

Creative Writing (MFA)

Estimated Program Costs

As a student in the **Creative Writing MFA** program at Columbia, you'll be part of a vibrant community of writers of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and hybrid work across genres. Innovative and exploratory approaches are encouraged, as are more traditional approaches to prose and/or poetic forms. With an unusually large, well-published, aesthetically diverse faculty, you'll be stimulated and nurtured as a writer in one of the most exciting cities in the country for emerging literary artists.

To earn a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing, you must complete 35 credit hours.

The below chart reflects the typical costs of a full-time student in this program:

	YEAR 1 FALL AND SPRING	YEAR 2 FALL AND SPRING	TOTAL COSTS
ESTIMATED DIRECT EXPENSES	\$24,988	\$23,668	\$48,656
ESTIMATED INDIRECT EXPENSES	\$30,592	\$30,592	\$61,184

- The estimated **direct expenses** include tuition and fees for the program based on 2025-26 tuition rates. Tuition rates are subject to annual increases. You will be billed by Columbia for direct expenses after you register for each semester of the program.
- The estimated **indirect expenses** reflect the average cost of attending college full time in Chicago and include estimates for books and supplies, room and board, and transportation. You will not be billed by Columbia for indirect expenses and your actual expenses may vary.

Financing Your Graduate Degree at Columbia

Columbia will work closely with you to create a plan to finance your graduate program. We recommend that you submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (**studentaid.gov**) with the Columbia school code of 001665 for the academic year that you plan to begin your graduate program. For additional information on financing your graduate program, please visit colum.edu/columbiacentral.