

PAYING FOR COLLEGE

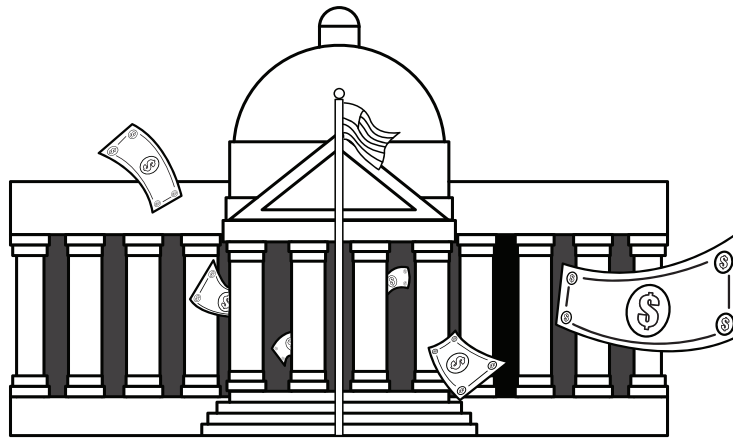
Are you excited for college, but unsure about how to afford it? Higher education is one of the most valuable investments you will ever make. College can be affordable if you plan carefully and make use of the many options available to you.

FAFSA

(Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

The U.S. Department of Education awards billions of dollars in student financial aid every year in the form of grants, work-study funds, and low-interest loans. FAFSA is the form that you must fill out to apply for these resources. Eligibility is determined by your financial need. Even if you think your family's income puts you out of range for receiving funds, it's still worth completing the FAFSA because many institutions use it to award scholarships.

- You and a parent must each create an FSA ID in order to sign and submit your FAFSA at <https://fsaid.ed.gov/npas/index.htm>. Keep your IDs and passwords in a safe place.
- The FAFSA for the following school year opens on October 1st at <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>
- BEWARE of online scams: You should never pay anyone to fill out the FAFSA for you!



GRANTS

A federal grant is money that the U.S. Government gives directly to your institution to pay for your education. Grants do not need to be repaid, and you must reapply with the FAFSA every year. The amount awarded depends on your financial need, cost of attendance, and whether you are a full- or part-time student.

WORK STUDY

Work-study offers part-time work opportunities for students. You must qualify for the work-study program through your FAFSA application. Positions may be on or off campus. Be sure to mark the box on the FAFSA to indicate you are interested in work-study.

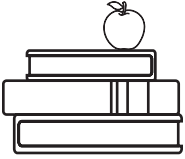
LOANS

A loan is money you borrow and must pay back with interest, even if you don't graduate from college. Federal student loans may be offered as part of your college's financial aid package if you submitted a FAFSA. Federal loans usually have lower interest rates than private (e.g. bank) loans. You are NOT required to accept a loan if offered one.

SCHOLARSHIPS

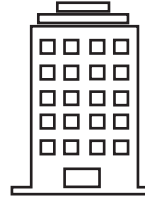
Scholarships are gifts from donors that do not need to be repaid. You must apply for scholarships in order to be considered for the award, and you can apply for as many as you desire. Begin researching and submitting applications early, follow all instructions carefully, and meet all deadlines. If you need help, ask your parent, teachers, or school counselor.

INSTITUTIONAL



Institutional scholarships are awarded by the university or college you decide to attend. These scholarships will vary in their amount and duration.

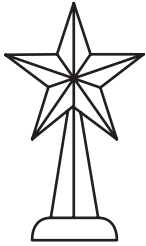
VS.



PRIVATE

Private employers, individuals, companies, and organizations offer private scholarships. You must search for and apply for these scholarships on your own.

MERIT-BASED



You must meet certain requirements set by the donor. Some are based on academic achievement, but others are awarded for leadership, talents, interests, or traits.

VS.



NEED-BASED

You must demonstrate your financial need. Need-based scholarships may be available through your college, private organizations, or foundations.

SCHOLARSHIP RESOURCES

Utah Regents'

<https://stepuputah.com/regents-scholarship/>

Davis School District

<http://www.davis.k12.ut.us/site/Default.aspx?PageID=1955>

Cappex

<https://www.cappex.com/scholarships/>

FastWeb

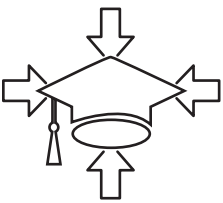
<http://www.fastweb.com>

UtahFutures

<https://utahfutures.org/scholarships/search>

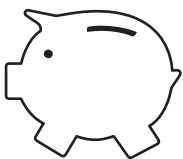
Scholarships.com

<https://www.scholarships.com>



AP/CE CLASSES

Advanced Placement (AP) and Concurrent Enrollment (CE) classes are for students who want to earn college credit in high school. By taking these courses, you can fulfill college requirements while saving hundreds of dollars on tuition. Talk to your counselor about these options.



SAVINGS

Personal savings can reduce the need for a loan. College savings plans (529 plans) offer tax-deferred growth and tax-free withdrawals for college expenses. One is the Utah Educational Savings Plan (UESP), which is a nonprofit 529 plan established by the State of Utah. There is no cost to open a UESP account, and no minimum balance is required. <https://uesp.org/>



WORK

Many students work while they are in school to pay for expenses. If you choose to work, use time management strategies to keep up with all your schoolwork. Summer jobs or part-time work are a great way to cut down on the amount of debt you incur for your college expenses.