

What's the difference between federal workstudy and a payroll job?

- Federal workstudy (FWS) is based on income need. It is determined by the Office of Student Financial Services using information provided in the student's FAFSA form.
- The federal government funds 75% of the workstudy's total salary and Utica College funds the remaining 25% while Utica College funds 100% of a college payroll salary. The payroll office processes the payment to the student regardless of the actual "funding".
- Every year UC makes a request for an amount of FWS funds. If those funds are not utilized, the amount is cut for the following year.
- Students who receive FWS have a higher unmet need as well as a larger earning potential. FWS is a part of their total financial package they receive upon acceptance.

Important details about FWS:

- Students who plan to work only in the spring semester must notify Student Employment by the deadline to "hold" the spring portion of their work study awards (working half the year means they get half of the award).
- Only the fall portion of the work study award may be earned during the fall semester. Any unearned portion from the fall semester will roll into the spring semester's earnings eligibility.
- While students may not earn more than the federal work study award amount, it may be possible, however, for a student to continue employment using college payroll funds if the employing department has funds available.