

PATHWAY RETENTION AWARD

The application process for The Pathway Retention Award is now open! Established by The Office of Institutional Equity & Diversity, this Award recognizes the value that diverse students bring to the university, including students from racial and ethnic backgrounds considered traditionally underrepresented in higher education. This Award seeks to promote persistence and success of diverse and talented undergraduate students who currently attend Old Dominion University (ODU) and are rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Awards are inclusive of (1) Students who receive book and meal awards and (2) students who receive the book awards *only*.

Students receiving the **book and meal award** receive a bookstore waiver valued at \$430.00 and a *Block 160 Meal Plan*, consisting of 160 meals per semester and \$450.00 of flex points, which is an extension of the on-campus dining meal plan, accepted only in select on-campus retail food service establishments (*i.e.*, *Chick-Fil-A*, *ODU Food Court*, *Starbucks*, *Subway*). Students receiving the **book award** *only* receive a bookstore waiver valued at \$430.00. Students prepared to use their unique experiences and diverse perspectives, in the classroom, to advance the university community towards Inclusive Excellence are encouraged to apply.

TERMS/CONDITIONS

All Pathway Retention Award recipients are expected to serve as secret shoppers for Auxiliary Services during the 2017-18 school year *and* attend two end-of-the-year award ceremonies hosted by The Office of Institutional Equity & Diversity and Auxiliary Services.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

January 13

CONTACT

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ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Essay submissions are reviewed and ranked by a selection committee who recommends award distribution to eligible students. All students who receive The Pathway Retention Award, administered by The Office of Institutional Equity & Diversity must:

- Be a member of an underrepresented group, which includes but is not limited to:
 - documented learning disability
 - first-generation college student
 - native language is not English
 - nontraditional student (e.g., age)
 - racial/ethnic minority
 - single parent
 - works full-time while enrolled at Old Dominion
 - veteran status
- Maintain full-time enrollment
- Maintain good academic standing with a minimum of a 2.5 cumulative GPA

One page essay submissions are due January 13th to officeofinstitutionalequitydiversity@odu.edu with a subject line that reads, "PRA Application." Award recipients will be notified by February 22nd. Students meeting basic criteria compete for the awards by submitting a one-page, Word document, essay explaining (1) how the financial award may impact persistence and (2) how the student would make a positive contribution to their program of study and the ODU campus community. Submissions should follow the following formatting