

WHY DID I RECEIVE A 1098-T AND WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO WITH IT?

In January of each year, The University of Texas at Arlington generates an IRS form 1098-T for all students who made payments towards qualified tuition and other related educational expenses during the previous calendar year. This form is informational only and should not be considered as tax opinion or advice. It serves to alert students that they may be eligible for a federal income tax education credit. Receipt of Form 1098-T does not indicate eligibility for a tax credit. To determine the amount of qualified tuition and fees paid and the amount of scholarships and grants received, the taxpayer should use their own financial records.

WHAT OTHER INFORMATION DO I NEED TO CLAIM A TAX CREDIT?

While it is a good starting point, the 1098-T, as designed and regulated by the IRS, does not contain all of the information needed to claim a tax credit. Most of the information needed must come from the student's personal financial records of what the student paid for during the calendar year. Additionally, each taxpayer and his or her tax advisor must make the final determination of qualifying expenses.

I GRADUATED AND/OR ATTENDED LAST SPRING, SO WHY DID I NOT GET A 1098-T FORM THIS YEAR?

If you attended in the Regular Spring and/or Spring Intersession last year, you may not receive a 1098-T form. Students are billed for these two sessions as early as November and December, depending on the date of enrollment; therefore, the payments may have been received last calendar year.

WHAT ARE QUALIFIED TUITION AND EXPENSES?

Qualified higher education expenses means tuition, fees, books, and course materials required for enrollment or attendance at an eligible educational institution that were billed from Jan 1 to December 31 of the tax year. Please refer to the IRS for additional information at www.irs.gov/instructions/i1098et/ar02.html.

WHAT ARE NON-QUALIFIED EXPENSES?

Non-qualified expenses are amounts billed for any course or other education involving sports, games, or hobbies, unless the course or other education is part of the student's degree program or is taken to acquire or improve job skills.

Charges and fees for room, board, insurance, medical expenses (including student health fees), transportation, and similar personal, living, or family expenses are also considered non-qualified expenses.

Please refer to the IRS for additional information at www.irs.gov/instructions/i1098et/ar02.html.

HOW DO I CLAIM A CREDIT?

The university cannot advise students on the preparation of their tax return. Information for calculating a credit can be found in IRS Publication 970, which is available at www.irs.gov.

I TOOK NON-CREDIT COURSES LAST YEAR THAT WERE REQUIRED BY THE UNIVERSITY BEFORE I COULD ENROLL. WHY ARE THESE AMOUNTS NOT SHOWN ON THE 1098-T?

The university does not generate 1098-T information for non-credit courses, even if they were required by the university.

HOW IS MY FINANCIAL AID REPORTED?

Financial aid, including scholarships and/or grants, is only reported when it is not expected to be paid back by the student. Financial aid is reported on your 1098-T according to the calendar year that it was posted to your account, not necessarily the year it was applied or refunded. Any change reflected in this amount for future years will be reported on a future year's 1098-T form.