

Navigating Financial Aid

CASCADIA
COLLEGE

W

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON | BOTHELL



TOPICS:

- What is financial aid
- Types of aid
- Which application to complete
- 2026-27 FAFSA
- Dependency Status
- Community College vs. University

Fun Fact

Historically, 95% of Cascadia College students are accepted for transfer to the University of Washington



WHAT IS FINANCIAL AID?

Financial **aid** is money provided to students **to help** pay for postsecondary educational expenses.

Types of Aid



Grants

Federal, state, and institutional funds offered on the basis of need, which you DON'T have to pay back.



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Work-study

Jobs on campus allowing you to earn money to help pay for educational expenses

Which Application form do you complete?

- If you are a U.S. Citizen or an eligible non-citizen, then you can submit the **FAFSA** form and be considered for federal aid. If you are **not** a U.S. Citizen and you are **not** an eligible non-citizen, then you may be able to apply for state or institutional aid by submitting the **WASFA** form. To be considered for financial aid, you must complete one of the applications below.

FAFSA

www.fafsa.gov

WASFA

<https://wsac.wa.gov/WASFAelig>

2026-27 FAFSA

- FAFSA Simplification Act
 - Dependent Student invites Parents/Contributor to FAFSA Form
 - Student and Parent without a social security number can create a FSA ID and access the FAFSA Form
 - Students and Parents are taken through the FAFSA onboarding which provides an overview
- Application available October 1, 2025



Priority Deadline Cascadia:
April 15th

Priority Deadline UW:
February 28th

Dependency Status

INDEPENDENT STUDENT:

Not living with parents or not being claimed by them on tax forms does not make individual an independent student for purposes of applying for federal student aid.

- > 24 years old
- > Married
- > Support Child/Dependent more than 50%
- > Have BA/BS
- > Orphan/ Ward of **Court** [has to be legal via court]
- > Military Veteran
- > Emancipated Minor
- > Homeless



BUDGET / COA an example ...

	4-YEAR PUBLIC	COMMUNITY COLLEGE	4-YEAR PRIVATE
TUITION	\$13,901	\$5,277	\$43,452
ROOM & BOARD	\$17,538	\$17,702	\$16,491
BOOKS & SUPPLIES	\$900	\$528	\$990
TRANSPORTATION	\$1,467	\$2,790	\$1,800
PERSONAL	\$2,508	\$1,908	\$1,908
Total AY	\$36,314	\$28,205	\$63,741

Resources

To Complete a FAFSA

<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>



Email us

Finaid@Cascadia.ed



Email us

uwbfaid@uw.edu





Please SCAN the QR
CODE to be directed
TO AN Attendee
Survey (Code is also
within Your
Program).

Your feedback is
Welcomed and
Appreciated.