grant aid, complete FAFSA and the GCTS Financial Aid Form at:
    http://www.gordonconwell.edu/financial-aid/Hamilton-Apply-for-Financial-Aid.cfm
Is It Cheaper For Me To Get A Special Scholarship or Pay Per Credit?

**WORKSHEET A – SCHOLARSHIP VS. PAY PER CREDIT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Special Scholarship Tuition Rate (see “Tuition &amp; Fees” webpage*)</th>
<th>Amount of Special Scholarship</th>
<th>Cost of Tuition with Special Scholarship</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

*These web addresses are listed on the previous page

**WORKSHEET B – GRANT AID OPTION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of 3-Credit Courses Per Year (Note: NOT # of Credits)</th>
<th>Max Possible Amount of GCTS Need-Based Aid Per Course</th>
<th>Max Possible Amount of Need Based Aid Per Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

*These web addresses are listed on the previous page

- If the cost of paying per credit is less than the cost of tuition with a special scholarship, then **it may ultimately be more cost-effective for you to pay per credit whether or not you are receiving GCTS need-based aid.**

- If the cost of paying per credit is greater than the cost of tuition with a special scholarship, then complete the following worksheet to take into consideration the possibility of receiving need-based grant aid:

  - **If the cost of paying per credit with the maximum possible need-based award is less than the cost of tuition with a special scholarship, then you may wish to consider paying per credit and applying for GCTS need-based aid.**
  
  - If the cost of paying per credit with the maximum possible need-based award is greater than the cost of tuition with a special scholarship, then **it may ultimately be more cost-effective for you to accept the special scholarship.**

**IMPORTANT:** $300.00 is the maximum possible amount of need based aid which may be awarded per 3-credit course. **Some students may not be eligible for GCTS need-based aid. Students who are eligible for GCTS need-based aid may be awarded anywhere from $100.00-$300.00 per course depending on the need of the individual student. THIS WORKSHEET IS NOT INTENDED TO CALCULATE STUDENT ELIGIBILITY FOR GCTS NEED-BASED AID.**

- For more information about GCTS scholarships and grants, please visit: [http://www.gordonconwell.edu/financial-aid/Hamilton-Scholarships-and-Grants.cfm](http://www.gordonconwell.edu/financial-aid/Hamilton-Scholarships-and-Grants.cfm)