

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT FINANCIAL AID

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TOPICS WE WILL DISCUSS TONIGHT

- **WHAT IS FINANCIAL AID?**
- **COST OF ATTENDANCE (COA)**
- **EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION (EFC)**
- **FINANCIAL NEED**
- **CATEGORIES, TYPES, AND SOURCES OF FINANCIAL AID**
- **FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA®)**
- **SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES**

WHAT IS FINANCIAL AID?

FINANCIAL AID CONSISTS OF FUNDS PROVIDED TO STUDENTS AND FAMILIES TO HELP PAY FOR COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES



WHAT IS COST OF ATTENDANCE (COA)?

- **DIRECT COSTS**
- **INDIRECT COSTS**
- **DIRECT AND INDIRECT COSTS COMBINED INTO COST OF ATTENDANCE**
- **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**

CATEGORIES OF FINANCIAL AID

- **NEED-BASED AID**
- **NON-NEED-BASED AID**

TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID

Gift Aid

Scholarships

Grants

Self Help Aid

Loans

Employment

GIFT AID

- **MONEY THAT DOES NOT HAVE TO BE PAID BACK**
- **AWARDED ON THE BASIS OF MERIT, SKILL, OR UNIQUE CHARACTERISTIC**

SELF-HELP AID: LOANS

- **MONEY STUDENTS AND PARENTS BORROW TO HELP PAY COLLEGE EXPENSES**
- **REPAYMENT USUALLY BEGINS AFTER EDUCATION IS FINISHED**
- **ONLY BORROW WHAT IS REALLY NEEDED**
- **LOOK AT LOANS AS AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE**

SELF-HELP AID: WORK-STUDY EMPLOYMENT

- **ALLOWS STUDENT TO EARN MONEY TO HELP PAY EDUCATIONAL COSTS**
 - **A PAYCHECK; OR**
 - **NONMONETARY COMPENSATION, SUCH AS ROOM AND BOARD**
- **STUDENT MAY OPT WHETHER OR NOT TO WORK OR NUMBER OF HOURS TO WORK**

SOURCES OF FINANCIAL AID

- **FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**
- **STATES**
- **COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**
- **PRIVATE SOURCES**
- **CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS AND CHURCHES**
- **EMPLOYERS**

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- **LARGEST SOURCE OF FINANCIAL AID**
- **AID AWARDED PRIMARILY ON THE BASIS OF FINANCIAL NEED**
- **MUST APPLY EACH YEAR USING THE FAFSA**

FEDERAL STUDENT AID PROGRAMS

- **FEDERAL PELL GRANT**
- **IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN SERVICE GRANT (IASG)**
- **TEACHER EDUCATION ASSISTANCE FOR COLLEGE AND HIGHER EDUCATION (TEACH) GRANT**
- **FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY GRANT (FSEOG)**
- **FEDERAL WORK-STUDY (FWS)**
- **FEDERAL PERKINS LOANS**
- **SUBSIDIZED AND UNSUBSIDIZED FEDERAL DIRECT STUDENT LOANS (DIRECT LOANS)**
- **FEDERAL PLUS LOANS**

STATES

- **RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS USUALLY APPLY**
- **AWARD AID ON THE BASIS OF BOTH MERIT AND NEED**
- **USE INFORMATION FROM THE FAFSA AND/OR STATE AID APPLICATIONS**
- **DEADLINES VARY BY STATE**
 - **CHECK PDF FAFSA OR FAFSA ON THE WEB WEBSITE**

CALIFORNIA PROGRAMS

- **CAL GRANT PROGRAMS**
- **MIDDLE CLASS SCHOLARSHIPS – INCOME & ASSETS NOT TO EXCEED \$156,000 – UC & CSU**
- **CALIFORNIA CHAFEE GRANT PROGRAM**
- **CALIFORNIA NATIONAL GUARD EDUCATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**
- **DREAM ACT PROGRAMS**

CAL GRANT A

- **WILL HELP PAY FOR TUITION AND FEES AT FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES**
- **AWARD AMOUNTS VARY BY TYPE OF COLLEGE — FOR 2016-2017, CAL GRANTS ARE UP TO \$12,240 AT A UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA CAMPUS, UP TO \$5,472 AT A CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS, AND UP TO \$9,084 AT INDEPENDENT COLLEGES**
- **HAS A GPA REQUIREMENT. IF YOU'RE APPLYING USING YOUR HIGH SCHOOL GPA, YOU MUST HAVE AT LEAST A 3.0 GPA; IF APPLYING USING YOUR COLLEGE GPA, YOU MUST HAVE AT LEAST A 2.4 GPA**
- **REQUIRES THAT YOUR COURSE OF STUDY LEADS DIRECTLY TO AN ASSOCIATE OR BACHELOR'S DEGREE, OR QUALIFIES YOU FOR TRANSFER FROM A COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO A BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAM**

CAL GRANT B

- **PROVIDES A LIVING ALLOWANCE OF UP TO \$1,656, IN ADDITION TO TUITION AND FEE ASSISTANCE AFTER THE FIRST YEAR, AT A TWO- OR FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE**
- **PAYS MOST FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS A LIVING ALLOWANCE ONLY, WHICH MAY BE USED TO PAY LIVING EXPENSES, BOOKS, SUPPLIES AND TRANSPORTATION, AS WELL AS TUITION AND FEES**
- **WHEN RENEWED OR AWARDED BEYOND YOUR FIRST YEAR, YOU'LL RECEIVE THE LIVING ALLOWANCE AS WELL AS A TUITION AND FEE AWARD (UP TO \$12,240 AT A UC CAMPUS, UP TO \$5,472 AT A CSU CAMPUS AND UP TO \$9,084 AT INDEPENDENT COLLEGES FOR 2016-2017)**
- **REQUIRES AT LEAST A 2.0 GPA**

CAL GRANT C

- **ASSISTS WITH THE COSTS OF A TECHNICAL OR CAREER EDUCATION**
- **PROVIDES UP TO \$547 FOR BOOKS, TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT—AND UP TO \$2,462 MORE FOR TUITION AND FEES IF YOU’LL BE ATTENDING A SCHOOL OTHER THAN A CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE (COMMUNITY COLLEGES DON’T CHARGE TUITION AND YOUR FEES WILL BE WAIVED AS A CAL GRANT RECIPIENT)**
- **IS AVAILABLE FOR UP TO TWO YEARS**

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

- **AWARD AID ON THE BASIS OF BOTH MERIT AND NEED**
- **AID MAY BE GIFT AID OR SELF-HELP AID**
- **USE INFORMATION FROM THE FAFSA AND/OR INSTITUTIONAL APPLICATIONS**
- **DEADLINES AND APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS VARY BY INSTITUTION**
 - **CHECK WITH EACH COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY**

PRIVATE SOURCES

- **FOUNDATIONS, BUSINESSES, CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS**
- **DEADLINES AND APPLICATION PROCEDURES VARY WIDELY**
- **BEGIN RESEARCHING PRIVATE AID SOURCES EARLY**

CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS AND CHURCHES

- **RESEARCH WHAT IS AVAILABLE IN COMMUNITY**
- **TO WHAT ORGANIZATIONS AND CHURCHES DO STUDENT AND FAMILY BELONG?**
- **APPLICATION PROCESS USUALLY OCCURS DURING SPRING OF SENIOR YEAR**
- **SMALL SCHOLARSHIPS ADD UP!**

FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)

- **A STANDARD FORM THAT COLLECTS DEMOGRAPHIC AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE STUDENT AND FAMILY**
- **MAY BE FILED ELECTRONICALLY OR USING PAPER FORM**
 - **AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH AND BRAIL**

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 2017–18 ACADEMIC YEAR, THE FAFSA MAY BE FILED BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2016**
- **MOST COLLEGES SET FAFSA FILING DEADLINES**

FAFSA ON THE WEB (FOTW)

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Fill out your FAFSA (*Free Application for Federal Student Aid*)!

To receive federal student financial aid, you need to fill out a FAFSA every school year. Let's get started.

For which school year are you applying for financial aid?

2017-2018 school year

START 2017-2018
FAFSA

2016-2017 school year

START 2016-2017
FAFSA

If you are applying for a summer session, or just don't know which application to complete, check with the college you are planning to attend.

FSA ID

25

Last Time, Date FSA ID Used:

CHANGES TO THE FAFSA® PROCESS FOR 2017–18

SUBMIT A FAFSA EARLIER: Students will be able to submit a 2017–18 FAFSA as early as Oct. 1, 2016, rather than beginning on Jan. 1, 2017. The earlier submission date will be a permanent change, enabling students to complete and submit their FAFSAs as early as October 1 every year. (There is NO CHANGE to the 2016–17 schedule. The 2016–17 FAFSA became available Jan. 1, 2016.)

USE EARLIER INCOME AND TAX INFORMATION: Beginning with the 2017–18 FAFSA, students will report income and tax information from an earlier tax year. For example, on the 2017–18 FAFSA, students (and parents, as appropriate) will report their 2015 income and tax information, rather than their 2016 income and tax information.

Here's a summary of key dates for submitting the FAFSA depending on when you plan to go to school:

IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND COLLEGE FROM	YOU WILL SUBMIT THIS FAFSA	YOU CAN SUBMIT THE FAFSA FROM	USING INCOME AND TAX INFORMATION FROM
July 1, 2015–June 30, 2016	2015–16	January 1, 2015–June 30, 2016	2014
July 1, 2016–June 30, 2017	2016–17	January 1, 2016–June 30, 2017	2015
July 1, 2017–June 30, 2018	2017–18	October 1, 2016–June 30, 2018	2015
July 1, 2018–June 30, 2019	2018–19	October 1, 2017–June 30, 2019	2016

WHY DO IT ON THE WEB?

GOOD REASONS TO FILE ELECTRONICALLY:

- **BUILT-IN EDITS TO PREVENT COSTLY ERRORS**
- **SKIP-LOGIC ALLOWS STUDENT AND/OR PARENT TO SKIP UNNECESSARY QUESTIONS**
- **OPTION TO USE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE (IRS) DATA RETRIEVAL TOOL TO IMPORT TAX DATA**

- **MORE TIMELY SUBMISSION OF ORIGINAL APPLICATION AND ANY NECESSARY CORRECTIONS**
- **MORE DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS AND “HELP” FOR COMMON QUESTIONS**
- **ABILITY TO CHECK APPLICATION STATUS ONLINE**
- **SIMPLIFIED APPLICATION PROCESS IN THE FUTURE**

IRS DATA RETRIEVAL TOOL (DRT)

- **WHILE COMPLETING FOTW, APPLICANT MAY SUBMIT REAL-TIME REQUEST TO IRS FOR TAX DATA**
- **IRS WILL AUTHENTICATE TAXPAYER'S IDENTITY**
- **IF MATCH FOUND, IRS SENDS REAL-TIME RESULTS TO APPLICANT IN NEW BROWSER WINDOW**
- **APPLICANT CHOOSES WHETHER OR NOT TO TRANSFER DATA TO FOTW**

IRS DATA RETRIEVAL TOOL

- **AVAILABLE OCTOBER 2016 FOR 2017–18 PROCESSING CYCLE**
- **PARTICIPATION IS VOLUNTARY**
- **REDUCES DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BY FINANCIAL AID OFFICE**

SOME CAN'T USE THE DRT

- **SOME WILL BE UNABLE TO USE IRS DRT**
- **EXAMPLES INCLUDE:**
 - **FILED AN AMENDED TAX RETURN**
 - **NO SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (SSN) WAS ENTERED**
 - **STUDENT OR PARENT MARRIED, BUT FILED SEPARATELY**

FSA ID

- **SIGN FAFSA ELECTRONICALLY**
- **NOT REQUIRED, BUT SPEEDS UP PROCESSING**
- **MAY BE USED BY STUDENTS AND PARENTS THROUGHOUT AID PROCESS, INCLUDING SUBSEQUENT SCHOOL YEAR**
- **ONLY THE OWNER SHOULD CREATE A FSA ID**

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Federal Student Aid website. The page title is "Create a New FSA ID". The header includes the Federal Student Aid logo and the text "PROUD SPONSOR of the AMERICAN MIND®". The main content area contains the following text:

Create a New FSA ID

An FSA ID gives you access to Federal Student Aid's online systems and can serve as your legal signature.

Only create an FSA ID using your own personal information and for your own exclusive use. You are not authorized to create an FSA ID on behalf of someone else, including a family member. Misrepresentation of your identity to the federal government could result in criminal or civil penalties.

To create your own personal FSA ID, enter answers for the questions below and select CONTINUE.

Important: When you are done click the CANCEL button to clear your data, even if you did not finish creating your FSA ID. Just closing your browser window or going to another website may not be enough to prevent other people using this computer from seeing your information until the session expires.

Below the text is a form with two tabs: "Create An FSA ID" (selected) and "Edit My FSA ID". The form fields include:

- Email
- Confirm Email
- Username*
- Password*
- Confirm Password*

At the bottom of the form, there are two radio button options for age:

- I am 18 years of age or older.
- I am 17 years of age or younger.

A green "CONTINUE" button is located at the bottom right of the form.

FAFSA QUESTIONS THAT SEEM ODD

- **SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER**
- **CITIZENSHIP STATUS**
- **MARITAL STATUS**
- **DRUG CONVICTIONS**
- **SELECTIVE SERVICE REGISTRATION**
- **LEVEL OF PARENTS' SCHOOL COMPLETION**
- **COLLEGE AND HOUSING INFORMATION**
- **FAFSA PREPARER INFORMATION**
- **CERTIFICATION OF STATEMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE**

STUDENT DEPENDENCY QUESTIONS

FAFSA ASKS QUESTIONS TO DETERMINE DEPENDENCY STATUS FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (NOT IRS) PURPOSES:

- **IF ALL “NO” RESPONSES, STUDENT IS DEPENDENT**
- **IF “YES” TO ANY QUESTION, STUDENT IS INDEPENDENT**

PARENTS OF DEPENDENT STUDENTS

- **TAX, INCOME, AND OTHER FINANCIAL INFORMATION**
- **DISLOCATED WORKER STATUS**
- **RECEIPT OF MEANS-TESTED FEDERAL BENEFITS**
- **ASSETS**
- **UNTAXED INCOME**

INFORMATION ABOUT STUDENT (SPOUSE)

- **TAX, INCOME, AND OTHER FINANCIAL INFORMATION**
- **DISLOCATED WORKER STATUS**
- **RECEIPT OF MEANS-TESTED FEDERAL BENEFITS**
- **ASSETS**
- **UNTAXED INCOME**

FREQUENT ERRORS

- **SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS**
- **DIVORCED/WIDOWED/REMARRIED PARENTAL INFORMATION**
- **INCOME EARNED BY PARENTS/STEP PARENTS**
- **UNTAXED INCOME**
- **U.S. INCOME TAXES PAID**
- **HOUSEHOLD SIZE**
- **NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS IN COLLEGE**
- **REAL ESTATE AND INVESTMENT NET WORTH**

WHEN DO I RECEIVE FAFSA RESULTS

- **FAFSA NOTIFIES STUDENT OF FAFSA PROCESSING RESULTS BY:**
 - **EMAIL NOTIFICATION CONTAINING A DIRECT LINK TO STUDENT'S ONLINE SAR, IF STUDENT'S EMAIL WAS PROVIDED ON PAPER OR ELECTRONIC FAFSA**
- **STUDENT WITH FSA ID MAY VIEW SAR ONLINE AT [WWW.FAFSA.GOV](http://www.fafsa.gov)**

WHEN WILL MY SCHOOL RECEIVE MY FAFSA?

- **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**

WHY ASK FOR A SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCE DECISION?

- **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**

PARENTS NO LONGER HAVE EDUCATIONAL ACCESS

- **ONCE A STUDENT BECOMES A COLLEGE STUDENT, THEY MUST GIVE YOU PERMISSION FOR A SCHOOL TO WORK WITH YOU**
- **YOU AND YOUR STUDENT WILL NEED TO PROVIDE INCOME INFORMATION UNTIL THE AGE OF 24, EVEN IF THEY MOVE OUT.**
 - **WHY?**

