

Financing A College Education

2018-2019
Financial Aid, Scholarships,
and more

Topics for Tonight

- Goal of Financial Aid
- FAFSA
- Description of Financial Aid Programs
- Timelines
- Payment options
- Other Benefits to Consider
- Resources



Goal of Financial Aid

 Goal of Financial Aid: Assist students by evaluating family's ability to pay for education, distribute limited resources in an equitable manner for an academic year.

FAFSA 2018-2019 (Free Application For Federal Student

Get help paying for college

Returning User?

Login

Aid) is the key.

Available online at <u>www.fafsa.gov</u> after
 October 1, 2017 – apply annually

 FAFSA calculates EFC (Expected Family Contribution) and determines financial need

Definition of Need

Cost of Attendance (COA)

- Expected Family Contribution (EFC)
- = Financial Need/Eligibility
- * College Net Price Calculator on college website OR
- * Estimated EFC calculator at <u>www.ohe.state.mn.us</u> or <u>www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov</u>



Cost Of Attendance

- Tuition and Fees
- Room and Board
- Books and Supplies
- Transportation and miscellaneous personal expenses/computer, etc.
- Loan Fees
- Study Abroad Costs



FAFSA: Seven Components

1. Student Demographic Information

- * Need SSN, Drivers License, 2016 taxes, real time asset information
- * Males register with Selective Service

2. School Selection

* List up to 10 different schools



FAFSA: Continued...

3. **Dependency Status**

- Born before Jan 1, 1995
- Graduate or professional student
- Married/Separated (student)
- Has legal dependents other than spouse that receive more than 50% financial support from student
- Orphan/ward of the court/emancipated minor/legal guardianship/homeless
- Veteran of or currently serving on active duty in US Armed Forces
- Determined to be independent by FA office

FAFSA: Continued...

4. Parent Information

- Parent(s) name, DOB, SSN
- Marital Status
 - Married If biological/adoptive parents married, report information for both parents on FAFSA
 - <u>Unmarried, but living together</u> If biological/adoptive parents are not married, but living together, regardless of gender, report information for both parents on FAFSA
 - <u>Divorced/Separated</u> If biological/adoptive parents are divorced/separated, provide information for parent:
 - Student lived with the most in last 12 months
 - Or, if lived equal periods with each parent, parent who provided the most financial support in last year or most recent year support provided
 - *If parent remarried, include stepparent information.
- Number in family/college



FAFSA: Continued...

5. Financial Information

- Use parent & student 2016 taxes and real time asset information
- IRS Data Retrieval Tool real time tax information transfer to FAFSA from IRS
 - Optional, but recommended
 - Increased security/confidentiality, encrypted tax information
 - Able to manually enter IRS rollovers/pension distributions to remove from calculation
- Assets: student, parent

FAFSA Continued

Investments

Must report:

529 College savings plans

Trust Funds

Money markets

CD's

Real Estate (lake home, rental property, etc.)

Mutual Funds

UGMA/UTMA accounts

Stocks & Stock Options

Coverdell savings accounts

Do not report:

Home you live in

Retirement plans

Business you own with 100 or less FT employees

Value of life insurance

Family Farm

FAFSA: Continued . . .

6. Sign & Submit

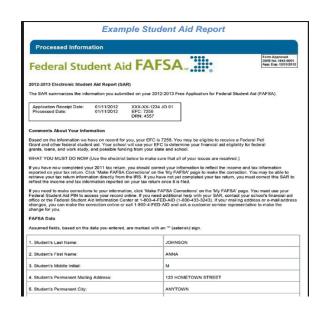
- Apply for FSA ID (create username and password)
- <u>www.fsaid.ed.gov</u> (today)
- Need a FSA ID for a parent AND for the student
- FSA ID is used for:
 - -signing FAFSA
 - -make FAFSA corrections
 - -signing federal loans
 - -look up student loan history



FAFSA: Continued . . .

7. Confirmation

- Student Aid Report (SAR) review/make corrections. Available at www.fafsa.gov
- Verification selection
- Renew FAFSA each year
- Special Circumstances
 - -employment changes/loss of job
 - -medical expenses
 - -parent enrolled in college, etc.



What is Financial Aid?

Gift Aid

Self-Help Aid

Grants (need-based)

Loans

Scholarships (merit)

Employment Opportunities



Gift Aid

Grants

- Institutional/College
- State
- **Minnesota State Grant**: \$100 \$11,811*
- More MN grants/scholarships at <u>www.ohe.state.mn.us</u>
- Federal
 - PELL Grant: max award = \$5920*
 - SEOG: awards range between \$100 \$4000*
 - Iraq & Afganistan Service Grant : not to exceed COA
 - TEACH Grant: \$4000* for students majoring in education, designated areas of teaching, turn into loan if do not teach after college.

^{*}Based on 2017-2018 award amounts.

Gift Aid

Scholarships

- Institutional/College Scholarships
- School/Local/Civic/Community Scholarships
- National Scholarships
- Search the Web ~ www.Fastweb.com
- Parent/Student place of employment

*Deadlines - winter/spring of senior year



Scams

- Never pay for scholarship or scholarship applications
- Fin Aid Seminars/Consultants: must sign fafsa
- DO NOT USE!!! www.fafsa.com OR fafsa-application.com
 **Never pay to complete the FAFSA, it's free!
- Contact a financial aid or guidance office for advice if you're uncertain.
- http://studentaid.ed.gov/types/scams



Self-Help Aid

Loans

- Federal Direct Loan Program:
 - * subsidized: 4.45%, no interest accrual
 - * unsubsidized: 4.45%, accrues interest

\$5500 sub & unsub combination (first-year)

- SELF Loan: 3.4% variable int or 6.9% fixed
- Alternative/Private Loan: 2.3% 12%, variable & fixed options available, credit-based
- Federal Direct PLUS Loan: 7% fixed rate, credit-based

Self-Help Aid

- Student Employment/Work Study
 - Funding Sources
 - Federal
 - State
 - Institution
 - Guaranteed?
 - On versus Off Campus



Time Line

- * Apply and be admitted to colleges/universities NOW
- * Research and apply for scholarships NOW
- * Complete your FAFSA after October 1, 2017

 (*** Use the IRS DRT to transfer your 2016 tax information)
- * FAFSA processing will take about 2 days then able to review SAR and results available to schools you listed with in 10-14 days.
- Check with each school to determine financial aid deadlines and if additional forms are needed for a complete financial aid file.
- * Compare Award Offers "apples to apples"

Payment Plans

Installment plans

Semester plan



• Others ~ check with schools to which you are applying.

Other Benefits to Consider

- American Opportunity Tax Credit
- Lifetime Learning Tax Credit
- Student Loan Interest Deduction
- Employer-Paid Tuition Assistance
- Military Service Education Benefits <u>www.ohe.state.mn.us</u>
- Tuition Reciprocity <u>www.ohe.state.mn.us</u>
- Midwest Student Exchange Program
 - (IL, IN, KS, MI, MO, NE) www.ohe.state.mn.us

** Always check with your tax preparer!

Popular Web Sites

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•	www.fafsa.gov
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www.fsaid.ed.gov

www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov

www.studentaid.ed.gov

www.ohe.state.mn.us

www.fastweb.com

www.finaid.org

www.collegeboard.org

FAFSA

FSA ID website

Financial Aid Estimator

US Dept of Ed Financial Aid Info

State of Minnesota/Scholarships/VA

Scholarship Search

Financial Aid Info/Scholarships

PROFILE application & Scholarships

Questions?

How to contact me:

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Associate Director Financial Aid
Hamline University
cdooley@hamline.edu

651-523-3000 or 1-800-888-2182