FACT SHEET

The Stanford Endowment

Stanford has an endowment that provides long-term support for many activities at the university. The endowment comes from charitable gifts made by donors, and it is a major source of funding for student scholarships at Stanford. But there are many limits on how the endowment can be used.

The endowment comes from charitable gifts to the university. When these gifts are given, they often are designated for specific purposes that cannot be changed. About 75% of the endowment is restricted in this way.

The endowment exists to support the university for the long term. Like most universities, Stanford only spends about 5% of the total value of the endowment in any given year.

Payout from the endowment supports nearly every part of the university, including faculty salaries, research, student services, libraries, athletics and student financial aid.

Payout from the endowment is the largest source of undergraduate and graduate student financial aid.

Average Stanford-funded scholarship received by need-based aid recipients in the Class of 2027. The endowment funds our commitment to cover tuition for undergraduate families with incomes of $150,000 and below, and cover tuition, room and board for those below $100,000.

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