Financing Your Education

H.M. Jackson High School, October 9, 2018



- ★ What is financial aid?
- ★ Who is eligible?
- * How is eligibility for need-based aid determined?
- ★ How do I apply?
- ★ Where does it come from?
- ★ What aid is available?

Topics



Goal of Financial Aid



The primary goal is to assist students with paying for their educational investment by:

- Evaluating family's ability to pay
- Distributing limited resources in an equitable manner
- Balancing gift and self-help aid

Vocab Lesson

FAFSA:

Free Application for Federal Student Aid

COST OF ATTENDANCE:

Total expense for the average undergraduate: tuition, room, books, incidentals, etc. Varies widely from college to college.

EFC:

Expected Family Contribution

NEED-BASED AID:

Awarded based on the amount of financial resources

MERIT-BASED AID:

Awarded for recognition (scholarships)

- 1) Enrolled at least half-time in an eligible program of study
- 2) Have a high school diploma or recognized equivalent
- 3) Pursuing a degree, certificate, or other recognized credential
- 4) U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen
- 5) Registered with Selective Service (if male and required)
- 6) Valid Social Security Number (SSN)
- 7) Must be making satisfactory academic progress (as defined by school)





How to Apply

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid **(FAFSA)** is available on October 1st each year.

SPU's priority filing deadline is January 15th.

- File FAFSA in one of two ways:
 - Online at <u>https://fafsa.gov</u> (fastest)
 - Paper FAFSA
- Be mindful of important deadlines:
 - Admissions and FAFSA deadlines may vary from school to school.



fsaid.ed.gov

Create an FSA ID	Manage My FSA ID		
Please enter yo	our:		
E-mail			0
Confirm E-mail			0
Username			0
Password			0
		🖋 Numbers 🖋 Uppercase Letters 🖋 Lowercase Letters 🖋 Special Characters 🖋 8-30 Characters 🗐 Show Text	
Confirm Password	1		0
		CONTINUE	
_		CONTINUE	,

- Your *electronic signature*
- Required for both parent and student (if dependent)
- Used to sign-in to FAFSA, as well as Federal Student Loan and other Federal Aid websites

✓ INCOME: Parent and student from <u>base year</u> (2017) ✓ ASSETS: Parent and student as of <u>filing date</u> of FAFSA ✓ HOUSEHOLD SIZE/NUMBER IN COLLEGE ✓ HOUSING PLANS: on/off campus or with parent ✓ AGE of the oldest parent



YES, ALL STUDENTS MUST PROVIDE PARENTAL INFORMATION <u>UNLESS</u>:

- ✓ Unaccompanied Youth/Emancipated Minor
- ✓ Supporting a dependent child
- \checkmark Active duty in the military
- ✓ Orphan/Ward of the court
- ✓ 24 years old
- ✓ Married
- ✓ Veteran
- ✓ Graduate Student

Do I need my parent's info?

If my parents are divorced or separated, whose information goes on the FAFSA?

DIVORCED:

If a student's parents are divorced, the student would report the parent **and stepparent** (if applicable) whom they lived with longer during the 12 months prior to the date you complete the FAFSA. If the student lived with each parent equally or didn't live with either one, the student should report who provided more financial support.

SEPARATION:

Same rules as divorced parent scenario, but the parents would need to be living in separate residences or be legally separated to mark this option on the FAFSA.



Federal Department of Education may randomly select students for verification

Verification Items can include:

- Number of people in the household
- Number of students in college
- Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)
- U.S. income taxes paid
- Certain types of untaxed income and benefits

Verification Process

Are you a DREAMer?

WASFA (Washington Application for State Financial Aid)

State Financial Aid for DREAMers

Washington State offers financial aid programs to students who aren't eligible for federal financial aid because of immigration status. These students still need to meet other program requirements.

To find out If you qualify, complete the free WASFA to apply for state financial ald.

Application

Which WASFA application year should I fill out?

Fill out the 2018-2019 WASFA application if you are planning on being enrolled in college (as a new student or continuing student) in fall term 2018 through spring term 2019.

Fill out the 2017-2018 WASFA application if you are enrolled, or plan to be enrolled, in college between now and spring term 2018.

If your first enrollment term will be Summer 2018, check with your college on what application to complete.

2018-19 WASFA Application Now Open!

New User

Returning User

- Complete a WASFA for the first time
- Make a correction/Add a school

Eligibility questionnaire

Start A New WASFA



If you are a non-citizen, you may be eligible for Washington State Financial Aid by completing the WASFA application at https://readysetgrad.wa.gov/wasfa

IT IS IMPORTANT TO COMPLETE THE WASFA APPLICATION AS EARLY AS **POSSIBLE EACH YEAR!**

Federal Need Formula



Need Varies Based on Cost



- DIRECT COSTS
 - Tuition Room & Board Mandatory Fees

INDIRECT COSTS

Books & Supplies Incidentals Transportation

Cost of Attendance

• VARIES FROM COLLEGE TO COLLEGE

Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

Your EFC represents what a college will expect you to pay at a minimum for one year of your student's college education.

Two components:

- PARENT CONTRIBUTION
- STUDENT CONTRIBUTION

FEDERAL METHODOLOGY: the formula created by Congress to determine the EFC.

Want to find out your **EFC**?

- ✓ Calculates an estimate of your family's EFC.
- ✓ Instantly calculates eligibility for Federal aid.
- Saves info: data submitted on the FAFSA4caster will automatically prepopulate on the official FAFSA for that school year.

https://fafsa.gov

FAFSA4caster



- Calculates your estimated aid at a given institution.
- Uses the Cost of Attendance of the school and subtracts estimated gift aid to arrive at the **NET COST** of that school.
- This is available, at a minimum, to calculate eligibility for first-time/full-time Freshmen.
- Check each college website to find more information.



95% of Seattle Pacific University undergraduate students currently receive scholarships and/or needbased financial aid. You can be one of them!



This Net Price Calculator shows you an estimate of the financial aid and out-of-pocket costs involved in what will be one of the most important investments you ever make - a college education. SPU is committed to tuition transparency. We'll answer any questions you have about our financial aid and services. You'll see that the rewards of joining this vibrant, multicultural, intellectual community are within your reach

10 MINUTES! That's all it takes to find out how financial aid can make

Use this Calculator if you're interested in becoming an undergraduate student at Seattle Pacific, and you hope to attend full time (12 or more credits per term)

Exceptions? This Calculator does not apply to you if you are an international student, a dependent of an SPU employee or a Consortium employee, a current SPU student, a graduate student, or a recipient of athletic scholarships.

The Calculator assumes that you will complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by February 1 and apply by SPU's application deadlines (for merit scholarships). Results are based on 2017-18 assumptions. Actual aid may vary

I accept the Terms of Use agreement.

GET STARTED

Net Price Calculator

What do I do with **529**/Qualified Tuition/GET Programs on the **FAFSA**?



- 529 plans, like GET, are reported under the investments section on the FAFSA.
- Dependent students who must report parent information on the FAFSA should list 529 plans (student or parent-owned) as a parent asset.
- Independent students who are not required to report parent information would only include 529 plans as a student asset if the student is the owner of the account.
- If someone other than the parent/s or student is the owner, then distributions from the plan are reported on the following year's FAFSA under "money received/paid on your behalf".

- Required by some private schools
 → UPS, Whitman and
 - Heritage in WA State
- Determines eligibility for non-government financial aid: institution's own grants, loans and scholarships
- List of schools on the College Board website





Check our list of participating colleges to see if the CSS Profile is required to apply for institutional financial aid.

Review the CSS Profile Student Guide (.pdf/81KB) for instructions on completing your application.

If you have a College Board account, sign in using the same credentials

Tour our CSS Profile Overview or contact us for additional assistance

Questions about Institutional Documentation Service (IDOC)? Review our tutorial or log in to submit documents.

General questions about paying for college? Visit Big Future.

CSS Profile enables colleges and universities to see a true picture of a family's financial need and supports the mission of making college affordable.



CSS Profile Differs from the FAFSA

- **SPECIFIC QUESTIONS:** PROFILE contains questions specific to the school or program you're applying to; FAFSA contains the same questions for everyone.
- **DIFFERENT METHODOLOGY:** PROFILE determines your financial need differently than the FAFSA, in general asking for more detailed information than FAFSA.
- COST: PROFILE costs \$25 plus \$16 for each school or scholarship program selected; the FAFSA, as the name implies, is free.

profileonline.collegeboard.com

The FAFSA represents a snapshot in time

- Loss of employment
- Reduction in wages or income
- Out of pocket medical expenses
- Private tuition expenses

Process is school specific!



Special Circumstances

Sources of Financial Aid



Washington State



- Washington Student Achievement Council http://www.readysetgrad.wa.gov
- State of Washington offers various grants and scholarship program, as well as the WA State Work Study program
- More information on the website!

Grants

AKA FREE MONEY



WHAT IS A GRANT?

MONEY awarded to students, based on need as determined by the FAFSA, that does NOT have to be repaid.



Awards divided evenly between quarters

Federal Pell Grant



AWARDED TO ELIGIBLE UNDERGRADUATES

- \checkmark with exceptional need
- ✓ who are pursuing their first college degree
- ACTUAL AWARD AMOUNT BASED ON COST OF ATTENDANCE, EFC, AND ENROLLMENT STATUS

Maximum award for 2018-19 = \$6,095

Other Grants

If Pell eligible:

FSEOG: School determined, \$100-\$4,000

If teaching is the goal:

TEACH: High need field in a high need area, up to \$4,000, *service obligation where grant can become a loan*



Let schools know about outside scholarship awards

Continue seeking outside scholarships

WHAT IS A SCHOLARSHIP?



MONEY awarded to students, based on achievements, that does NOT have to be paid back.



Work Study

Earn that \$\$\$

WHAT IS WORK STUDY?

MONEY earned through employment

★ Benefits:

- * Gain work experience, improve your skills, and build your resume
- * Explore possible career opportunities
- Help pay your way through school
- * Some earnings may not count against you on the following year's FAFSA
- ★ Employment may be on or off campus

Loans



WHAT IS A LOAN?

MONEY borrowed from the Federal government, schools, and/or outside lenders that must be repaid after graduation. Interest rates are typically low.

CHECK OUT <u>HTTPS://STUDENTAID.ED.GOV</u>

Federal Direct Loans

Two Types...

SUBSIDIZED: Must demonstrate "need" **UNSUBSIDIZED:** Not based on "need"

Base annual loan limits (combined subsidized and unsubsidized):

- \$5,500 for 1st year undergraduates
- \$6,500 for 2nd year undergraduates



🖉 \$7,500 for each remaining undergraduate year

- Repayment begins after 6-month grace period
- 2018-19 fixed interest rate of 5.05% for subsidized and unsubsidized

- \geq <u>Parent Loan for Undergraduate</u> <u>Students</u>
- ➢ Fixed interest rate for 2018-19: 7.60%
- ➢ Approval based on credit
- If denied due to credit reasons, student is eligible for additional Direct Unsubsidized Loan (amt. based on class level)
- Repayment begins 60 days after loan is fully disbursed for the school year (or, by request, six months following graduation)
- ➢ Forbearance benefits may be available



Federal Direct **PLUS** Loans

- Available through banks and lenders
- Funding is based upon credit approval
- Interest Rates may be variable
- Likelihood of approval and interest rate are greatly improved with co-signer



Private Education Loans

FREE Internet scholarship search engines:

- FinAid on the Web: <u>www.FINAID.ORG</u>
- FastWeb: <u>www.FASTWEB.COM</u>
- Peterson's: <u>www.petersons.com</u>

THEWASHBOARD.ORG

Scholly App: <u>www.myscholly.com</u>



Not Eligible for Need-Based Aid?



ALWAYS FILE YOUR FAFSA!

All students regardless of need remain eligible for the Direct Unsubsidized Loan program

THERE ARE ALSO OTHER OPPORTUNITIES:

- Merit or outside scholarship opportunities
- ➢ Part-time employment
- Private student loan options

At Seattle Pacific University...

- SPU administers \$110
 million in grant,
 scholarship, loan and
 employment aid
- About 95% of all undergraduates received student aid in 2017-18
- \$35,839 was the average award for undergraduates with financial need in 2017-18

Remember...

YOUR TO-DO LIST

- To be aware of any financial aid and admissions due dates at the schools you are looking at applying to.
- ✓ Complete the FAFSA online at www.fafsa.gov as soon as possible on or after October 1st.
- ✓ Submit all requested follow-up documentation to all schools.
- Most importantly ask questions don't be shy, we're here to help.