

What You Need to Know

Michael Corso
Director of Financial Aid

Will.Power

Topics We Will Discuss

- What is financial aid?
- Cost of Attendance (COA)
- Expected Family Contribution (EFC)
- What is financial need?
- Categories, types, and sources of financial aid.
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Special Circumstances.

When to File?

- **Early FAFSA Filing: October 1st, 2019**
 - Most people can use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to complete the 2020-21 FAFSA using your 2018 information.
- We recommend that you use the IRS Data Retrieval tool.
- <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa>

The Application Process

- The financial aid process begins with the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**
- Students and parents must complete the FAFSA annually within established deadlines to determine eligibility for:
 - Federal aid
 - State aid
 - Institutional aid

Get Organized

- Have a 3-ring binder
- Break up into Admissions, Fin Aid, Other
- Go on the website
- Net Price Calculator
- Ask questions

What is Cost of Attendance (COA)?

- Direct costs
- Indirect costs
- Direct and indirect costs combined into cost of attendance
- Varies widely from college to college

Federal Shopping Sheet

MM / DD / YYYY

University of the United States (UUS)
Student Name, Identifier

[Download](#)

Costs in the 2018-19 year

Estimated Cost of Attendance **\$X,XXX / yr**

Tuition and fees	\$ X,XXX
Housing and meals	X,XXX
Books and supplies	X,XXX
Transportation	X,XXX
Other education costs	X,XXX

Grants and scholarships to pay for college

Total Grants and Scholarships ("Gift" Aid; no repayment needed) **\$X,XXX / yr**

Grants and scholarships from your school	\$ X,XXX
Federal Pell Grant	X,XXX
Grants from your state	X,XXX
Other scholarships you can use	X,XXX

What will you pay for college

Net Costs **\$X,XXX / yr**
(Cost of attendance minus total grants and scholarships)

Options to pay net costs

Work options

Work-Study (Federal, state, or institutional)	\$ X,XXX
---	----------

Loan Options*

Federal Perkins Loan	\$ X,XXX
Federal Direct Subsidized Loan	X,XXX
Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan	X,XXX

*Recommended amounts shown here. You may be eligible for a different amount. Contact your financial aid office.


Other options

Family Contribution **\$X,XXX / yr**
(As calculated by the institution using information reported on the FAFSA or to your institution.)

- Payment plan offered by the institution
- Military and/or National Service benefits
- Parent or Graduate PLUS Loans
- Non-Federal private education loan
- American Opportunity Tax Credit *

*Parents or students may qualify to receive up to \$2,500 by claiming the American Opportunity Tax Credit on their tax return during the following calendar year.


Graduation Rate
Percentage of full-time students who graduate within 6 years



XX.X%

Low Medium High

Repayment Rate
Percentage of borrowers entering into repayment within 3 years of leaving school




XX.X%

This institution

**X.X%
National Average**

Median Borrowing
Students who borrow at UUS typically take out \$X,XXX in Federal loans for their undergraduate study. The Federal loan payment over 10 years for this amount is approximately \$X,XXX per month. Your borrowing may be different.



Repaying your loans

To learn about loan repayment choices and work out your Federal Loan monthly payment, go to:
<http://studentaid.ed.gov/repay-loans/understand/plans>

For more information and next steps:
University of the United States (UUS) Financial Aid Office
123 Main Street
Anytown, ST 12345
Telephone: (123) 456-7890
E-mail: financialaid@uus.edu

Customized information from UUS

What is the Expected Family Contribution (EFC)?

- An index used to determine eligibility
- Stays the same regardless of college
- Two components:
 - Parent contribution
 - Student contribution
- Calculated using data from a federal application form and a federal formula

What is Financial Need?

Cost of Attendance

-Expected Family Contribution

=Financial Need

Categories of Financial Aid

- Need-based
- Non need-based

Example of Need:

Cost of attendance:	\$30,000
EFC:	<u>-\$2,000</u>
Need:	\$28,000

Example of No Need:

Cost of attendance:	\$30,000
EFC:	<u>-\$30,000</u>
Need:	\$0

Types of Financial Aid

- Scholarships – *good grades pay!*
- Grants
- Loans
- Employment

Types of Financial Aid

- RaiseMe Scholarships
- Earn scholarships from William Paterson University for your achievements in high school
- <https://www.raise.me/join/wpunj>

Federal Government

- Largest source of financial aid
- Aid awarded primarily on the basis of financial need
- Must apply every year using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- A word about Veteran Benefits

Common Federal Aid Programs

General Programs

- Federal Pell Grant
- Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education Grant
- Direct Loans
- PLUS Loans

Campus Based

- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant
- Federal Work-Study

Loans

- Federal Direct Loan Program
 - Subsidized Direct Loan (5.05%)
 - Unsubsidized Direct Loan (5.05 %)
 - PLUS (7.60%) – Parent only
- Institutional / Private Loans

Direct Student Loans

<u>Year</u>	<u>Subsidized</u>	<u>Unsubsidized</u>
Fresh	\$3,500	\$2,000
Soph	\$4,500	\$2,000
Junior	\$5,500	\$2,000
Senior	\$5,500	\$2,000

- For families with no need – these loans are all unsubsidized
- Website to learn more about federal loans:
 - www.studentloans.gov

If a Parent is Denied a PLUS Loan

- Student can get additional Unsubsidized Direct Loan
 - Fresh \$4,000
 - Soph \$4,000
 - Junior \$5,000
 - Senior \$5,000

State Aid

- Residency requirements
- Award aid on the basis of both merit and need
- Use information from the FAFSA
- Deadlines vary by state; check paper FAFSA or FAFSA on the Web

New Jersey State Aid

- TAG (Tuition Aid Grant) & Part-Time TAG for County Colleges
- EOF (Educational Opportunity Fund)
- Governor's Urban Scholarship
 - Rank in the top 5% of the high school graduating class
 - Attain a 3.0 GPA at the end of the junior year
 - Must graduate from a traditional public, public charter, county vocational or non-public school and reside in an eligible area
 - Have a New Jersey Eligibility Index below 10,500

State Verification

- Additional Information Request (AIR)
 - Further information requested by HESAA
 - Tax return(s)
 - Bank statements
- Selected for State verification
 - Unlike federal verification, which is completed by colleges, HESAA conducts State verification. HESAA should be informed if first college listed on FAFSA is not the college the student is attending; change online at <https://njfams.hesaa.org/NJFAMS/login.aspx>
- Student Eligibility Notice (SEN)
 - Mailed to student from HESAA

Private Scholarship Search

- Institution / college websites
- Local library resources
- Local businesses, civic organizations and churches
- Parents' employer(s)
- www.hesaa.org
- www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org

When to Complete the FAFSA

- May be filed at any time during an academic year, but no earlier than October 1st prior to the academic year for which the student requests aid
- For the 2020-21 academic year, the FAFSA may be filed beginning October 1, 2019
- Colleges may set FAFSA filing deadlines

IRS Data Retrieval Tool

- Some will be unable to use IRS DRT
- Examples include:
 - Filed an amended tax return
 - No Social Security Number (SSN) was entered
 - Student or parent married, but filed separately

FSA ID

- Sign FAFSA electronically
- Not required, but speeds up processing
- May be used by students and parents throughout aid process, including subsequent school year
- Only the owner should create a FSA ID

Federal Student Aid | PROUD SPONSOR of
An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION | the AMERICAN MIND®

Create a New FSA ID

An FSA ID gives you access to Federal Student Aid's online systems and can serve as your legal signature.

Only create an FSA ID using your own personal information and for your own exclusive use. You are not authorized to create an FSA ID on behalf of someone else, including a family member. Misrepresentation of your identity to the federal government could result in criminal or civil penalties.

To create your own personal FSA ID, enter answers for the questions below and select CONTINUE.

Important: When you are done click the CANCEL button to clear your data, even if you did not finish creating your FSA ID. Just closing your browser window or going to another website may not be enough to prevent other people using this computer from seeing your information until the session expires.

<https://fsaid.ed.gov/npas/indexhtm>

Will.Power

General Highlighted Eligibility Requirements

- Must have a valid Social Security Number
- Must be enrolled or accepted for enrollment in an eligible program of study
- Must be pursuing a degree, certificate, or other recognized credential
- Must be a U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen
- Must be registered with Selective Service (males are required)

HESAA Services

- HESAA Web site
 - www.hesaa.org
 - <https://njfams.hesaa.org/NJFAMS/login.aspx>
- Financial Aid Hotline
 - **609-584-4480**
- NJBEST

Federal Verification

- Must complete verification process
 1. Download a Tax Return Transcript from IRS: www.irs.gov
 2. Use the IRS Data Retrieval Process in 2 Ways:
 - as part of the original application, or
 - to complete verification requirements
- [Video Tutorial](#)

IRS Data Retrieval Tool

- **Available NOW!**
- Allows an applicant who has already filed their tax return with IRS to electronically transfer data from tax return to FAFSA
- Participation is strongly encouraged reduce documents requested by financial aid office
- Not available to applicants with a recent change in marital status
- **If married, use the husband's information**
- **Address is case sensitive**



Click to Apply for State Aid

START HERE GO FURTHER
FEDERAL STUDENT AID

FAFSA®
Free Application for Federal Student Aid



Contact Us | Browse Help | **SEARCH**


Student Demographics | School Selection | Dependency Status | Parent Demographics | Financial Information | Sign & Submit | Confirmation

2015-2016 Confirmation Page

Confirmation Number: F 05500060901 03/19/2012 09:07:10
Data Release Number (DRN): 4015

Congratulations, **fname!** Your FAFSA was successfully submitted to Federal Student Aid. You should print this page for your records.

  **Optional Feature - Start your state application - Click [here](#) if you want to apply for New Jersey state-based financial aid.**

 **Eligibility Information**

Estimated Expected Family Contribution (EFC) = 03770
The EFC is an index that schools use to determine your eligibility and is not the amount of money that you have to pay. Your school's financial aid office will use your EFC to determine the specific types and amounts of student aid you are eligible to receive.

You may be eligible to receive the following:

- [Pell Grant](#) Estimate - \$1,800.00
- [Direct Stafford Loan](#) Estimate - \$9,500.00

You may also be eligible to receive other federal, state, or institutional grants, scholarships, and/or work-study.

We help students lay the foundation for a solid financial future



Frequent FAFSA Errors

- Social Security Numbers and DL
- Divorced / remarried parental information
- Income earned by parents / stepparents
- Untaxed income
- Wages left blank
- Household size
- Number of household members in college
- Real estate and investment net worth

Making Corrections

- If necessary, corrections to FAFSA data may be made by:

- Using FAFSA on the Web

- (<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa>)

If estimated taxes are used, correct FAFSA with real taxes or using IRS Data Retrieval; or

- Submitting documentation to college's financial aid office

Special Circumstances

- Cannot report on FAFSA
- Send explanation to financial aid office at each college
- College will review special circumstances
 - Request additional documentation
 - Decisions are final and cannot be appealed to U.S. Department of Education

Special Circumstances (cont.)

- Change in employment status
- Medical expenses not covered by insurance
- Change in parent marital status
- Unusual dependent care expenses
- Student cannot obtain parent information

Other Resources

- Outside Scholarships
- Campus Administered Payment Plans
- Campus Employment
- Specialized Campus Opportunities
 - Residential Advisors
 - Student Ambassadors
 - Student Tour Guides
 - Internships / CO-OP'S

Additional Websites

- www.studentaid.ed.gov
- <https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/>
- www.finaid.org
- <http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator>