

## 4 Benefits to Work Study

Some students and their parents express concern about managing work study jobs with their classes, study time, social life, and extracurricular activities. Although this is a valid concern, help them feel more comfortable with accessing work-study funds by extolling their benefits. Here are 4 key advantages that you can suggest to your students:

1. **Pocket Money.** Payment of work-study funds happen regularly based on hours worked. Many students use work-study wages for their “other expenses” in their cost of attendance. For many, these funds are used for hygiene products, laundry, parking, and groceries. For others, it’s pizza, coffee, concerts, and cell phones.
2. **Flexibility with Schedule.** Campus employers realize that schoolwork comes first. Often employers on campus will work around the students’ class schedules and enrollment breaks. Some campus employers have time slots that are 1-4 hours at a time to allow the ability to work in between classes.
3. **Improved time management.** Researchers have reported that working 20 hours or less strengthens academic performance. Also, student workers tend to be more engaged than students who did not work at all. This is likely to be because such students have developed strong time management skills.
4. **Job Experience.** Work study jobs are valuable for career planning. The job experience can distinguish a future employment application from other job seekers. Also, an employer may be used as a reference for future jobs or graduate school applications since they can attest to your ability to work hard and be responsible.

Working a few hours between classes or on the weekend can add a new dimension to college. Work-Study gives students an opportunity to help themselves pay for college costs while adding to their resume and time management skills.

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