What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

High School Night



WHAT IS FINANCIAL AID?

Financial aid consists of funds provided to students and families to help pay for postsecondary educational expenses



WHAT IS COST OF ATTENDANCE (COA)?

- Direct costs (tuition, fees, room & board)
- Indirect costs (transportation, personal expenses)
- Varies widely from college to college



WHAT IS EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION (EFC)?

- Amount family can reasonably be expected to contribute
- Stays the same regardless of college
- Two components
 - Parent contribution
 - Student contribution
- Calculated using data from a federal application form and a federal formula



WHAT IS FINANCIAL NEED?

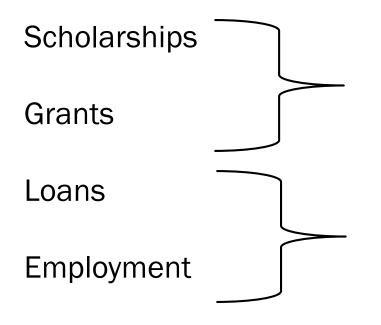
Cost of Attendance

Expected Family Contribution

= Financial Need



TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID



Gift Aid-Does not have to be paid back

Self-Help Aid-Loans Do have to be paid back. Employment does not come off tuition bill



SOURCES OF FINANCIAL AID

- Federal government
- States
- Colleges and universities
- Private sources



FEDERAL STUDENT AID PROGRAMS

- Federal Pell Grant
- Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH)
 Grant
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)
- Federal Work-Study (FWS)
- Subsidized and Unsubsidized Federal Direct Student Loans (Direct Loans)
- Federal PLUS Loans



NEW YORK STATE (WWW.HESC.NY.GOV)

<u>Tuition Assistance Program</u>
(TAP)/Aid for Part Time Studies
(APTS)

Excelsior Scholarship

- Under \$125,000 Combined AGI as reported on 2018 Federal Tax Return
- Residency requirements apply
- Award aid on the basis of both merit and need
- Uses information from the FAFSA to determine the award
- Application Deadline in July/August 2020
- 30 Credit Requirement in One Year



PRIVATE SOURCES

 Foundations, businesses, charitable/civic organizations, churches, high school, web searches

- Deadlines and application procedures vary widely
- Begin researching private aid sources early
- Colleges and Universities- based on merit and financial need. May require institutional application



FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)

- A standard form that collects demographic and financial information about the student and family
- Information used to calculate the expected family contribution (EFC)
- Filed electronically
- Available in English and Spanish



FAFSA

- May be filed at any time during an academic year, but no earlier than October 1st prior to the academic year for which the student requests aid
- For the 2020–21 academic year, the FAFSA may be filed beginning October 1, 2019
- Most colleges set FAFSA filing deadlines



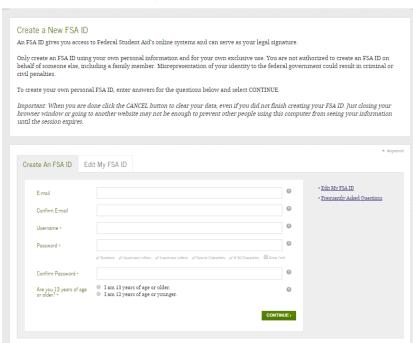




FSAID

- Sign FAFSA electronically
- Not required, but speeds up processing
- May be used by students and parents throughout aid process, including subsequent school year
- The student and one parent must create a FAFSA ID





https://fsaid.ed.gov/npas/indexhtm



IRS DATA RETRIEVAL TOOL

- While completing FOTW, applicant may submit real-time request to IRS for tax data
- IRS will authenticate taxpayer's identity
- Applicant chooses whether or not to transfer data to FOTW
- Reduces documents requested by financial aid office



IRS DATA RETRIEVAL TOOL

Some will be unable to use IRS DRT

Examples include:

- Tax return amended
- Student or parent married, but filed separately



GENERAL STUDENT INFORMATION

- Social Security Number
- Citizenship status
- Drug convictions
- Selective Service registration
- Legal Residence



INFORMATION ABOUT PARENTS OF DEPENDENT STUDENTS

- Tax, income, and other financial information
- Receipt of means-tested federal benefits
- Assets
- Untaxed income
- Marital Status



INFORMATION ABOUT STUDENT

- Tax, income, and other financial information
- Receipt of means-tested federal benefits
- Assets

Untaxed income



FREQUENT FAFSA ERRORS

- Social Security Numbers
- Divorced/widowed/remarried parental information
- Income earned by parents/stepparents
- Untaxed income
- U.S. income taxes paid
- Household size
- Number of household members in college
- Real estate and investment net worth



FAFSA PROCESSING RESULTS

 Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR) sent to colleges listed on FAFSA approximately 10 to 14 days after FAFSA is submitted

- College reviews ISIR
 - May request additional documentation



SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

- Cannot be documented using FAFSA
- Send written explanation and documentation to financial aid office at each college
- College will review and request additional information if necessary
- Decisions are final and cannot be appealed to U.S. Department of Education



SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

- Change in income
- Change in employment status
- Unusual medical expenses not covered by insurance
- Change in parent marital status
- Unusual dependent care expenses
- Student cannot obtain parental information



POINTS TO REMEMBER

- Grades do count for financial aid
- Financial aid and state requirements may vary with institutions
- The FAFSA form must be filled out or renewed every year the student is in college in order to be eligible for financial aid



THANK YOU

Contact Information

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