



# Paying for College

Understanding  
Financial Aid and  
Scholarships

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***Associate Vice-President for Financial Aid, LAKE FOREST COLLEGE***

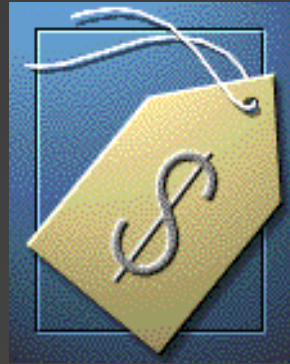


# 7 Essential Questions (***and answers!***) to Funding a College Education

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***The Who,  
What,  
Why,  
When,  
and  
Wow***

# ***1. Is College affordable?***



**Sticker Price**

**vs.**

**After Financial Aid/Scholarship Price**



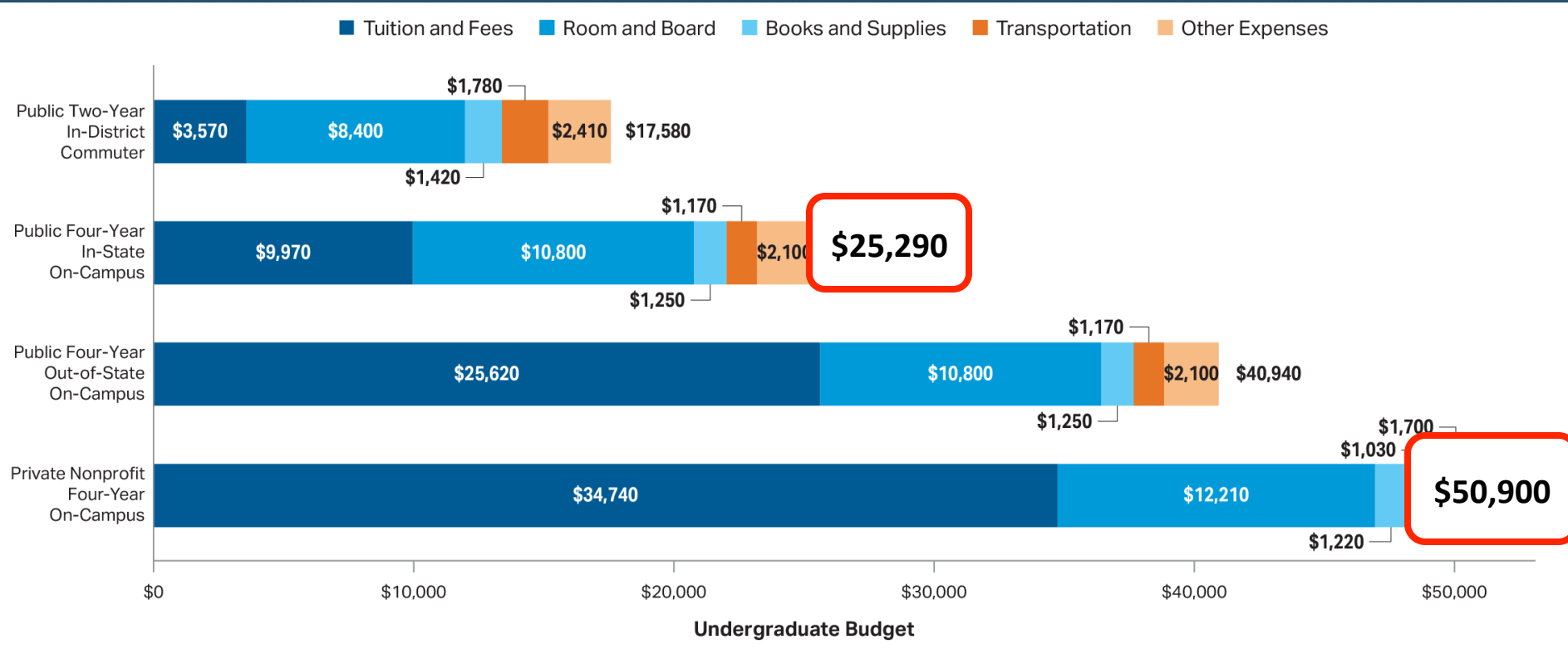


# The Real Cost of College

- 82% of all full-time, first-time (FTFT) undergraduate students receive some form of financial aid
- 92% at private colleges; 76% at public institutions
- 60% of all funds awarded to undergraduates were from a scholarship or grant
- In 2017-18, average financial aid offer was \$18,500
- *If you think you need help financing college, apply for financial aid*



# Average Estimated Full-Time Undergraduate Budgets 2017-18





U.S. Department of Education

## College Affordability and Transparency Center?

**For more detailed cost information: [Collegecost.ed.gov](http://Collegecost.ed.gov)**



Welcome to the College Affordability and Transparency Center  
Start here to find information about how much it costs students to attend different colleges, how fast those costs are going up, and information related to why costs are going up.



### College Scorecard

College Scorecards make it easier for you to search for a college that is a good fit for you. You can use the College Scorecard to find out more about a college's affordability and value so you can make more informed decisions about which college to attend.

[Enter](#)

### Net Price Calculator Center

Here you will find links to colleges' net price calculators. Net price calculators help you estimate how much colleges cost after scholarships and grants.

[Enter](#)



### College Navigator

Here you can search for and compare colleges on all sorts of criteria including costs, majors offered, size of school, campus safety, and graduation rates.

[Enter](#)

### College Affordability and Transparency List

Here you will find information about tuition and net prices at postsecondary institutions. The site highlights institutions with high and low tuition and fees as well as high and low net prices (the price of attendance minus grant and scholarship aid). It also shows institutions where tuition and fees and net prices are increasing at the highest rates.

[Enter](#)

### 90/10 Information

Here you will find a list of for-profit (proprietary) postsecondary institutions that receive more than 90 percent of their revenues from Title IV Federal Student Aid.

[Enter](#)

### State Spending Charts

Here you will find summary information on changes in state appropriations for postsecondary education, state aid for students, and tuition and fees.

[Enter](#)

# College Navigator Example



[Back to Results](#)

[Print](#)

[Save](#)



MY FAVORITES (0)

Name of School

denison

States (use map for more than 1 state)

No Preference

Alabama

Alaska

Use Map



ZIP Code

Miles from

Programs/Majors

0 Items Selected

[Browse for Programs](#)

Level of Award ?

☐ Certificate

☐ Associate's

☐ Bachelor's

☐ Advanced

Institution Type ?

☐ Public

☐ 4-year

☐ Private non-profit

☐ 2-year

☐ Private for-profit

☐ < 2-year

[+ MORE SEARCH OPTIONS](#)

[Show Results](#)

[Guide Me](#) | [Clear Search](#)

## Denison University

100 West College Street, Granville, Ohio 43023

General information: [\(740\) 587-0810](tel:(740)587-0810)

Website: [www.denison.edu](http://www.denison.edu)

Type: 4-year, Private not-for-profit

Awards offered: Bachelor's degree

Campus setting: Suburb: Small

Campus housing: Yes

Student population: 2,341 (all undergraduate)

Student-to-faculty ratio: 9 to 1

[Add to Favorites](#)



IPEDS ID: 202523  
OPE ID: 00304200

[Expand All](#) | [Collapse All](#)

[+ GENERAL INFORMATION](#)

[+ TUITION, FEES, AND ESTIMATED STUDENT EXPENSES](#)

[+ FINANCIAL AID](#)

[+ NET PRICE](#)

[+ ENROLLMENT](#)

[+ ADMISSIONS](#)

[+ RETENTION AND GRADUATION RATES](#)

[+ OUTCOME MEASURES](#)

[+ PROGRAMS/MAJORS](#)

[+ SERVICEMEMBERS AND VETERANS](#)

[+ VARSITY ATHLETIC TEAMS](#)

[+ ACCREDITATION](#)

[+ CAMPUS SECURITY](#)

[+ COHORT DEFAULT RATES](#)



## FINANCIAL AID

### UNDERGRADUATE

#### Full-time Beginning

#### Beginning

#### TYPE OF AID

#### Any student

#### Grant or scholarship

#### Federal grant or scholarship

#### Pell grant

#### Other federal grant or scholarship

#### State/local grant or scholarship

#### Institutional scholarship

#### Student loan

#### Federal student loan

#### Other student loan

#### <sup>1</sup> Includes

### NET PRICE

#### AVERAGE NET PRICE FOR FULL-TIME BEGINNING STUDENTS

Full-time beginning undergraduate students who were awarded grant or scholarship aid from federal, state or local governments, or the institution.

	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017
Average net price	\$28,761	\$32,023	\$32,290

Full-time beginning undergraduate students who were awarded Title IV aid by income.

AVERAGE NET PRICE BY INCOME	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017
\$0 – \$30,000	\$11,238	\$12,098	\$12,008
\$30,001 – \$48,000	\$11,320	\$15,333	\$15,393
\$48,001 – \$75,000	\$19,281	\$24,233	\$21,164
\$75,001 – \$110,000	\$24,723	\$28,187	\$25,237
\$110,001 and more	\$33,251	\$35,264	\$34,385

- Average net price is generated by subtracting the average amount of federal, state/local government, or institutional grant or scholarship aid from the total cost of attendance. Total cost of attendance is the sum of published tuition and required fees, books and supplies, and the weighted average for room and board and other expenses.
- Beginning students are those who are entering postsecondary education for the first time.
- Title IV aid to students includes grant aid, work study aid, and loan aid. These include: Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG), Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG), National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent Grant (National SMART Grant), Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant, Federal Work-Study, Federal Perkins Loan, Subsidized Direct or FFEL Stafford Loan, and Unsubsidized Direct or FFEL Stafford Loan. For those Title IV recipients, net price is reported by income category and includes students who received federal aid even if none of that aid was provided in the form of grants. While Title IV status defines the cohort of student for which the data are reported, the definition of net price remains the same – total cost of attendance minus grant aid.

#### NET PRICE CALCULATOR

An institution's net price calculator allows current and prospective students, families, and other consumers to estimate the net price of attending that institution for a particular student.

Visit this institution's net price calculator



[denison.edu/forms/net-price-calculator](http://denison.edu/forms/net-price-calculator)

# *Net Price Calculators*

- Online, College-specific estimator
- Average grant/scholarship available to a family like yours
- Average student loan and work-study eligibility
- Estimated award is not a promise, a guarantee, or an actual aid offer



# College Scorecard

Scorecard includes “outcome data” such as:

- Costs
- Graduation Rates
- Loan Default Rates
- Loan Repayment Rates
- Average Amount Borrowed
- Employment
- Earnings
- *Interactive tool – new data recently added*



## College Scorecard

[BACK TO SEARCH RESULTS](#)

SHARE THIS SCHOOL

## Colorado College ★

Colorado Springs, CO  
2,084 undergraduate students  
[coloradocollege.edu](https://coloradocollege.edu)

4

Year



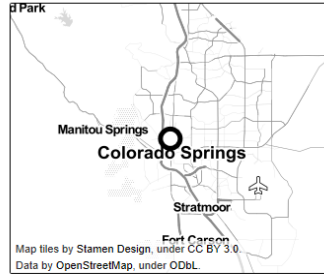
Private



City



Medium

Average  
Annual Cost

\$23,394

Graduation  
Rate

87%

Salary After  
Attending

\$45,400

Costs



Financial Aid &amp; Debt



Graduation &amp; Retention



Earnings After School



Student Body



SAT/ACT Scores



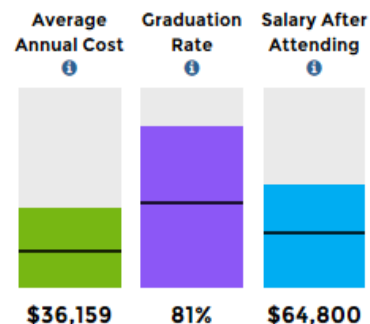
Academic Programs



## Loyola University Maryland



Baltimore, MD  
4,031 undergraduates



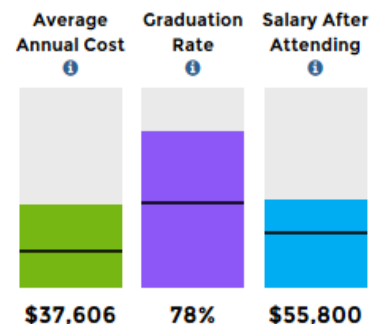
National Median ⓘ

[VIEW MORE DETAILS >](#)

## Loyola Marymount University



Los Angeles, CA  
6,162 undergraduates



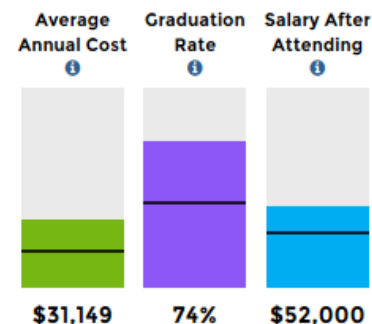
National Median ⓘ

[VIEW MORE DETAILS >](#)

## Loyola University Chicago



Chicago, IL  
10,276 undergraduates



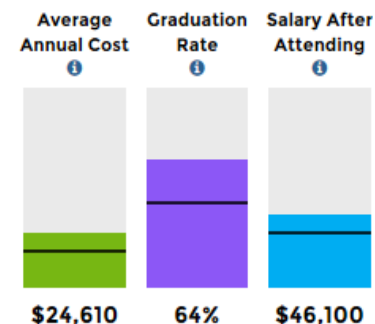
National Median ⓘ

[VIEW MORE DETAILS >](#)

## Loyola University New Orleans



New Orleans, LA  
2,572 undergraduates



National Median ⓘ

[VIEW MORE DETAILS >](#)

## *2. What are your Financial Aid options?*



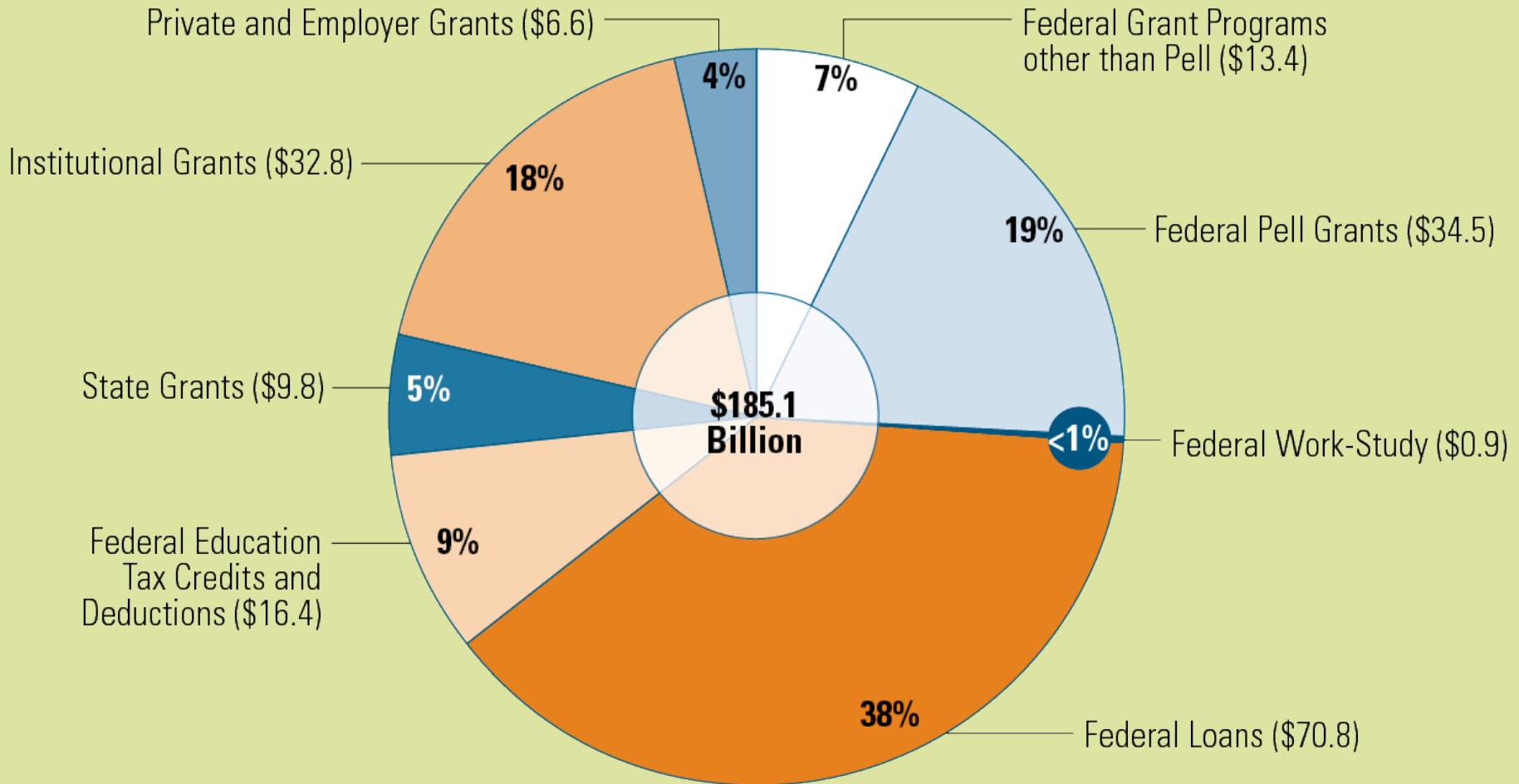


# *Financial Aid is...*

- **Scholarships**
- **Grants**
- **Student Loans**
- **Work-Study**

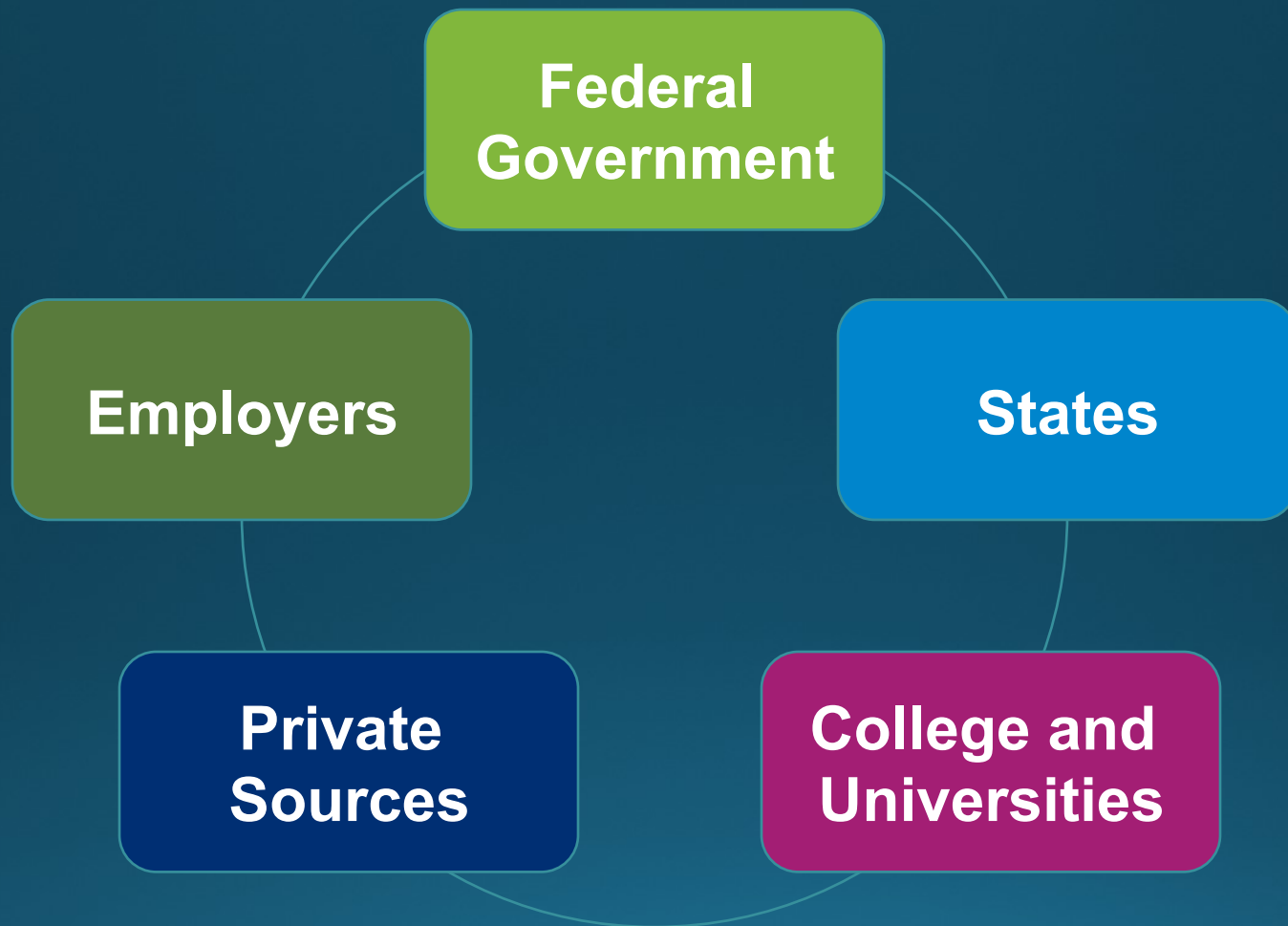


# Undergraduate Student Aid by Source and Type (in Billions), 2017-18



SOURCE: The College Board, *Trends in Student Aid*

# *Sources of Financial Aid*





# *Two Categories of Financial Aid*



## Merit-based

- From College as well as from foundations, etc.
- Based solely on the student's credentials



## Need-based

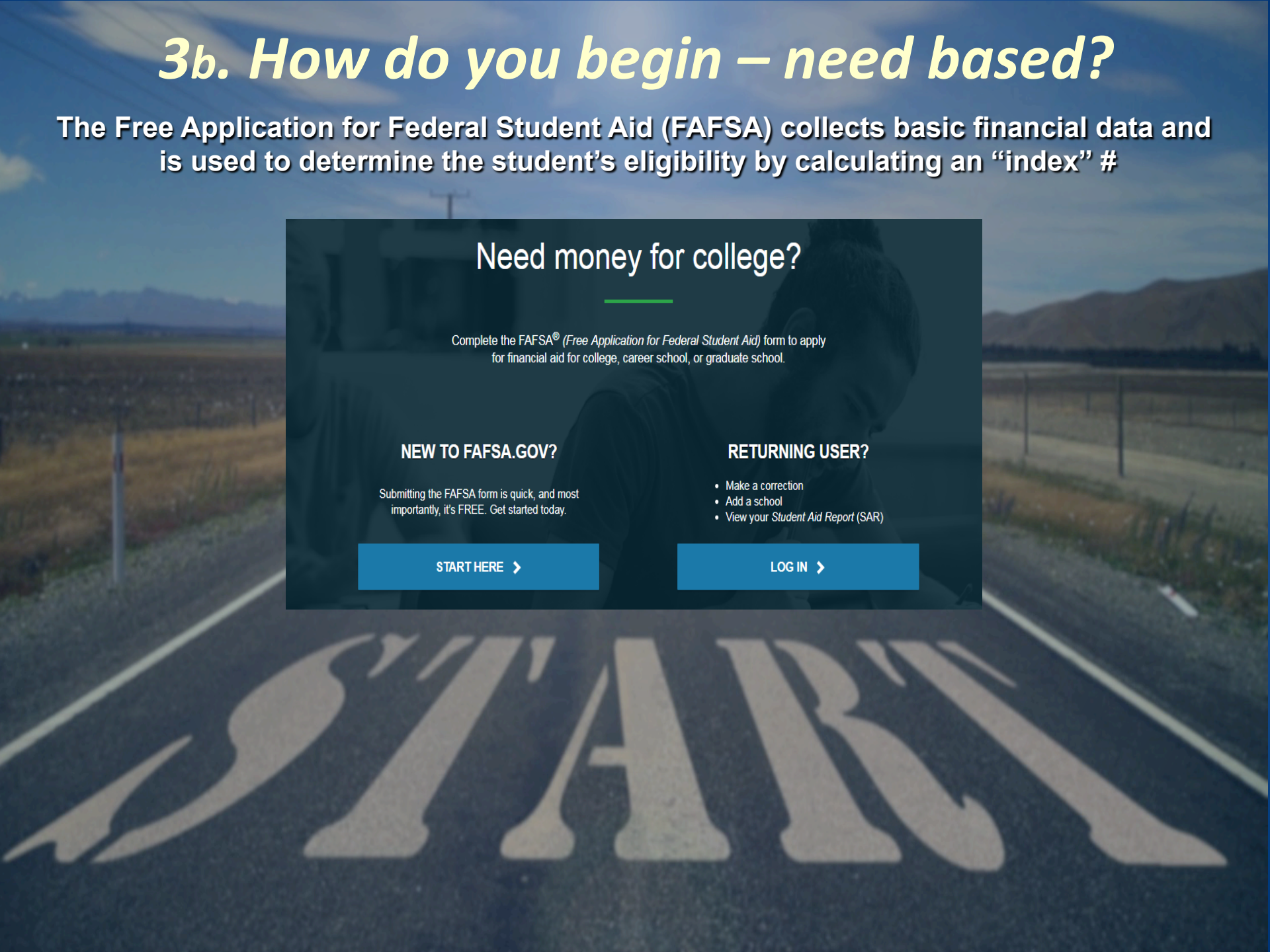
- Calculated from FAFSA and other aid applications
- Sources can be federal, state, institutional
- Types include grants, student loans, work-study

# 3a. How do you begin – merit based?



## 3b. How do you begin – need based?

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) collects basic financial data and is used to determine the student's eligibility by calculating an "index" #



Need money for college?

---

Complete the FAFSA® (*Free Application for Federal Student Aid*) form to apply for financial aid for college, career school, or graduate school.

**NEW TO FAFSA.GOV?**

Submitting the FAFSA form is quick, and most importantly, it's FREE. Get started today.

**START HERE >**

**RETURNING USER?**

- Make a correction
- Add a school
- View your *Student Aid Report (SAR)*

**LOG IN >**

# *FAFSA filing methods*



FAFSA on the Web (FOTW)



myStudentAid mobile app



Paper or PDF FAFSA



FAFSA on the Phone (FOTP)



FAA Access to CPS Online

# FAFSA on the Web (FOTW)

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---

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[START HERE >](#)

### RETURNING USER?

- Make a correction
- Add a school
- View your *Student Aid Report* (SAR)

[LOG IN >](#)



# Apply for a Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID

## HOW TO CREATE AN FSA ID:

1. Enter your email address
2. Create a username
3. Create a password
4. Enter your name, date of birth, and Social Security number
5. Enter your mobile phone number
6. Set up 4 challenge questions
7. Read and accept the terms
8. Verify your mobile phone number
9. Verify your email address

Create an FSA ID:

[StudentAid.gov/fsaid](https://StudentAid.gov/fsaid)

**FSAID.ED.GOV**



**PARENTS:**  
YOU NEED YOUR **OWN** FSA ID  
TO SIGN YOUR CHILD'S FAFSA  
ELECTRONICALLY.

Federal Student Aid  
StudentAid.gov/fsaid



**FSA ID =** USERNAME  
& PASSWORD



# Login

## Log in to the FAFSA

Only students may use their FSA ID to log in. Parents and others can start a FAFSA for a student by entering the student's identifiers. Parents and others can also work on a FAFSA form or correction the student started using the **Save Key** that the student made. [Help for parents.](#)

Form Approved  
OMB No. 1845-0001.  
App. Exp. 12/31/2019.




I am the student

OR



I am a parent, preparer, or student from a  
Freely Associated State

NEXT 

## Log in to the FAFSA

Form Approved  
OMB No. 1845-0001  
App. Exp. 12/31/2020

Only students may use their FSA ID to log in. Parents and others can start a FAFSA for a student by entering the student's identifiers. Parents and others can also work on a FAFSA form or correction the student started using the **Save Key** that the student made. [Help for parents.](#)

☒ I am the student

OR

☐ I am a parent, preparer, or student from a Freely Associated State

**Do not log in with the FSA ID if you are not the student.**

Don't have an FSA ID? [Create one](#) or login using the [student's identifiers](#).

The student's FSA ID Username or Verified E-mail Address


?

[Forgot Username](#)

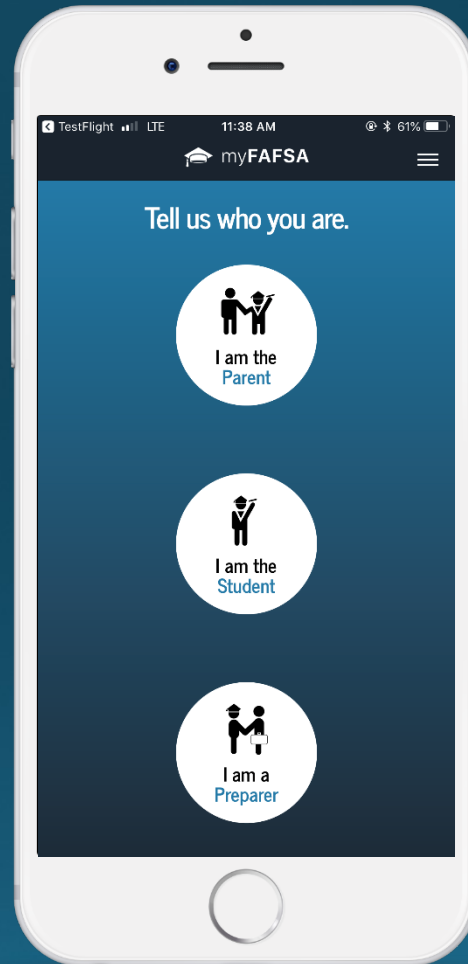
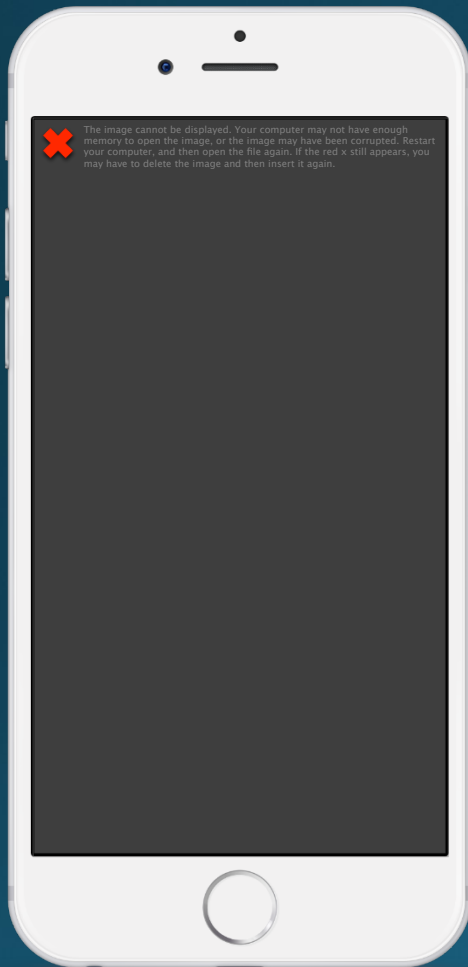
The student's FSA ID Password

?

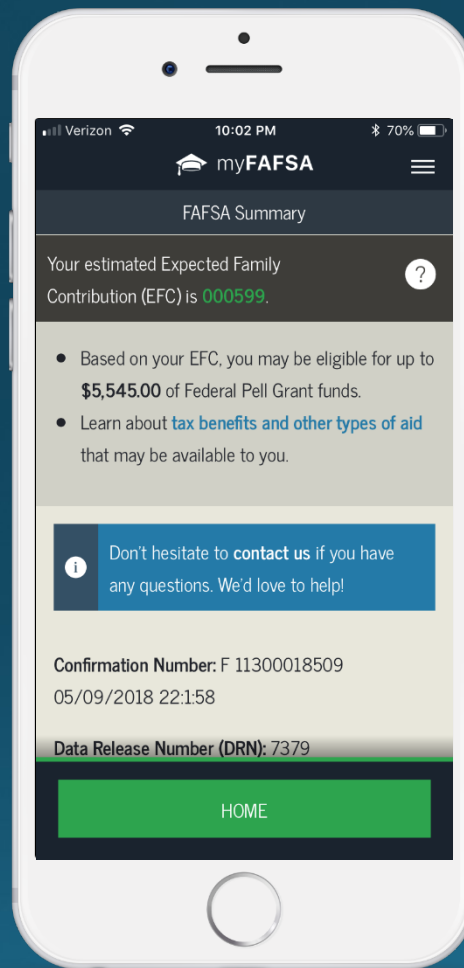
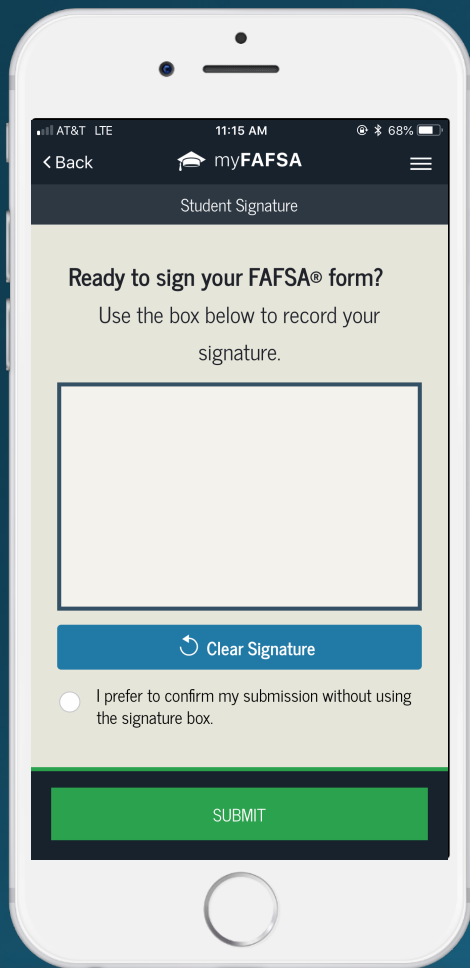
[Forgot Password](#)

NEXT 

# myStudentAid Mobile App



- Mobile ability to begin, complete, save, and submit the FAFSA
- Information protected the same as FOTW



- Digital signature
- Confirmation of submission

# Overview of the FAFSA

- Available October 1
- FAFSA.GOV
- 7 Steps
- Based upon two years prior tax year
- IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT)



# *FAFSA Highlights*

- The FAFSA collects *income* information from two years prior to the academic year for which the aid is intended
  - For the 2019-20 school year, this means 2017 income will be the basis for initial eligibility
- All demographic and household information questions are answered *as of the date the applicant signs the FAFSA*
- Colleges are able to use a different year's income for eligibility (if necessary)
- The IRS DRT streamlines FAFSA completion



# *General outline of the FAFSA*

## Parents

- Family size
- Number in college
- Age of parents
- Taxable income
- Untaxed income
- Assets

## Students

- Adjusted gross income
- Untaxed income
- Assets

**Note:** list up to 10 colleges, using each college's unique federal school code

# FAFSA on the Web (FOTW) Worksheet

- Preview of questions that will be asked on the FAFSA

## SECTION 3 - PARENT INFORMATION

### Who is considered a parent?

"Parent" refers to a biological or adoptive parent or a person determined by the state to be a parent (for example, if the parent is listed on the birth certificate). Grandparents, foster parents, legal guardians, older siblings, and uncles or aunts are **not** considered parents on this form unless they have legally adopted you. If your legal parents are living and married to each other, answer the questions about both of them. If your legal parents are not married and **live together**, answer the questions about both of them. In case of divorce or separation, give information about the parent you lived with most in the last 12 months. If you did not live with one parent more than the other, give information about the parent who provided you the most financial support during the last 12 months or during the most recent year you received support. If your divorced or widowed parent has remarried, also provide information about your stepparent.

### Providing parent 1 information? You will need:

Parent 1 (father/mother/stepparent) Social Security Number

Parent 1 (father/mother/stepparent) name

Parent 1 (father/mother/stepparent) date of birth

☐ Check here if parent is deceased

### Providing parent 2 information? You will need:

Parent 2 (father/mother/stepparent) Social Security Number

Parent 2 (father/mother/stepparent) name

Parent 2 (father/mother/stepparent) date of birth

☐ Check here if parent is deceased

### Did you know?

If your parents file a federal income tax return, you can use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to easily, accurately and securely transfer your tax information into the FAFSA form.

### What was your parent's income?

Skip this question if you are a dependent student on the 1040A—line 21; or 1040

## SECTION 1 - STUDENT INFORMATION

After you are online, you can add up to ten colleges on your FAFSA. The colleges will receive the information from your processed FAFSA.

Student's Last Name	First Name	Social Security Number
<b>Student Citizenship Status</b> (check one of the following)		
<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. citizen (U.S. national) <input type="checkbox"/> Neither citizen nor eligible noncitizen		
<input type="checkbox"/> Eligible noncitizen (Enter your Alien Registration Number in the box to the right.)		
<b>Your Alien Registration Number</b>		
A <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>		
<b>Generally, you are an eligible noncitizen if you are:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A permanent U.S. resident with a Permanent Resident Card (I-551);</li><li>• A conditional permanent resident with a Conditional Green Card (I-551C);</li><li>• The holder of an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from the Department of Homeland Security showing any of the following designations: "refugee," "Asylum Granted," "Parolee" (I-94 confirms paroled for a minimum of one year and status has not expired), T Visa holder (T-1, T-2, T-3, etc.) or "Cuban Haitian Entrant;" or</li><li>• The holder of a valid certification or eligibility letter from the Department of Health and Human Services showing a designation of "Victim of human trafficking."</li></ul>		
<b>Student Marital Status</b> (check one of the following)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Married or remarried <input type="checkbox"/> Separated <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced or widowed		
You will be asked to provide information about your spouse if you are married or remarried.		
<b>Selective Service Registration</b>		
If you are male and 25 or younger, you can use the FAFSA to register with the Selective Service System.		
<b>What is the highest school parent 1 completed?</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Middle school/Jr. high <input type="checkbox"/> College or beyond		
<input type="checkbox"/> High school <input type="checkbox"/> Other/unknown		
<b>What is the highest school parent 2 completed?</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Middle school/Jr. high <input type="checkbox"/> College or beyond		
<input type="checkbox"/> High school <input type="checkbox"/> Other/unknown		

## SECTION 2 - STUDENT DEPENDENCY STATUS

# *IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT)*

- Allows you to transfer tax information from IRS database into the FAFSA
- Reduces documents requested by financial aid office
- Reduces errors and follow-up from the Financial Aid Office!

# Parent Tax Filing Status

Student  
Demographics



School Selection



Dependency Status



Parent  
Demographics



Financial  
Information



Sign & Submit

Confirmation

## PARENT INFORMATION



Application was successfully saved.



**Attention!** You must provide financial information from your parents' **2016 tax return** on the following pages.

For 2016, have your parents completed their IRS income tax return or another tax return?



Already completed



For 2016, what is your parents' tax filing status according to their tax return?



Married-Filed Joint Return



Did your parents file a Puerto Rican or foreign tax return for 2016?



Yes



No



## IRS Data Retrieval Tool

Applying is faster and easier if your parents transfer their tax return information into this FAFSA with the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (IRS DRT)!

LINK TO IRS ↔

## Get My Federal Income Tax Information

See our [Privacy Notice](#) regarding our request for your personal information.

**Enter the following information from your 2016 Federal Income Tax Return.** ?

Required fields \*

First Name *	<input type="text" value="GDIT"/>
Last Name *	<input type="text" value="DATA"/>
Social Security Number *	*** - ** - 2644
Date of Birth *	<input type="text" value="01"/> / <input type="text" value="01"/> / <input type="text" value="1994"/>
Filing Status * ?	<input type="text" value="Married-Filed Joint Return"/> ▼
<b>Address - Must match your 2016 Federal Income Tax Return.</b> ?	
Street Address *	<input type="text" value="4050 Alpha Rd Test"/>
P.O. Box (Required if entered on your tax return) ?	<input type="text"/>
Apt. Number (Required if entered on your tax return)	<input type="text"/>
Country *	<input type="text" value="United States"/> ▼
City, Town or Post Office *	<input type="text" value="Farmers Branch"/>
State/U.S. Territory *	<input type="text" value="Texas (TX)"/> ▼
ZIP Code *	<input type="text" value="75244"/>

Select the button below to exit the IRS system and return to your FAFSA.

By submitting this information, you certify that you are the person identified. Use of this system to access another person's information may result in civil and criminal penalties.

[Return to FAFSA](#)



## 2016 Federal Income Tax Information

### Gdit Data

Based on the information you provided, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) located your income tax return. With your permission below, the IRS will securely transfer your tax information to the Department of Education (ED) to populate any applicable FAFSA® questions.

For your protection, the IRS will not display your tax information and will further encrypt any tax information transferred using the IRS DRT; therefore, ED is unable to display your tax information on your FAFSA.

The data retrieved from your tax return is limited to the items listed below as you reported to the IRS:

Tax Year	Type of Return Filed	Untaxed Pensions
Name(s)	Adjusted Gross Income	Untaxed IRA Distributions
Social Security Number	Income Earned from Work	Tax exempt Interest Income
Filing Status	Income Tax	IRA Deductions and Payments
IRS Exemptions	Education Credits	Status of Amended Returns Received

Refer to your tax records if you have a question about the values you reported.

Print this page for your records before choosing an option below.

### Transfer My Tax Information into the FAFSA ?

- ☐ The tax information provided to FOTW will populate the answers to the appropriate FAFSA questions. After the FAFSA is populated your IRS session will end and you will return to your FAFSA. Check this box if you are choosing to transfer your information.

Transfer Now ?

### Do Not Transfer My Tax Information and Return to the FAFSA ?

- ☐ By clicking the "Do Not Transfer" button, you are choosing not to transfer your tax information electronically. Your IRS session will end and you will return to your FAFSA.

Do Not Transfer ?

# Parent IRS Info

Student  
Demographics

School Selection

Dependency Status

Parent  
Demographics

Financial  
Information

Sign & Submit

Confirmation

✓ You have successfully transferred 2016 IRS tax information.

The father's IRS tax information has been successfully transferred into this FAFSA. Questions that were populated with tax information will be marked with "Transferred from the IRS." For your protection, IRS tax return information is not displayed on the FAFSA.

What type of income tax return did your father file for 2016?

Transferred from the IRS

?

What was your father's adjusted gross income for 2016?

Transferred from the IRS

?

← PREVIOUS

NEXT →

# SIMPLE STEPS TO TRANSFER TAX INFORMATION INTO YOUR FAFSA® FORM

The IRS Data Retrieval Tool (IRS DRT) Electronically Transfers Your Federal Tax Return Information Into Your FAFSA® Form

## WHY

**EASY** Transfer info with the click of a button.

**FAST** Instantly retrieve your information.

**ACCURATE** Correctly fill in your information.

## HOW



**1** Log in to your current FAFSA® form or start a new application at [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov).

**2** In the finances section of the online form, you will see a "Link to IRS" button if you are eligible to use the IRS DRT.

**3** Click the "Link to IRS" button and log in with your FSA ID to be transferred to the IRS to retrieve your info.

**4** Once at the IRS site, enter your information **exactly** as it appears on your federal income tax return and click the "Submit" button.

**5** Check the "Transfer My Tax Information into the FAFSA® form" box, and click the "Transfer Now" button.\*

**6** You will know that your federal tax return information has been successfully transferred because the words "Transferred from the IRS" will display in place of the IRS information in your FAFSA® form.



\*For your protection, your tax information will not be displayed on either the IRS site or [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov).

The IRS DRT can be used by both students and parents.

Federal Student Aid  
An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

PROUD SPONSOR of  
the AMERICAN MIND®

To learn more about the IRS DRT,  
visit [StudentAid.gov/irsdrt](http://StudentAid.gov/irsdrt)

# ***FAFSA FAQs***

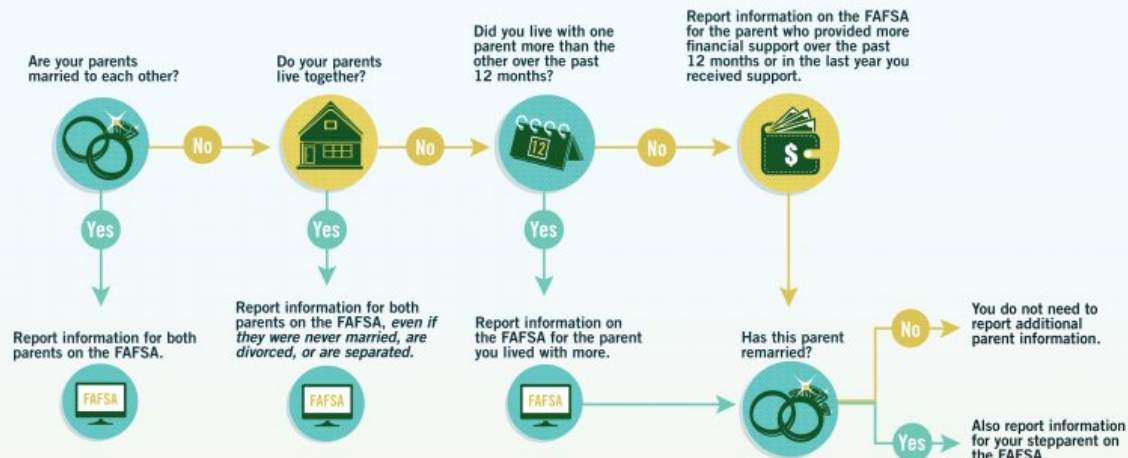
- Divorced, separated, single parents
- Assets included
  - Savings, stocks, other real estate
  - 529 Plans (parents)
- Assets ***not*** included
  - Home equity
  - Retirement accounts
  - Insurance policies, annuities
- One FAFSA per student



# WHO'S MY PARENT WHEN I FILL OUT MY FAFSA®

Dependent students are required to report parent information on the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)*.<sup>1</sup> For reporting purposes, "PARENT" means your legal (biological or adoptive) parent or stepparent, or a person that the state has determined to be your legal parent.

Use this guide to figure out which parent's information to include (depending on your family situation).



The following people are not your parents unless they have legally adopted you:



Widowed Stepparent



Grandparents



Foster Parents



Legal Guardians



Older Brothers or Sisters



Aunts or Uncles

If you're not sure whom to report as a parent, you can visit [StudentAid.ed.gov/afsa/filling-out/parent-info](https://StudentAid.ed.gov/afsa/filling-out/parent-info) or call 800-4-FED-AID (800-433-3243).

<sup>1</sup> If you're not sure whether you are a dependent student, go to [StudentAid.gov/afsa/filling-out/dependency](https://StudentAid.gov/afsa/filling-out/dependency)

Federal Student Aid  
An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

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4. Do any of your family's circumstances matter?



## *Yes, special circumstances matter*

- When the numbers don't tell the whole story
- When the situation is expected to change (or has)
- Must be able to document
- Ex. decrease in income, healthcare costs, legal fees, etc.
- *Consideration will vary from school to school*

# Special Circumstances

Unusual uncovered  
medical/dental  
expenses

Secondary  
school tuition

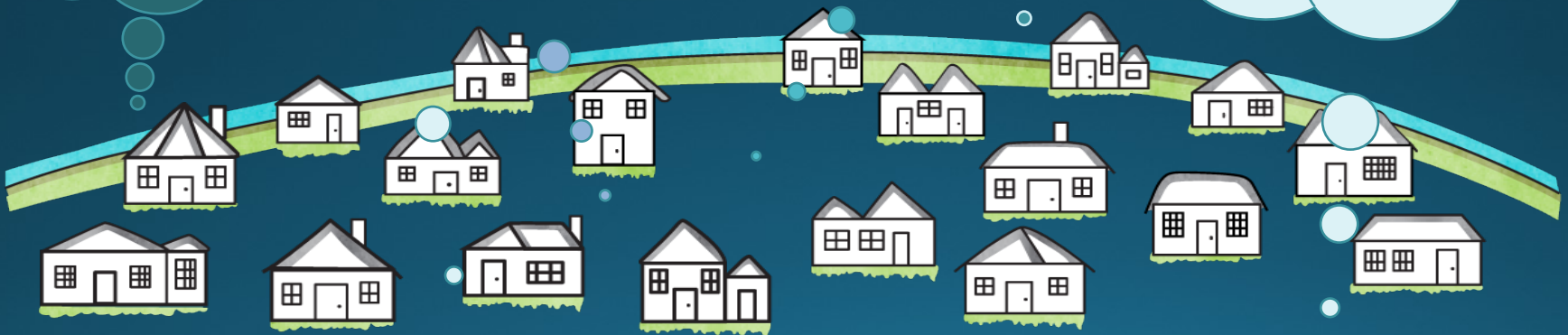
Extraordinary  
dependent care

Parent or  
spouse  
death

Loss of  
employment

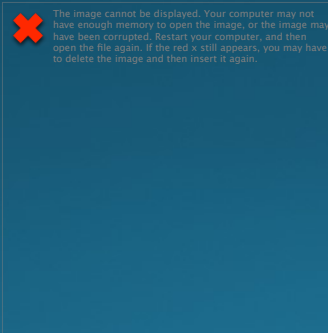
Divorce

Student  
cannot obtain  
parental  
information



# *Supplemental Financial Aid Applications*

- The College Scholarship Service (CSS) Financial Aid *PROFILE*
- A College's own application for financial aid





## Apply with CSS Profile™

Each year CSS Profile gives access to more than \$9 billion for thousands of undergraduate, graduate and professional students.

[Apply Now](#)



**Check participating Schools and Scholarships**



**Learn how to apply**



**View our Student Guide**

### Site Topics

#### Getting Started

We've compiled the list of our most helpful resources to make it easier for you to apply.

#### Fee Waivers

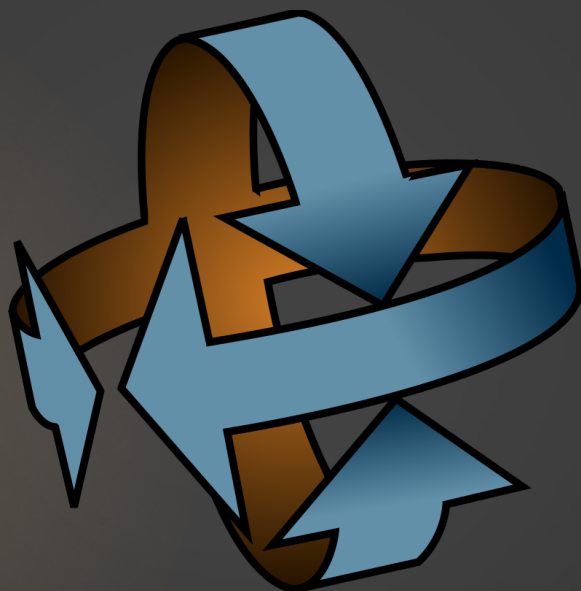
The CSS Profile is free for eligible students.

#### Divorced or Separated Families

Some colleges may require the CSS Profile from both biological parents. Learn more.



5. What happens next?





# *Financial Need*

How much aid can a student receive?



# **UNIVERSAL PHILOSOPHY:**

## ***Financing a College Education is "A Partnership"***

- **Students** and their **parent(s)** have the primary responsibility to pay for college (to the extent they are able).
- Financial aid assessment is NOT a cash flow analysis but rather an evaluation of an individual family's **appropriate** economic strength.
- The contribution is determined by a standard formula that assesses a family's **ability** to pay.
- **Special circumstances** matter; they can and do affect ability to pay.
- **Communication** is vital.
- ***The Financial Aid Office is your advocate!***

# *The Financial Aid Award Letter* (or “package”)

Will contain a combination of

- scholarship, grant, loan and work-study funds

Why might “packages” be different?

- cost of attendance
- scholarship criteria and availability
- institutional philosophy and funding

Renewal for four years



## 6. *Are deadlines essential?*

- Know each College's *priority* deadlines
  - Read and retain all communication you receive
  - Merit scholarship deadlines
  - Admission Decision deadlines
  - Deadlines for supplemental documents (verification worksheet, etc.)



# Timeline

- ✓ Create a Federal Student Aid (FSA) FSA ID
  - ✓ One for student *and* one for a parent
- ✓ Complete FAFSA (and CSS Profile) after **October 1**
- ✓ Check if additional application required or beneficial
- ✓ Receive a Financial Aid Award Letter
- ✓ Ask questions
- ✓ May 1 – National Candidate Reply Date!

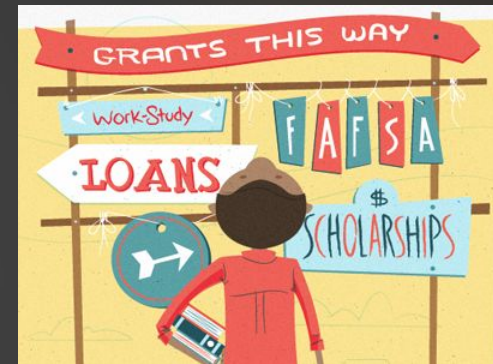




## 7. Ask for

# HELP

- Your HS Counselor
- A College's Financial Aid Office
- The Internet
  - [collegezone.com](http://collegezone.com)
  - [finaid.org](http://finaid.org)
  - [studentaid.ed.gov](http://studentaid.ed.gov)
  - College Web Sites
  - Video tutorials on FSA YouTube channel:
    - How to Create Your FSA ID
  - UCSB's video: 7 Easy Steps to the FAFSA



I'LL NEED AN  
EXTRA BED ...  
MY FOLKS SOLD  
THEIR HOUSE FOR  
MY TUITION ...

CAMPUS INFO

*Welcome Students*

DORM  
CHECK-IN







*Questions*

ready. set.

go!