

Financial Aid 101

Presented by:



What is Financial Aid?

- Financial Aid consists of funds provided to students and families to help pay for post-secondary education expenses
- Types of Aid
 - Grants : Money that typically does not have to be paid back
 - Scholarships : Money made to support a student's education, and is typically awarded on a academic basis or other achievement
 - Loans : Money that has to be paid back with interest
 - Work – Study : Part-time job for students with financial need allowing them to earn financial funding through a work program to help pay education expenses

Applying for Aid

- Fill out the FAFSA. Apply starting October 1, 2016 to March 2, 2017.
- Fill out the DREAM Act Application starting January 1, 2017 to March 2, 2017.
- Start looking out for scholarships to apply for



Financial Aid Need

- Cost of Attendance (COA) : Direct and Indirect Costs that will vary from college to college
- Expected Family Contribution (EFC) : Determined by the information provided on the FAFSA/Dream Act. This number will stay the same at all colleges, and will be used to determine your eligibility for aid.
- $\text{COA} \text{ minus EFC} = \text{Financial Need}$
- Example:
COA: 29,000
minus EFC: 3000 = 27,000 Financial Need
- This need will be met with: Grants and Loans

Am I Eligible for Financial Aid?

- FAFSA : US. Citizen or Eligible Noncitizen (example: permanent resident)
For more information on eligibility, please refer to
<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/eligibility/non-us-citizens>
- DREAM Act : Meet AB 540 eligibility status. Some of the criteria includes, attending a CA high school for a minimum of 3 years, and graduated from a CA high school. Please refer to the California Student Aid Commission for more information on determining your AB 540 status.

Types of Aid

- Federal Aid : Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant, Federal Work Study, Subsidized Loan, Unsubsidized Loan, and Parent Plus Loan
- State Aid : Cal Grant, CHAFEE Grant and the Middle Class Scholarship
- Institutional Aid : This will vary from college to college as it will depend on the college. Please refer to the college financial aid's website for more information.

Federal Aid

- Pell Grant & Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant : Awarded to undergraduate students, and typically does not have to be repaid. This award is based on financial need, cost of attendance, and status as a part-time or full-time student.
- Federal Work Study : Part-time job for students with financial need allowing them to earn financial funding through a work program to help pay education expenses

Federal Aid : Loans

- Subsidized Loan : Awarded to need based students. Government pays for the interest accrual while you are enrolled in school at least part-time, and during your six month grace period after you leave or graduate school.
- Unsubsidized Loan : Awarded to all students. You will be responsible for the interest accrual for the lifetime of the loan.
- Parent Plus Loan : Credit based loan for your parent. Parent can borrow up to the COA minus any other financial assistance received.

State Based Aid: Cal Grant

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- Cal Grant A Entitlement Awards — for high school seniors and recent high school grads
 - with a Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least 3.0
 - family income and assets below the state ceilings
 - who demonstrate financial need
 - Cal Grant B Entitlement Awards — for high school seniors and recent high school grads
 - with a GPA of at least 2.0
 - who come from disadvantaged or low income families
 - whose family income and assets are below the state ceilings
 - who demonstrate financial need

State Based Aid: CHAFEE Grant

- The California Chafee Grant program provides up to \$5,000 annually to current and former foster youth for college or vocational training at any accredited college in the U.S., based on available funding
- To be eligible, foster youth must have been in California foster care on their 16th birthday and not have reached their 22nd birthday before July 1, 2017
- Foster youth are encouraged to apply during their senior year of high school
- To apply, the foster youth must complete:
 - 2017-2018 FAFSA
 - California Chafee Grant Program Application
 - AB540 students may also be eligible

State Based Aid: Middle Class Scholarship

- Undergraduates with family incomes of up to \$150,000 and net worth of assets of up to \$150,000 who:
 - Submit 2016-17 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or CA Dream Act Application by March 2, 2016
 - attend a UC or CSU
 - are U.S. citizens, permanent residents, or have AB 540 status,
 - are California residents, and
 - maintain a 2.0 cumulative GPA
- Annual award amounts:
 - To be determined by the California Student Aid Commission

UC Promise: Blue & Gold Opportunity Plan

- UC's Blue and Gold Opportunity Plan will ensure that you will not have to pay UC's system wide tuition and fees out of your own pocket if you are a California resident whose **total** family income is less than \$80,000 a year.
- The plan combines all sources of scholarship and grant awards you receive (federal, state, UC and private) to go toward covering your tuition and fees.
- You don't need to fill out a separate application to qualify for the Blue and Gold Opportunity Plan. You will receive the benefits of the Blue and Gold plan automatically if you qualify.

I applied for financial aid...now what?

- You will receive an email with your SAR (Student Aid Report). This report will let you know if your application has any errors, or if you are selected for verification.
- Be on the lookout from the colleges you put on your FAFSA. If documentation is needed from you, you will be notified.
- Check daily for the new scholarships on college websites.
- Once you receive your award letter, you may contact the school for any questions.

Resources

- <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>
- <http://www.csac.ca.gov/>
- <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/>

