


What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

National Association of Student
Financial Aid Administrators Presents...

What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

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Topics We Will Discuss

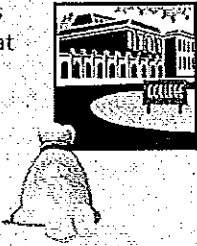
- What is financial aid?
- Cost of attendance (COA)
- Expected family contribution (EFC)
- Financial need
- Types of financial aid
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

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What is Financial Aid?

Financial aid consists of funds from outside of the family that are provided to students and families to help pay for postsecondary educational expenses.




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What is Cost of Attendance (COA)?

- College is expensive, but worth the cost
 - A sound investment in your child's future
- More than just tuition
 - Also includes room and board, books, transportation, personal expenses, etc.

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What You Need to Know

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Understanding College Costs

- Vary by type of college
 - Community colleges are less expensive than four-year schools
 - Private colleges are more expensive than public colleges
 - Look at costs over entire postsecondary education
 - Four to six years total


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Resident Tuition Rates at Public College and Universities (WSAC)

2015-16 Resident Tuition Rates at Public Colleges and Universities	
Research Universities	
University of Washington	\$11,161/year
Washington State University	\$10,916/year
Comprehensive Universities	
Central Washington University	\$7,593/year
Eastern Washington University	\$7,052/year
The Evergreen State College	\$7,512/year
Western Washington University	\$7,728/year
Community & Technical Colleges	
All	\$3,846/year

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What You Need to Know

What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

Private Non-Profit College and University Tuition Rates (WSAC)

College/University	Tuition Rate
Ashton University	\$12,655/year
Baylor University	\$14,275/year
Combs College of the Arts	\$37,243/year
Georgetown University	\$32,990/year
Herzing University	\$19,037/year
Northwest University	\$28,085/year
Pacific Lutheran University	\$37,950/year
Seattle Pacific University	\$33,854/year
Seattle University	\$38,990/year
Tenby Lutheran University	\$29,650/year
University of Puget Sound	\$44,875/year
Walla Walla University	\$28,325/year
Western Governors University (WGU)	\$5,075/year
Whitman University	\$48,135/year
Wybark University	\$35,583/year

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What is Expected Family Contribution (EFC)?

- Amount family can reasonably be expected to contribute, but not what family will pay to the college
- Calculated using data from a federal application form (FAFSA) and federal formula

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Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

- Two Components
 - Parent Contribution
 - Student Contribution
- EFC the same regardless of college the student attends

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What is Financial Need?

- Financial need is the difference between the cost of attendance (COA) and expected family contribution (EFC)
- COA includes tuition and fees, room and board, transportation, personal expenses
- EFC is calculated from the what you report on the FAFSA

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What is Financial Need?

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \$10,000 \text{ (COA)} \\
 - \quad \$ 2,000 \text{ (EFC)} \\
 \hline
 = \quad \$ 8,000 \text{ (Financial Need)}
 \end{array}$$

Amount of financial need determines the amount of aid a student will receive

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Sources of Financial Aid

- Federal government
- States
- Colleges and universities
- Scholarships and private sources

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What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

Federal Government

- Largest source of financial aid
- Aid awarded primarily on the basis of financial need
- Must apply each year using the FAFSA

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States

- Residency requirements usually apply
- Award aid on the basis of both merit and need
- Use information from the FAFSA and/or state aid application

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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

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Scholarships and private sources

- Foundations, businesses, charitable organizations
- Deadlines and application procedures vary widely
- Check with Counseling and/or Career Center at school

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Types of Financial Aid

- Grants
- Loans
- Employment
- Scholarship

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Grants

- Money that does not have to be paid back
- Usually awarded on the basis of financial need

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What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

Federal Grant Programs

- Federal Pell Grant
 - \$5775 maximum annual award
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)
 - \$4000 maximum annual award
- Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant
 - \$4000 maximum annual award

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Washington State Need Programs

- Washington State Need Grant
- College Bound Scholarship
- Passport Program
- Our state aid: www.wsac.wa.gov

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Maximum amounts for Washington State Need Grant

- Washington State Need Grant
 - UW/WSU \$10,344/\$10,351
 - Other 4 year public \$6,871 up to \$7,522
 - Private 4 year \$8,517
 - Community College \$3,541

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SNG MFI Income Eligibility Chart

2013-14 Family Income * (Taxable)	
1	2
1	\$30,500
2	\$40,000
3	\$48,500
4	\$58,500
5	\$55,000
6	\$77,500
7	\$79,500
8	\$81,000
9	\$83,000
10	\$84,500

*Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) - Marital Income

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DREAMers

- February 26, 2014, Governor Inslee signed the Dream Act; known as Real Hope Act
- Allows undocumented non-citizens to apply for State Financial Aid (WSNG and SWS)
- Complete WASFA application, online at www.readyssetgrad.org/WASFA

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Tips for filing the WASFA

- Use a Social Security Number or Tax Identification Number if you have one, otherwise use your college Student ID number
- List class year appropriately – "1st year undergraduate"
- School Selection: List WASFA, then find the school you want
- Citizenship Selection: list "Other"

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What You Need to Know About Financial 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

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Federal Loan Program

- Federal Direct Loans
 - Borrowed by students
- Parent PLUS Loans
 - Borrowed by parents
 - Cost of Attendance minus other aid received

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Maximum loan amounts and interest rates for first-year student

- Federal Direct Loan: \$5500 (no more than \$3500 subsidized)
- Interest rate fixed 4.29% subsidized, 4.29% unsubsidized
- Parent PLUS Loans: Borrow up to COA
- Interest rate fixed 6.84%
- Interest rates set by Congress

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Work-Study Employment

- Federal Work Study and State Work Study
- 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

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Scholarships

- Money that does not have to be paid back
- Awarded on the basis of merit, skill, or unique characteristic
- Washington State Scholarship Database:
www.thewashboard.org
- Beyond Dreaming Scholarship Resource packet:
http://www.gearup.wa.gov/sites/default/files/resources/beyond_dreaming_wa_state_2015.pdf - available from website.

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Centralia College Scholarships


- Application available online December 1, at <https://www.scholarselect.com/scholarships>
- Deadline is March 1, 2016
 - Must apply for admission and have your Student Identification Number (SID)
 - For full scholarship consideration, a 16-17 FAFSA must be submitted by February 10, 2016

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What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

FAFSA on the Web (FOTW)

Federal Student Aid  FAFSA[®]
Free Application for Federal Student Aid



- Complete a free standard federal form every year at www.fafsa.gov
- 2016–17 FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) on the Web available on January 1, 2016
- Collects demographic and financial information
- Data used to calculate the EFC

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Information About Parents of Dependent Students

- Tax, income, and other financial information
- Dislocated worker status
- Assets
- Untaxed income

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Frequent FAFSA Errors

- Social Security Numbers
- Divorced/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

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FAFSA Processing Results

- Federal processor 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 FAFSA
- Student with FSA ID may view SAR online at www.fafsa.gov

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Student Aid Report

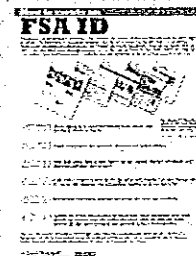
- Review data for accuracy and correct any errors
- Update estimated tax information when actual figures become available
- Add additional colleges to receive FAFSA information

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Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID

- Website: <http://fsaid.ed.gov>
- Serves as FAFSA signature
- Recommend creating FSA ID before you file your FAFSA
- FSA ID used for student and parent throughout application process



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What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

FSA ID Application Process

- Create unique username and password
- Provide name, date of birth, Social Security number, contact information and personal email address
- Answer 5 challenge questions – with case sensitive answers
- If you already have a pin – link your pin number to your FSA ID (old FAFSA signature method)

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Be Aware of Deadlines

- Check with the colleges/universities to determine their priority deadline so that you are sure to have your FAFSA and any other additional forms/requirements submitted by that deadline.
- Financial aid is usually awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Don't lose out on funding by missing the deadline.

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What You Should Be Doing Now

- Begin early
- Find scholarships that match your student's academic interests, hobbies, and unique characteristics (www.washboard.org)
- Complete the FAFSA application as soon after January 1, 2016 as possible
- Complete college/university forms as required by deadlines

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Questions?

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Financial Aid Office
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