

Understanding Financial Aid:

Funding for Education Beyond High School

Presented by:
The NHHEAF Network Organizations'
Center for College Planning







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nhheaf.org/handouts







Agenda

- Defining financial aid
- Applying for financial aid
- Putting together the award package
- Understanding federal financial aid programs
- Managing the cost beyond financial aid
- Searching for scholarships







Financial Aid Timelines Are Not One-Size Fits All

- WHERE is your student applying?
- HOW is your student applying?
- WHEN is the college's deadline?



Consider keeping a college calendar or spreadsheet.
See ours on page 11 of The Financial Aid Insider!





Understanding Financial Aid

Financial aid philosophy:

While financial aid can make college more affordable, parents and students are expected to take *primary* responsibility for paying for post-secondary education

Primary goal:

To assist students in paying for college

Achieved by:

- Evaluating a family's ability to pay for educational costs (EFC)
- Distributing limited resources in an equitable manner

Providing a balance of gift aid and self-help aid (when available)





Types of Financial Aid

- Gift aid
 - Merit-based (scholarships)

Academic, artistic, athletic talent, community service, leadership

- Need-based (grants)
 Based on the family's finances
- Self-help aid
 - Federal loans
 - Work-study







How to Apply for Financial Aid







Application Forms

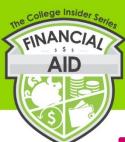
- FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
 fafsa.gov
- CSS Profile cssprofile.org

In order to ensure maximum consideration for federal, state and institutional aid, check with <u>each</u> school to determine:

- Required application forms
- Application deadlines (Note: different forms may have different deadlines!)







FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

Goal of the FAFSA:

To collect a family's personal and financial information in order to calculate the *Expected Family Contribution* (EFC)

The **EFC** is the amount of money, as determined by federal methodology, that represents the family's ability to pay for <u>one year</u> of college

The FAFSA must be filed every year the student is in school







fafsa.gov

Completing and processing the FAFSA is **FREE**











IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT) Tips

- The taxpayer's name must be listed in the DRT exactly as it is listed on the tax return
- The address entered into the DRT must match the address listed on the tax return
- Those who file as "Married Filing Separately" or complete an amended return are not eligible to use the DRT
- If a parent has a change in martial status after the end of the tax year, he/she cannot use the DRT



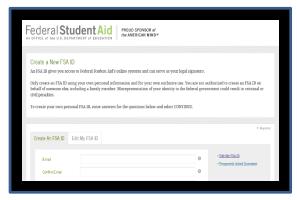
Always try using the DRT. It may help students and/or parents bypass many verification questions







To Electronically Sign the FAFSA



fsaid.ed.gov

When does a parent use an FSA ID?

- To utilize the DRT and transfer tax information into the student's FAFSA
- To make updates to the student's completed FAFSA
- To complete Federal Direct PLUS loan application (if desired)

When does a student use an FSA ID?

- To log into their FAFSA form
- To make any updates to their completed FAFSA
- To complete the MPN and Entrance Counseling for the Federal Direct Loan (if desired)



FINANCIAL AID

Frequently Asked Questions

- Whose FAFSA is it?
- When is the deadline to complete the FAFSA?
- Which year's tax return do we use?
- Who qualifies as an independent student?
- Which parent(s) are included on the FAFSA form?
- What if I have more than one child in college at one time?
- What if I have a "special circumstance" I want to share, where
 does it get reported on the FAFSA form?

What is Considered Income?

- Wages
- Rental income
- Interest and ordinary dividends
- Cashed in pensions, annuities and IRAs
- Child support <u>received</u> for all children in the house





What is Considered An Asset?

- Cash, checking and savings
- CDs, stocks, bonds, money markets, mutual funds
- Equity of any property other than primary residence
- 529s <u>for all children</u>
- Coverdell accounts
- UTMA and UGMA accounts







NOT

Included

Asset

Protection

(2020--2021)

Primary residence

Cash, checking and savings

Based on age of eldest parent

Coverdells, 529s for all children

FINANCIAL AID

Income and Asset Information

Student

Student-owned retirement

funds (IRAs including Roth)

Cash, checking and savings

Savings bonds (in their name)

(as noted above, 20% is used in the

UTMA & UGMA accounts

80% protected

EFC calculation)

Assets	0%5.64% of assets	20% of assets
Income	 22%47% of available income Wages Rental income Interest & ordinary dividends Cashed in pensions, annuities and IRAs Child support received for all children in the house 	 50% of Adjusted Gross Income over \$6,840 Wages Interest and ordinary dividends
	 Annuities and insurance policies Value of family-owned businesses (if less than 100 employees) 	

Parent

Retirement funds (401k, 403b, IRAs including Roth)

CDs, stocks, bonds, money markets, mutual funds

Equity of any property other than primary residence

45 yr. old parent: Married - \$5,500 OR Single - \$1,900 is protected

58 yr. old parent: Married - \$9,400 OR Single - \$3,000 is protected



CSS Profile



cssprofile.org

- Use student's
 College Board log-in and password to access form
- \$25 fee for first school and \$16 for each additional school
- If applicable, fee waiver is granted during registration







Putting Together the Award Package





Role of the Financial Aid Office

 Reviews FAFSA information - Once the student has been accepted to the college, the financial aid office needs to verify information provided by both students and parents

NOTE: Schools may ask the parent(s) and students to provide a tax transcript if unable to use the IRS data retrieval tool

 Creates a financial aid award package - Once the FAFSA has been verified, the financial aid office will determine the student's eligibility for federal, state and institutional financial aid







Federal and Institutional Gift Aid

- Institutional aid
 - Scholarships and grants from the college or university
- Federal grant programs
 - Federal Pell Grant
 - 2019-2020 eligibility EFC is \$5,576 or less
 - Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)







FINANCIAL AID Federal Self-Help Aid

Federal Direct Loans

- Fixed interest rate: (4.52%; with 1.059% origination fee)
- Repayment starts 6 months after graduation
- 10-30 yr. repayment period, deferments available
- Some loan forgiveness available

Subsidized – interest does not accrue while in-school

Unsubsidized – accrues interest while in-school

Federal Work-Study – Need-based campus employment

- Students may be awarded work-study by the college based on their "financial need"
- Students are responsible for searching and applying for these positions
- Students will receive a bi-weekly paycheck for the money earned;
 it is not money that comes directly off the tuition bill





Calculating "Financial Need"

Cost of Attendance (COA)

- Expected Family Contribution (EFC)
- = Demonstrated Financial Need *

Colleges that use the CSS Profile calculate institutional aid. Ask calculate financial

* Need refers to a student's maximum eligibility for financial aid







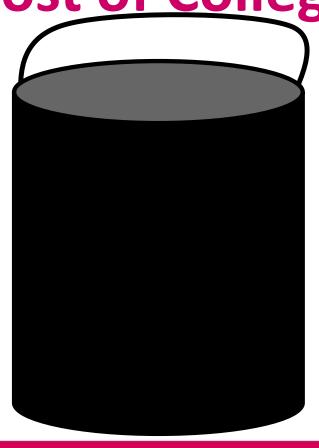
Filling the "Cost of College" Bucket

GAP = **Unmet Need**

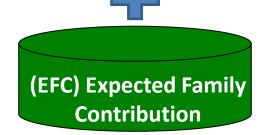
Self-Help Aid = Direct Loan, Work Study

> Gift Aid = Grants, Scholarships

(EFC) Expected Family Contribution















Building a Financial Aid Package

Cost of Attendance	\$55,000	Eligibility	\$40,000
Expected Family Contribution (EFC)	-\$15,00 <u>0</u>	- Financial Aid	\$25,500
Eligibility for Financial Aid	\$40,000	GAP	\$14,500

Financial Aid Package			
- Presidential Scholarship	\$10,000		
- University Grant	\$7,500	GAP	\$14,500
- Federal Stafford/Direct Loan (sub.)	\$3,500	+ EFC	\$15,000
- Federal Stafford/Direct Loan (unsub.)	\$2,000	+ Work Study	\$ 2,500
- Federal Work Study	\$2,500	Due to School	\$32,000
Total Award	\$25.500		-



Total Family Share:\$37,500





Building a Financial Aid Package

Cost of Attendance	\$30,000	Eligibility	\$15,000
Expected Family Contribution (EFC)	-\$15,00 <u>0</u>	- Financial Aid	\$9,500
Eligibility for Financial Aid	\$15,000	GAP	\$5,500

Financial Aid Package

- 111611161611			
- Scholarship	\$2,500	GAP	\$5,500
 Federal Stafford/Direct Loan (sub.) 	\$3,500	+ EFC	\$15,000
- Federal Stafford/Direct Loan (unsub.)	\$2,000	+ Work Study	\$1,500
- Federal Work Study	\$1,500	Due to School	\$22,000
Total Award	\$9,500		. ,

Total Family Share:\$27,500







Managing the Cost Beyond Financial Aid







Options for Funding

- Current income and savings
- Tuition payment plan
- Federal/Direct PLUS Loan
 (Parent Loan for Undergraduate Student)
 - 7.08% fixed interest rate;
 - 4.236% origination fee
- Private (alternative) student loan
 - State-sponsored programs
 - Banks and credit unions









Scholarship Search







National Search

Typically apply during the fall of senior year

College Board Search collegeboard.org

FastWeb Scholarship Search fastweb.com

Tip

Create an appropriate and unique email address as you will receive lots of emails!

CAUTION:

Do not pay money to get money!







Local Search

High School's School Counseling Office

They will have information about local scholarships for students from your town, school district and state

New Hampshire Charitable Foundation

Scholarships for New Hampshire residents

Statewide Student Aid Program – Enrolling in 4 year degree program (Application available 2/1; 4/17 deadline)

Career Aid to Technical Students Program – Enrolling in 2 year degree program (Application available 2/1; 6/15 deadline)

1-800-464-6641

nhcf.org







And One Local Scholarship...

Calling All HS Seniors:

Keynote Speech Contest

Win a \$1,000 scholarship!



Submit a 3 to 5 minute speech describing your college application experience and offering your advice for the class of 2021.

Applications due Friday, 2/14/19!

Get the details at destination college.org



Saturday March 28, 2020 Saint Anselm College









Your senior class could win money to help pay for a school-sponsored senior activity!

Ask your school counseling office for details!







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Questions?

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