Student Finance FAQ

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Tuition Payment Requirements & Schedule
[ALL STUDENTS]

Required Upfront Course Deposit

After signing your Student Enrollment Agreement (“SEA”), you will receive an email with payment links to pay your Course Deposit via ACH (e-check) or credit card through Paysimple; our online payment processor. If you need to make alternative payment arrangements (check, wire transfer) Please contact us at Bursar@galvanize.com.

- Course Deposit are paid “out-of-pocket’ and may not be financed.
- The Course Deposit is due within three days of signing your SEA.
- The Course Deposit includes a non-refundable Registration Fee of $100 that Galvanize fully retains if you separate. The remainder of the Course Deposit is subject to the refund policy in the SEA.
- Students utilizing VA funding must submit appropriate documentation to demonstrate that the VA will pay the Course Deposit. (Cert. of Eligibility)
- You are not admitted until you satisfy the Course Deposit requirement.

When do I pay the Tuition Balance?

Unless otherwise stated in your Student Enrollment Agreement, your tuition payment is due full on the start date of your program. For Galvanize Immersive Programs - Students must select from one of the following payment options at the time of enrollment;

- **Upfront**: Payment in full is due on the Start Date of your program
- **Split**: 50% Payment is due on the Start Date of your program, and the remaining balance is due at the midpoint of the program.
- **Third-Party Loan Provider** - Arrangements with 3rd Party lenders must be finalized prior to the start date of your program.
- **Other Third-Party Payment** - For VA funding and ISA students, documentation must be certified by the Start Date of your program.
Will I receive an invoice for tuition?

Yes. Every student will receive a tuition invoice via email one-week prior to the program start date. If you are financing your tuition through a third party (loan or ISA) this will NOT be reflected on your invoice. It should reflect any direct payments you have made to Galvanize. If your invoice does not reflect any direct payments that you have already made, please contact bursar@galvanize.com.

What Methods of Payment does Galvanize accept?

- **Upfront / Direct Payment** -
  - *ACH Bank Transfer* - Galvanize’s preferred payment method
  - *Credit Card* - convenience fee applies
  - *Check / Wire Transfer* - Wire transfer information is located on your Invoice. Please email Bursar@galvanize.com if you plan on using these payment methods.
- **Loans through Third-Party Lending Partners** *(subject to credit approval)*
- **Galvanize Income Sharing Agreement** *(subject to credit approval)* *(Not available in Washington, Iowa, California or South Carolina)*
  - *Learn More*
- **VA Educational Benefits** *(select programs and campuses)*
  - *Please email vabenefits@galvanize.com* for further information
- **Scholarships**
  - *Learn More*

Can I split direct payment into more than two installments?

No. Galvanize offers direct payment in one or two installments. For further payment flexibility, third-party loans are available through our lending partners.

Can I pay with multiple credit cards?

Yes. You can make multiple credit card payments using PaySimple with different payment cards, however, there is a convenience fee charged for each payment.
Can I use multiple methods of payment?

**Sometimes.** Galvanize permits students to use loans or an ISA to pay a portion of their tuition however we do not permit students to simultaneously use an ISA and a loan from one of our lending partners. This policy is in place to ensure that students do not leave our program with unmanageable payment obligations.

Can I pay my tuition with a tax-advantaged college savings account (529 account)?

**Maybe.** The policies of the financial institution where your account was created will determine whether you are eligible to use these funds for a non-accredited vocational training program like Galvanize. Please contact them for further information.

What is the Tuition Refund Policy?

The Tuition Refund Policy is state-specific and is stated in your Student Enrollment Agreement.

- Galvanize offers a prorated tuition refund policy in accordance with applicable law, the refund eligibility period and cutoff date is stated in your enrollment agreement.
- If you separate from a program before the refund cutoff date; you may be eligible for a pro-rated refund of tuition paid.
- If you separate from a program after the refund cutoff date, there is no refund and Galvanize is entitled to retain 100% of the program tuition.

What if I have additional questions?

If the answer to your question is not in this FAQ, please email Bursar@galvanize.com with any questions and copy your Enrollment Advisor.

- We will try our best to assist you with further information.
Galvanize partnered with industry-leading loan providers, however, we advise students to carefully review and understand the terms of any loan agreement with a lender before signing. Neither Galvanize nor its partners can guarantee financing for any student.

What 3rd party lenders has Galvanize partnered with?

We work with two great lending Partners, Ascent Funding (formerly Skills Fund), and Climb Credit. Both offer financing solutions for our students. We recommend reviewing their application landing pages through the links above for the most up-to-date information and to compare rates.

Is there a credit check to apply for a loan?

Yes. The loan application requires a hard credit inquiry through our lending partner which appears on your credit report and can influence your credit scores. Each subsequent loan application will require a separate credit inquiry, so we recommend that you request an appropriate loan amount when you initially apply.

Can I apply for a loan before I’ve been accepted to a Galvanize program?

Yes. You can apply for a loan up to 90 days prior to the start date of the program. Galvanize will not certify your loan until you have been accepted and sign an enrollment agreement.

Is any upfront payment required when I use a loan to pay my tuition?

Yes. We require all students utilizing third-party lenders to pay an upfront Course Deposit of $100 at the time of enrollment. [Note: this amount was lowered from $2,000 to $100 for all cohorts starting after January 1, 2022]

Can I use a loan for only a portion of my tuition?

Yes. Students can apply for a loan to cover a portion of their tuition, and pay the rest upfront no later than the start date of the Program. The minimum amount
available as a loan is two-thousand dollars ($2,000.00) however this is subject to change. Please check the loan provider's website for the most current information.

Can I take out a loan for living expenses?

Yes. Borrowers may also be eligible for additional loan funding for living expenses. **Please Note:** Our lending partners do not offer, and Galvanize will not certify any loans that are solely for living expenses.

Is Galvanize approved for federal student loans?

No. Galvanize is not an accredited institution and is not approved to accept federal student loan funding.

Am I eligible for a loan if I am an international student?

No. At this time our lending partners can only lend to U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents.

What if I receive a scholarship or discount after I’ve already signed a loan agreement?

Not to worry! Your loan can be easily adjusted down in this case. Galvanize will work with Ascent Funding and Climb to ensure that the correct loan amounts are reflected before the loan disbursement date. Your loan provider will reach out to you with new loan information after the adjustments have been made.

If I use a lending partner, how does Galvanize get my tuition money?

Lending partners disburse the tuition directly to Galvanize. Living expense disbursements are made directly to the student roughly two weeks from the start date of the program.

Will I have to make loan payments while in the program?
It Depends. Our lending partners offer different repayment options, some of which require that you make interest-only payments while in the program and during your grace period, after which time you will start the repayment period for the length of the agreed upon loan term. Please refer to your loan agreement with Ascent or Climb for more information.

Can I defer my other student loans while attending Galvanize?

Probably Not. We recommend that you contact your student loan provider to answer this question. Because Galvanize is not an accredited institution and is not approved to accept federal funding, federal student loans are ineligible for deferment while attending a Galvanize program.

Does Galvanize provide me with an IRS Form 1098 form to reflect my tuition expenses?

No. Galvanize is not an accredited institution and therefore does not provide any tax forms. Please consult a tax professional with regards to reporting your tuition payments when you file your taxes.
Income Sharing Agreement FAQ

Below are common questions asked by students about ISA’s. We ask that you review the below information carefully and reach out to isa.bursar@galvanize.com with any follow up questions.

**NOTE:** This information is intended to provide you with a better understanding of how ISA payment obligations work. Be sure to review your ISA and all disclosures carefully before executing ensure that you fully understand the terms and conditions.

**What is the Galvanize ISA?**

Galvanize offers an Income Sharing Agreement (“ISA”) for qualified students to help fund program tuition. Our current ISA terms can be found here.

After a three-month post-graduation grace period; the ISA starts and remains in effect for a fixed payment window during which you must make a specified number of monthly payments equal to a fixed percentage of your gross monthly income. Provided that your annualized monthly salary is greater than the minimum threshold stated in the ISA, you are obligated to make monthly payments until one of the following occurs;

- Your total payment amount reaches the Payment Cap stated in the ISA; or
- You complete the required Number of Payments stated in the ISA; or
- The Payment Window period expires, as stated in your ISA.

Whenever one of the above conditions is met, the ISA terminates, and any remaining balance is forgiven.

**Is there a credit check required to apply for an ISA?**

Yes. The ISA application requires a hard credit inquiry through our servicing partner, Stride Funding. This type of inquiry appears on your credit report and can influence your credit scores.
What are the eligibility requirements for an ISA?

Galvanize currently offers ISA’s in most states (except California, Washington, Iowa, Alabama, South Carolina). In addition to the credit check to determine financial eligibility, ISA applicants must be 18 years of age or older, enrolled in a Galvanize Immersive Program, and must meet one of the following residency requirements:

- Student must be a U.S. citizen, legal permanent resident or DACA recipient,
- Student must have a valid social security number and the legal right to work in the United States
- Student is present in the United States under Temporary Protected Status (“TPS”) and have a valid and current employment authorization document;

Additionally, applicants with existing income share payment obligations of ten (10) percent or more of their earned income in any given month are not eligible for the Galvanize ISA.

How can I find out if I am eligible for an ISA?

Eligibility is determined based on your state of residence and the program that you wish to enroll in. Please reach out to your Enrollment Advisor for further information.

Is any upfront payment required to use an ISA?

Yes. We require all students utilizing third-party lenders or ISAs to pay an upfront Course Deposit of one hundred dollars ($100) at the time of enrollment.

Can I combine an ISA and a loan from a Galvanize lending partner to fund my program tuition or my “cost of living” expenses in the program?

No. Our internal policy precludes a student from simultaneously utilizing a lending partner and an ISA in order to reduce the risk of unmanageable payment obligations for our graduates. We do not make exceptions to this policy.
Am I able to use an ISA for only a portion of my tuition?

Yes. Students can apply for an ISA to cover a portion of their tuition, and pay the rest upfront no later than the start date of the Program. The minimum amount available through an ISA is seven-thousand five-thousand dollars ($7,500.00).

When am I required to start making payments under an ISA?

Payments begin after the expiration of a three-month grace period that starts on your date of graduation from the training program.

Can I cancel my ISA or change my mind and select a different payment method after the start of the program?

No. The period of time where you have a right to cancel the ISA is stated within the agreement and in your Final disclosure.

Am I still responsible for paying my ISA;
- If I secure a job in a field different from what I was trained for in the program?
- If I stay in the same job I was in before the program?
- If I get a part-time job or a contractor or temporary position?

Yes. Once your grace period expires you are required to make a monthly payment if your annualized monthly earned income is greater than the minimum income threshold in your ISA irrespective of the source of that earned income.

Am I still responsible for paying my ISA;
- If I voluntarily withdraw from the educational program before graduation?
- If Galvanize dismisses me from the educational program?

Yes. If you separate from the program for any reason, you will still be responsible for making payments under the terms of the ISA, however the amount of your ISA will be reduced by any refund amount that you are entitled to under the terms of your Student Enrollment Agreement.
How does the prorated refund policy work with ISAs?

If you are eligible for a prorated refund, your ISA amount will be reduced by the eligible amount. The Payment Cap in your ISA will be 1.4X the reduced ISA amount. You would remain responsible for making payments under the terms of the ISA.

Under what circumstances will I not have to make monthly payments towards the ISA?

You would not be responsible for making monthly payments if your annualized monthly earned income is below the minimum income threshold stated in your ISA. If your income remains below this threshold throughout the entire Payment Window, then you will not be responsible for any payments.

If I prepay the ISA will I save money?

Yes. Once you have started the Program, and the cancellation period in your ISA has passed; the terms of the ISA are set. This means that in order to terminate the ISA by prepayment, you would have to pay either (1) the Payment Cap stated in your ISA Agreement in full, less any prior payments already made towards the ISA - or (2) the Implied APR Cap - whichever is lower.

Am I required under the ISA to report my income to Galvanize?

Yes. Our ISA provider, Stride Funding and their servicing partner Knowledge Finance, will service your ISA. You are required to update your income with them through their payment portal as it changes. The ISA also authorizes access to your annual tax returns each year that the ISA is in effect, and to make any required adjustments to your payment amount. You will also be required to use an Approved Deposit account for your Earned Income - and authorize the servicer to monitor your balance.

What happens if I forget to update my income when it changes?

Stride Funding will reconcile your payments each year with your reported income and make any required adjustments as needed. This could result in an
adjustment payment requirement. We recommend that you keep your income updated in the payment portal to avoid unexpected payment adjustments.

What happens if I stop making ISA payments as required?

Because the payment obligations in the ISA are legally binding, there are legal consequences for failing to meet those obligations. We prefer that you contact Stride Funding anytime payment issues arise and they will be able to provide options and support.