Financial Aid





Frequently Asked Questions

- How do I apply for Financial Aid?
- Are there deadlines?
- What is Verification?
- Does the State of NJ ask me for information?
- What types of aid are available?
- What are Special Circumstances?

Applying for Financial Aid

Step 1: www.pin.ed.gov

Electronic signature used to sign your FAFSA and access studentloans.gov.

Step 2: www.fafsa.gov

2014-2015 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is required for a student to be considered for federal, state and institutional aid. This includes all Direct Student loans, PLUS Loans and Alternative Loans. You may apply at any time.

Step 3: Actually Filing a FAFSA

- 1. Student's and (if dependent) parent's pertinent data.
- 2. Student's and (if dependent) parent's 2013 Federal tax figures
- 3. All other records of monies earned/received including, but not limited to food stamps (SNAP), child support, worker's compensation, and/or Veteran's benefits
- 4. WPU school code number 002625

***Once all of your information has been processed, you will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) from the Federal government. Review the SAR for accuracy.

Federal Verification

- Required by federal regulations
- Parents and students must obtain an <u>IRS Tax</u> <u>Return Transcript</u>
- Value of Investments, Real Estate, Businesses

- May cause changes in financial aid package
- Cannot disburse (pay) financial aid until verification is completed

Federal Verification

- Must complete Verification Process
- Provide a Tax Return Transcript from IRS
 - www.irs.gov
 - call 800-908-9946 or 800-829-1040
- Use IRS Data Retrieval Process 2 Ways
 - as part of the original application
 - to complete verification requirements
- View this IRS Data Retrieval Tool Tutorial
 - www.youtube.com/ucsbfinaid

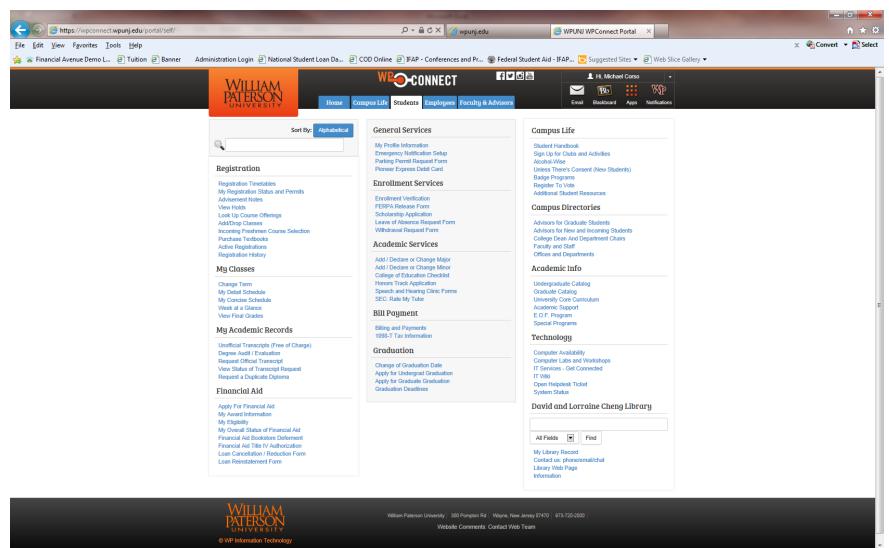
NJ Additional Information Request

- Separate from federal regulations
- May duplicate federal request
- Correspondence comes from HESAA
 - Quakerbridge Plaza Trenton, NJ
- Students must mail information to the HESAA
- Also,
 - Three initial questions not on the FAFSA must be answered
 - June first filing deadline after first year

Satisfactory Academic Policy

- Regulations
 - Qualitative CGPA 2.0
 - Quantitative Completion Rate 67%
 - 150 percent rule
- Appeal
 - Extenuating Circumstances
 - Provide Documentation
 - Reviewed by a committee outside financial aid
- Must include an Academic Plan
- Probation
 - Reinstatement of aid for one semester
 - Review SAP after semester of Probation
 - If meet plan continue to receive financial aid
 - If plan is not met loss of financial aid

WPConnect



Student Loans

Federal Perkins Loan (5%)

Federal Direct Loan Program

- Subsidized Direct Loan (4.29%)
- O Unsubsidized Direct Loan (4.29%)
- O PLUS (6.84%) Parent only

www.studentloans.gov

	Year S	Subsidized	Unsubsidized
0	Fresh	\$3,500	\$2,000
0	Soph	\$4,500	\$2,000
0	Junior	\$5,500	\$2,000
0	Senior	\$5,500	\$2,000

Accepting Student Loans

Here are the directions:

- 1. Go to WP Connect Student
- 2. Choose Financial Aid area
- 3. Choose My Award Information
- 4. Choose Award by Year
- 5. Choose 2015-16
- 6. Click on the Accept Award Offer tab

You will be presented with three options:

- 1. Accept the full award amount by selecting Accept Full Amount of All Awards at the bottom of the screen.
- 2. Choose Decline or Accept for each Direct Loan,
- 3. Accept a partial amount by selecting Accept and entering the amount in the Accept Partial Amount field.

It is always better to Accept your Subsidized loan because the government pays the interest on the Subsidized Loan. If you are going to cancel one loan it is better to cancel the Unsubsidized loan.

If you choose options 2 or 3 make sure you hit the SUBMIT DECISION tab at the bottom of the screen. Your loan information will be updated immediately. Select Award Overview to reviewed revised Financial Aid awards.

Federal Work Study

- This program provides students with the opportunity to work and earn a paycheck.
- Funds for this Federal program are extremely limited, students are awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis; Work Study is not notated on an initial Estimated Award Letter.
- Students must attend a Student Employment Workshop in order to be considered for Federal Work Study or a Student Assistant position. The dates of the workshops can be found on the Financial Aid home page under "Student Employment."
- Jobs are not guaranteed. Placement depends on student schedules, skills, Federal or departmental funding, student initiative and job availability.
- Prior to starting employment, students must contact the Student Employment Coordinator in Financial Aid and submit additional application materials.

IS HIGHER EDUCATION AFFORDABLE?

Options available and take various forms:

- Federal, State and Institutional Aid
- Payment Plans (TIP)
- Parent Loans (PLUS)
- Alternative Loans (Private Banks and Lenders)

- 529 Plans and Educational Savings Accounts
- Tax Credits
 - American Opportunity Tax Credit
 - Lifetime Learning Credit
- Scholarships
 - Alumni
 - Foundation
 - Outside

Special Circumstances

•If you have had changes in your family financial situation after you have filed your FAFSA you may want to submit a Special Conditions Request form. This document is located on the Financial Aid Office website, under the "Forms" tab.

•Filing and submitting this form with all appropriate documentation does not guarantee additional financial aid eligibility.

•Special Circumstance examples are:

- > Unemployment
- ➢ Disability
- ➢ Retirement
- ➤ Death
- ➢ Divorce or Separation
- Loss of Untaxed Income
- Loss if Unemployment Benefits
- Loss of Full-Time Work
- Unreimbursed Paid Medical Expenses

Questions?

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