

# Financial Aid



# Presenter

**Jasmine Rainey**

Director of College Counseling  
Peak Education and Elevated

# Agenda

- Costs of College
- Types of Financial Aid
- FAFSA Process
- CSS Profile
- Net Price Calculator Tools

# Housekeeping

- Keep cameras and microphones off.
- Do not use the “chat” for side conversations.
- Ask questions via the “chat” during allotted times.

# Definition

## What is Financial Aid?

Financial aid is money to help pay for college.

# How much will college cost?



## Community College

live w/parents  
In-State Tuition



## Public University

live on campus  
In-State Tuition



## Private University

live on campus

## Tuition & Fees

Room, Board

Books, Supplies

Personal Expenses

(include insurance, transportation)

## COST OF ATTENDANCE

<b>\$4,958</b>	<b>\$11,901</b>	<b>\$52,515</b>
<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$11,740</b>	<b>\$13,437</b>
<b>\$1,200</b>	<b>\$1,200</b>	<b>\$1,200</b>
<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,260</b>	<b>\$2,940</b>
<b>\$6, 158</b>	<b>\$27,101</b>	<b>\$70,092</b>

What types of aid are available to help assist you in paying for your college expenses?

# Types of Financial Aid

Scholarships
Grants
Work Study
Loans
Self Help/Out of Pocket: Work, Savings

## NEED-BASED AID

is based off you and your family's finances.

## MERIT BASED AID

is based off of your accomplishments, i.e., GPA, leadership roles, volunteering, etc.

# Grants

- **FREE Money**
- Does not need to be paid back, as long as students meet academic requirements
- Come from the federal and state governments, colleges, and private organizations
- Awarded to the student based on financial need
- *Example:*
- **Federal Pell Grant**-Maximum award is \$6,345 in 2019-20, based on students' family's financial situation.



# Scholarships

## Institutional

- Most scholarships awarded to students are through the university/college they will attend.
- Each college has a different process for their scholarships
- Priority deadline for most colleges' scholarship application: **March 1**

## Private

- Companies, organizations, churches set their own criteria
- GPA, religion, interests, credit union member, etc.
- Deadlines are set by the organizations

# Example of Private Scholarships

## **Interest-based Scholarships:**

Vegetarian Resource Group

Create a Greeting Card

Stuck at Prom

## **Merit-Based Scholarships:**

Sachs Foundations

Boettcher

Coca Cola

## **Competitive Scholarships:**

Daniels Fund

Greenhouse Scholars

Jack Kent Cooke

Dream US Scholarship



# Work Study

- Provides financial assistance in the form of a part-time job on-campus (or some off-campus sites) You must find your own job
- Flexible employers and on-campus networking
- The money goes directly to you (to help pay with some of your indirect costs)
- The income is not used against you for next year's financial aid

# Loans

- **Borrowed** Money
- Must be paid back, plus interest
- Federal student loan interest rate = 4.53
- \$5,500 maximum as freshman
- Private student loan interest rate = 6 - 12%
- Parent PLUS Loans=7.08%
- *Note:* You are not required to take out loans and you **MUST** pay back loans even if you stop attending college.

**Unsubsidized**= gain  
interest while in college

**Subsidized**=government  
pays interest while in  
college

# How do I qualify for financial aid (grants, loans, work-study)?

In order to qualify for financial aid, you must first **APPLY** for it AND apply for it **EVERY year**

# How to apply for financial aid...



**Complete the FAFSA**  
Free Application for Federal Student Aid

# FAFSA

- FAFSA is an application that can help you qualify for specific financial assistance (e.g., grants, scholarships, work-study) to help pay for college.
- FAFSA is NOT a scholarship application
- FAFSA does NOT give you money



*\*\*\*Students who are undocumented/DACA will do an institutional financial aid application instead (e.g. CCD, MSU, CSU, UNC).\*\*\**

# Step 1

**Gather  
Documents**

# Step 2

**Submit FAFSA**

# Step 3

**Follow Up**

Do it in just three easy steps!



# How to complete the FAFSA/Institutional application?

## STEP 1:

**Gather all  
financial  
documents**

## Income, Expenses, and Assets:

- ☐ 2019 IRS Tax Return Form and W2s (parent(s) AND student)
- ☐ Non-taxable income for both parents and student (e.g., welfare benefits, child support received, untaxed social security benefits, etc.)
- ☐ Expenses, such as child support paid/received
- ☐ Assets (e.g. checking and savings statements, investments, etc)

*STEP 1: Gather all financial documents*

# Common Questions and Mistakes

## **My parents are divorced. Who do I use on the FAFSA?**

- Use the parent who you lived with the most over the last year (more than 50% of the time/6 months).
- If your time is equally divided, use the parent who provides more financial support.
- If parent is remarried, you **MUST** include stepparent!



*STEP 1: Gather all financial documents*

# Common Questions and Mistakes

**I don't live with my parents, and I'm financially independent. Do I need my parents info?**

**ANSWER:**

You're only "independent" on FAFSA if you're...

- 24 years of age or older
- Married
- Both parents are deceased
- In a LEGAL guardianship (court appointed)
- Emancipated by the age of 18
- Have dependents/children who receive >50% of care from you.



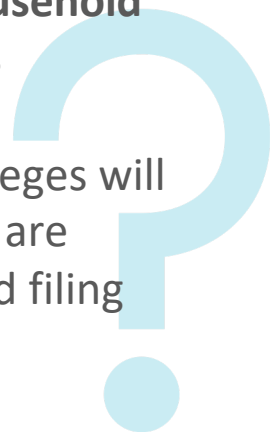
*STEP 1: Gather all financial documents*

# Common Questions and Mistakes

**Parents are married but both filed head of household or one filed HOH and the other single on taxes**

We can still complete the FAFSA, but many colleges will ask you to amend your taxes. Married couples are supposed to file married filing jointly or married filing separately.

Many colleges will NOT provide the student with financial aid until the taxes are amended!



Form <b>1040</b> Simplified	Department of the Treasury—Internal Revenue Service	<b>2018</b>	OMB No. 1545-0074	IRS Use Only—Do not write or staple in this space.
U.S. Individual Income Tax Return			<input type="checkbox"/> Married filing separate return	<input type="checkbox"/> Qualifying widow(er) <input type="checkbox"/> Head of household
Your first name and initial		Last name		Your social security number
Standard deduction: <input type="checkbox"/> Someone can claim you as a dependent <input type="checkbox"/> You were born before January 2, 1954 <input type="checkbox"/> You are blind				
Spouse or qualifying person's first name and initial (see inst.)		Last name		Spouse's social security number
Standard deduction: <input type="checkbox"/> Someone can claim your spouse as a dependent <input type="checkbox"/> Your spouse was born before January 2, 1954 <input type="checkbox"/> Your spouse is blind <input type="checkbox"/> Your spouse itemizes on a separate return or you were dual-status alien				
Home address (number and street). If you have a P.O. box, see instructions.			Apt. no.	Presidential Election Campaign. ✓ If you want \$3 to go to this fund (see inst.) <input type="checkbox"/> You <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse <input type="checkbox"/> Full-year health care coverage (see instructions)
City, town or post office, state, and ZIP code. If you have a foreign address, attach Schedule 6.				
<b>Dependents</b> (see instructions):		(2) Social security number	(3) Relationship to you	(4) ✓ If qualifies for (see inst.):
(1) First name	Last name			Child tax credit Credit for other dependents
				<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Sign Here</b> Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return and accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, they are true, correct, and accurately reflect all amounts and sources of income I received during the tax year. Declaration of preparer (other than taxpayer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.				
Joint return? See instructions. Keep a copy for your records.	Your signature	Date	Your occupation	If the IRS sent you an Identity Protection PIN, enter it here (see inst.)
	Spouse's signature. If a joint return, <b>both</b> must sign.	Date	Spouse's occupation	If the IRS sent you an Identity Protection PIN, enter it here (see inst.)
<b>Paid Preparer's</b>	Print/Type preparer's name	Preparer's signature	PTIN	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> 3rd Party Designee <input type="checkbox"/> Self-employed
	Firm's name		Firm's EIN	
For Disclosure, Privacy Act, and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see separate instructions.			Cat. No. 11320B	Form <b>1040</b> (2018)

22222	Void <input type="checkbox"/>	a Employee's social security number	For Official Use Only ▶ OMB No. 1545-0008	
b Employer identification number (EIN)			1 Wages, tips, other compensation	2 Federal income tax withheld
c Employer's name, address, and ZIP code			3 Social security wages	4 Social security tax withheld
			5 Medicare wages and tips	6 Medicare tax withheld
			7 Social security tips	8 Allocated tips
d Control number			9 Verification code	10 Dependent care benefits
e Employee's first name and initial	Last name	Suff.	11 Nonqualified plans	12a See instructions for box 12
			13 Statutory employee <input type="checkbox"/> Retirement plan <input type="checkbox"/> Third-party sick pay <input type="checkbox"/>	12b
			14 Other	12c
				12d
f Employee's address and ZIP code				
15 State	Employer's state ID number	16 State wages, tips, etc.	17 State income tax	18 Local wages, tips, etc.
				19 Local income tax
				20 Locality name

Form **W-2 Wage and Tax Statement** **2018** Department of the Treasury—Internal Revenue Service  
**Copy A For Social Security Administration** — Send this entire page with Form W-3 to the Social Security Administration; photocopies are not acceptable.  
**Do Not Cut, Fold, or Staple Forms on This Page**

For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions. Cat. No. 10134D

# Examples of documents

## Full Legal Names

Exactly as they appear on student and parent(s) social security card

## Social Security Numbers for parent(s) and student

- If your parent(s) do not have a SSN, we can still complete the FAFSA
- If you're not a US Citizen, bring your alien registration or permanent resident card

## Important Dates

Birthdates and Marriage/Divorce Date

Examples of additional information that may be needed

# How to complete the FAFSA?

## STEP 2:

**Submit the  
FAFSA by the  
deadline**

- [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)
- The application opens Oct 1<sup>st</sup>. You must apply for financial aid EVERY year.
- FAFSA Money = First come, First served
- Priority deadline is typically March 1<sup>st</sup>

*Be aware that some colleges and scholarships may have earlier deadlines. Therefore, research your specific programs' priority deadlines so that you do not miss the chance to potentially receive financial aid.*

# How to complete the FAFSA?

## STEP 3:

Follow up with your colleges to ensure that they have received all required information

Once you submit, you will immediately receive your **Expected Family Contribution (EFC)** and a **Student Aid Report (SAR)** three days later

- SAR is a detailed report of what was submitted on the FAFSA
- EFC is the index colleges use to determine your eligibility for financial aid
- EFC is NOT necessarily the amount of money your family will have to pay for college
- EFC is NOT the amount of federal aid you will receive



# After submitting the FAFSA, what happens?



**FAFSA IS not the end of the financial aid process!**



Once colleges finish reviewing your **SAR** and **EFC**, they will offer a student a financial aid award letter ONLY AFTER your financial aid file is COMPLETE.



Colleges may ask for **VERIFICATION** of the information submitted on the FAFSA. This process is random. Therefore, every student MUST log into your college portal and see if there are any remaining requirements to be fulfilled.

# Compare your award letter offers

## Billed by CU

## Other Costs (not billed)

	Fall	Spring
Tuition & Fees	\$6,266	\$6,266
Housing & Meals	\$7,389	\$7,389
<i>Estimated Total</i>	<i>\$13,655</i>	<i>\$13,655</i>
2019-20 Estimated Total	\$27,310	
Billed Cost:		

	Fall
Books & Supplies	\$600
Transportation	\$576
Personal	\$702
<b><i>Estimated Total</i></b>	<b><i>\$1,878</i></b>
2019-20 Estimated Total	
<b>Non-Billed Costs:</b>	

## Total Estimated Cost (billed by CU + not billed by CU)

Fall 2019  
\$15,533

Spring 2020  
\$15,533

2019-  
\$31,0

- After your financial aid file is complete, you will receive an award letter/award package for each school. Evaluate the total cost you will be required to pay per semester

## *What is the CSS Profile?*

The College Scholarship Service (CSS) Profile, is an online application created to allow students to apply for non-federal financial aid. The CSS profile is managed by College Board and partners with over 400 colleges and universities.

The applications primary purpose is to use comprehensive student and parent financial information to achieve a clearer picture of a student's financial need.

A screenshot of the CSS Profile login interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a dropdown arrow, the CollegeBoard logo, and the text 'CSS Profile'. Below this, on the left, is the text 'Don't have an account?' with a yellow 'Sign Up' button underneath. To the right of this is a login form with two input fields: 'Username' and 'Password'. Below the password field is a link that says 'Forgot username or password?'. To the right of the password field is a yellow 'Sign In' button.

Unlike the FAFSA, the CSS Profile requires a \$25 fee for the application and one college submission. There is an additional \$16 fee every additional college. Fee waivers are available for low-income students.

Institution	% Receiving Merit Aid	Average Award
University of California, Los Angeles	4%	\$4,240
University of Virginia	6%	\$7,793
Davidson College	27%	\$31,207
Washington & Lee University	17%	\$44,684
Whittier College	28%	\$20,518

## Looking for Merit-Based College Scholarships?

**Target selective** but not *most* selective colleges

**Consider private colleges**  
Research formulaic scholarships

*More examples from students:*

USC-\$114,512

Hofstra--\$128,000

U. of Alabama-\$122,000

## How do you evaluate financial fit?

**BIGGEST TIP:**  
Look **BEYOND** the  
sticker price.  
Evaluate the  
average net price  
and evaluate your  
family's net price.

Net Price Calculator:

- [Collegenavigator.org](https://collegenavigator.org)

MyinTuition Quick College Costs Estimator:

- [myintuition.org](https://myintuition.org)

College Scorecard:

- [collegescorecard.ed.gov](https://collegescorecard.ed.gov)

MaiaLearning

- [maialearning.com](https://maialearning.com)

# Contact

## Financial Aid & College Process

### Future Center Staff:

*Jasmine Rainey*

[Jasmine@peakedu.org](mailto:Jasmine@peakedu.org)

[Jasmine@elevatedstudents.org](mailto:Jasmine@elevatedstudents.org)

# Questions?