

Student Financial Aid

What High School Seniors & Parents Should Know

What is Financial Aid?

- Financial aid helps pay the cost of attending college
- Some financial aid programs are need-based
- Some financial aid programs are based on other criteria – not need



Sources of Financial Aid

- Federal government
- New York State
- Colleges Institutional aid
- Other sources
 - Businesses
 - Foundations
 - Clubs/Organizations



Cost of Attendance (COA)

- Tuition and fees
- Room and board
- Books and supplies
- Transportation
- Miscellaneous expenses

Types of Financial Aid

- Scholarships free money
- Grants free money
- Work Study
- Loans



How to Apply for Federal Aid

- The newest FAFSA application is made available January 1st of senior year
- Filing online at www.fafsa.gov is highly recommended!
 - Worksheet includes built-in edits
 - Skip-logic for faster filing
 - Check status, make corrections online
- Be sure to check your colleges' FAFSA filing deadlines



FAFSA.gov



Higher Education
Services Corporation

How to Apply for Federal Aid

 Go to FSAID.ed.gov to establish FSA IDs for both the student and a parent

FFICE of the U.S. DE	EPARTMENT of EDUCAT	ION the AMER			
reate a New FSA	A ID	t Aid's online syster	ns and can serve as	vour legal signature	
nly create an FSA ID	using your own person	al information and	for your own exclu	sive use. You are not	authorized to create an FSA II vernment could result in crimi
o create your own pe	ersonal FSA ID, enter an	swers for the quest	ions below and sele	ect CONTINUE.	
rowser window or go	oing to another website				ating your FSA ID. Just closing outer from seeing your inform
rowser window or go ntil the session expir	oing to another website				
rowser window or go ntil the session expir	oing to another website				outer from seeing your inform
rowser window or go ntil the session expir Create An FSA ID	oing to another website			eople using this com	puter from seeing your inform
rowser window or go ntil the session expir Create An FSA ID E-mail	oing to another website			eople using this com	outer from seeing your inform

Common Documents Needed for FAFSA

- Social Security Cards
- US Permanent Resident Card, if non-citizen
- Student, Parent Income Tax Information
 - 2015 Federal 1040/AEZ, 2015 W-2
 - Can use prior year taxes as estimate
- Records of untaxed income
 - Such as child support received, interest income
- Information on cash, savings and checking account balances
- Investments, including stocks, bonds, real estate
 - Excludes retirement accounts, value of primary residence



FAFSA: Student Section

- Student Information & Eligibility
 - Basic info: address, email, name of high school, citizenship status
- College Information
 - Up to 10 colleges may be listed; can be updated by correction
- Dependency Determination
 - Questions that will determine student's dependency status



FAFSA: Parent, Income, Signature Section

- Parent Information & Income
 - Marital status, name, date of birth, SSN, state of residence
 - Household size, Number in college
 - Income from 2015 tax return (or estimate), untaxed income, asset information
- Student Income
- Signature Section
 - Sign using the student and parent's FSA ID



Federal Aid Eligibility

- To qualify for federal student aid a student must
 - Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen
 - Have a valid Social Security Number
 - Register with Selective Service, if student is male



Common Questions: Eligibility

- If we don't think we qualify for need-based financial aid, do we still file the FAFSA?
 - Many families mistakenly believe they do not qualify
 - Consult with colleges, FAFSA may be needed for merit-based aid



Common Questions: Citizenship

- What are the citizenship or immigration status requirements for FAFSA?
 - Students must be US Citizens or eligible noncitizens (such as a US Permanent Resident Card holder), to receive federal and NYS financial aid
 - Consult with the financial aid office at your college if you do not meet this status



Common Questions: Dependence

- Can a student apply for financial aid without reporting their parent's information?
 - In most cases, students under 24 will be required to report parent information
 - For special circumstances, consult with the financial aid office



Common Questions: Parents

- If a student's parents are divorced or separated, whose info is provided?
 - Custodial Parent
- What if both biological parents are living together but unmarried?
 - Both parents file together
- Do stepparents report their income?
 - Yes



Federal Aid

- Pell Grant
- Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)
- Work-Study
- Perkins Loan
- Direct Stafford Loan
- Direct PLUS Loan



Federal Pell Grant

- Need-based grant
- Award amount based on COA, EFC and enrollment status
- Must maintain good academic standing
- Currently, up to \$5,775



Federal Student Loans

- Perkins Loan
- Direct Subsidized Stafford Loan
- Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan
- Direct PLUS Loan

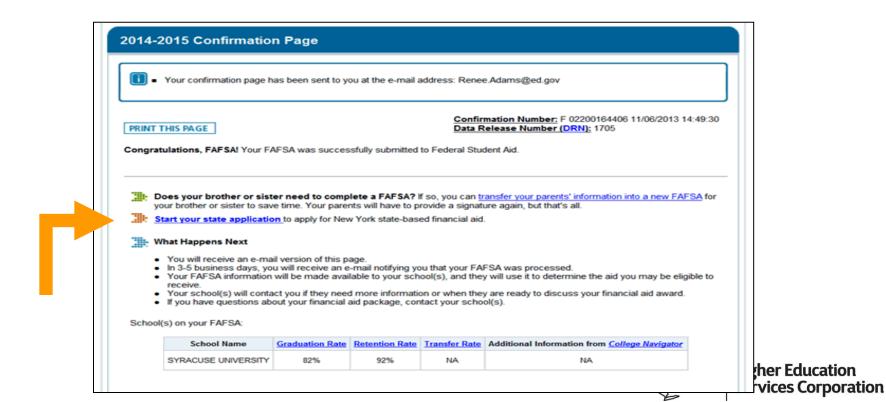


NYS Student Aid Programs

- Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)
- Aid for Part-Time Study
- Scholarships for Academic Excellence
- Achievement & Investment in Merit Scholarship (AIMS)
- STEM Incentive Program
- Math & Science Teaching Incentive Program
- Veterans Tuition Award



How to Apply for New York State Aid



Anytime TAP-on-the-Web Application



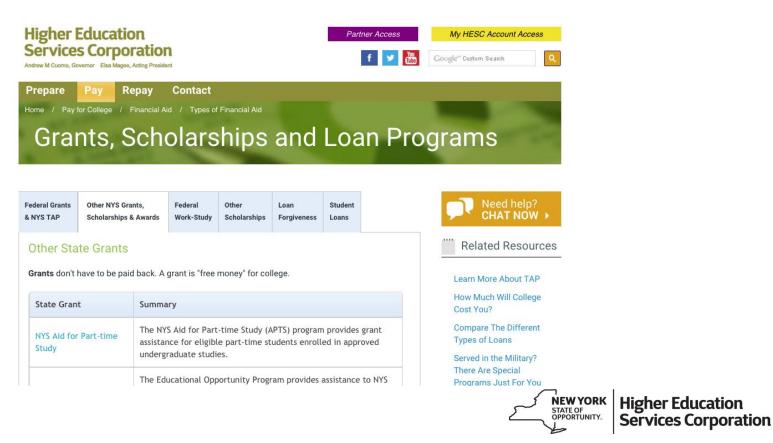


NYS Student Aid Programs

- Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)
 - Undergraduates
 - -Up to \$5,165/year
 - Full-time and part-time study in NYS
 - Need-based grant
 - Calculated on NYS Income Tax information



Apply for Other NYS Programs at hesc.ny.gov



Institutional Aid Programs

- Depends on funding at each college
- College determines eligibility criteria for needbased and non-need-based programs
- Academic, athletic, and other talent-based scholarships and grants
- May require an additional application



How to Apply for Institutional Aid

- Depends on application process at the college
 - Some colleges use information on the admissions application to determine eligibility for merit-based awards
 - The FAFSA may be used by the college to determine eligibility for need-based institutional aid
- May require more applications than the FAFSA
 - Is the CSS Profile or another institutional financial aid form required?

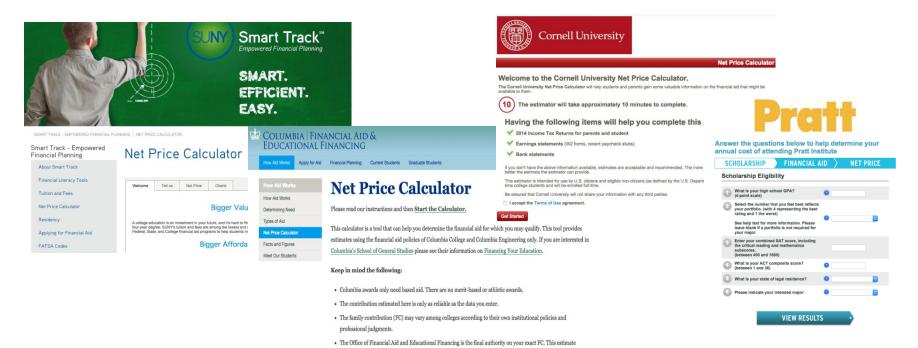


Research College Financial Aid Websites





Use Net Price Calculators



should provide an approximation of your expected contribution.



Other Sources: Outside Aid

- Private scholarship programs are widely available
 - sponsored by charity, business, religious, civic and minority organizations
- Each have their own application process, eligibility criteria, and deadlines
- Inquire with each college about impact on financial aid package
- Be organized and start applying early!



Scholarship Searching

- Online scholarship search websites
 - Fastweb.com
 - Collegeboard.org
 - Scholarships.com
- Check your local library, employer or union



Tips for Receiving Private Scholarships

- Start searching and applying as early as possible
- Be organized, don't miss a deadline!
- Apply for local, less competitive scholarships
- Proofread applications, have someone else read your application
- Get help from family, guidance counselors, teachers



Avoid Being Scammed!

- Don't pay a fee to file for financial aid!
 - FAFSA and NYS TAP application are FREE
 - Only the CSS Profile may have a fee
- US Department of Education website:
 - studentaid.ed.gov
 - Information about common scams



Questions???



Thank You!

NYS Higher Education Services Corporation 99 Washington Avenue Albany, NY 12255 www.hesc.ny.gov

1-888-NYSHESC (1-888-697-4372)

