

Sonoran Desert Institute (SDI) Certificate in Uncrewed Technology - Aerial Systems (CUT-AS)

2025/2026

Total Cost of Attendance 2025-2026

	On Campus Residence	Off Campus Residence
Tuition and Fees		\$ 6,460
Housing and Food	N/A	\$ 5,455
Books and Supplies		N/A
Transportation		\$ 555
Other Education Costs		\$ 3,535
Estimated Cost of Attendance	N/A	\$ 16,005 / yr **

Student Aid Index

Based on the FAFSA As calculated by the institution using information reported on the FAFSA or to your institution.	Varies / yr
Based on Institutional Methodology Used by many private institutions in addition to the FAFSA.	Varies / yr

Scholarship and Grant Options

Scholarships and Grants are considered "Gift" aid - no repayment is needed.

Scholarships

Merit-Based Scholarships	
Scholarships From Your School	\$ Varies
Scholarships From Your State	\$ Varies
Other Scholarships	\$ Varies
Employer Paid Tuition Benefits	\$ Varies
Total Scholarships	\$ Varies / yr

Grants

Need-Based Grant Aid	
Federal Pell Grants ***	\$ 3,698
Institutional Grants	\$ Varies
State Grants	\$ Varies
Other Forms of Grant Aid	\$ Varies
Total Grants	\$ Varies/ yr

VA Education Benefits

VA Education Benefits	\$ Varies / yr
------------------------------	-----------------------

College Costs You Will Be Required to Pay

Net Price To You Total cost of attendance minus total grants and total scholarships	\$ Varies / yr
---	-----------------------

Loan and Work Options to Pay the Net Price to You

You must repay loans, plus interest and fees.

Loan Options*

Federal Direct Subsidized Loan (6.39% interest rate) (1.057% origination fee)	\$ 1,750 / yr
Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan (6.39% interest rate) (1.057% origination fee)	\$ 3,000 / yr
Total Loan Options	\$ Varies / yr

* For federal student loans, origination fees are deducted from loan proceeds.

Other Options

You may have other options to repay the remaining costs. These include:

- Payment plan offered by the institution

- Agency or third-party funding
- Non-Federal Private education loan, which you or your parent can apply for after passing a credit check
- Military or National Service Benefits

Other Potential Education Benefits

American Opportunity Tax Credit: Parents or students may qualify to receive up to \$2,500 by claiming the American Opportunity Tax Credit on their tax return during the following calendar year.

External Grants and Scholarships

Customized Information from SDI

** This estimated cost is for 16 credits (one term) of the CUT-AS program. This program takes one term to complete

*** The estimated maximum Pell Grant available can change based on your eligibility

Work Options

Work-Study	N/A
Hours Per Week (estimated)	
Other Campus Job	N/A
Total Work	N/A

For More Information

Sonoran Desert Institute (SDI)
 Financial Services Office
 1555 W. University Dr. Ste 103
 Tempe, AZ 85281
 Telephone: (480) 744-0742
 E-mail: financialservices@sdi.edu

*** Loan Amounts**

Note that the amounts listed are the estimated maximum available and can change based on your eligibility - you are allowed and encouraged to borrow less than the maximum amount. To learn about loan repayment choices and work out your Federal Loan monthly payment, go to:

<https://studentaid.gov/manage-loans/repayment/plans>.

Next steps

For more information on SDI go to: <https://www.sdi.edu/contact/>

All students applying for Title IV aid will first be reviewed for grant funds. Loans will be reviewed after grants have been calculated

All students will receive an individual offer letter after being packaged by the Financial Services Office. Loan and grant funds on this form are estimates and will change based on student eligibility

Glossary

Cost of Attendance (COA): The total amount (not including grants and scholarships) that it will cost you to go to school during the 2025–26 school year. COA includes tuition and fees; housing and food; and allowances for books, supplies, transportation, loan fees, and dependent care. It also includes miscellaneous and personal expenses, such as an allowance for the rental or purchase of a personal computer; costs related to a disability; and reasonable costs for eligible study-abroad programs.

Direct Subsidized Loan: Loans that the U.S. Department of Education pays the interest on while you're leave school (referred to as a grace period*), and during a period of deferment (a postponement of loan payments).

Direct Unsubsidized Loan: Loans that the borrower is responsible for paying the interest on during all periods. If you choose not to pay the interest while you are in school and during grace periods and deferment or forbearance periods, your interest will accrue (accumulate) and be capitalized (that is, your interest will be added to the principal amount of your loan).

Student Aid Index: A number used by your school to calculate the amount of federal student aid you are eligible to receive. It is based on the financial information provided in your Free Application for Federal student Aid (the FAFSA). This is not the amount of money your family will have to pay for college, nor is it the amount of federal student aid you will receive.

Federal Work-Study: A federal student aid program that provides part-time employment while the student is enrolled in school to help pay his or her education expenses. The student must seek out and apply for work-study jobs at his or her school. The student will be paid directly for the hours he or she works may not automatically be credited to pay for institutional tuition or fees. The amount you earn cannot exceed the total amount awarded by the school for the award year. The availability of work-study jobs varies by school. Please note that Federal Work-Study earnings may be taxed in certain scenarios; however the income you earn will not be counted against you when calculating your Student Aid Index on the FAFSA.

Grants and Scholarships: Student aid funds that do not have to be repaid. Grants are often need based, while scholarships are usually merit based. Occasionally you might have to pay back part or all of a grant if, for example, you withdraw from school before finishing a semester. If you use a grant or scholarship to cover your living expenses, the amount of your scholarship may be counted as taxable income on your tax return.

Loans: Borrowed money that must be repaid with interest. Loans from the federal government typically have a lower interest rate than loans from private lenders. Federal loans, listed from most advantageous to least advantageous, are called Direct Subsidized Loans, Direct Unsubsidized Loans, and Parent PLUS Loans. You can find more information about federal loans at [StudentAid.gov](https://studentaid.gov).

Net Price: An estimate of the actual cost that a student and his or her family need to pay in a given year to cover education expenses for the student to attend a particular school. Net price is determined by taking the institution's cost of attendance and subtracting any grants and scholarships for which the student may be eligible.

Non-Federal Private Education Loan: A private education loan is a loan issued expressly for postsecondary education expenses to a borrower (either through the educational institution or directly to the borrower) from a private educational lender, rather than as a Title IV, HEA loan offered by the Department of Education.

Origination Fees: An upfront fee charged by a lender for processing a new loan application. It is compensation for putting the loan in place. Origination fees are quoted as a percentage of the total loan.

Parent Plus Loan: A loan available to the parents of dependent undergraduate students for which the borrower is fully responsible for paying the interest regardless of the loan status.

Teach Grant Program: Provides grants of up to \$4,000 a year to students who are completing or plan to complete course work needed to begin a career in teaching. If you do not meet the requirements of your service obligation, all TEACH Grants you received will be converted to Direct Unsubsidized Loans. You must repay these loans in full, with interest charged from the date of each TEACH Grant disbursement. Service obligation information can be found at <https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types/grants/teach>.

Tuition Payment Plan: A tuition payment plan offered by an institution may allow students to spread out their payments. It includes an extension of credit of 90 days or less in which the educational institution is the lender, or of one year or less where an interest rate will not be applied to the credit payment.

VA Education Benefits: Benefits that help Veterans, service members, and their qualified family members with needs like paying college tuition, finding the right school or training program, and getting career counseling. You can find more information here: <https://www.va.gov/education/>.

For more information visit <https://studentaid.gov>.