

# College Financial Aid and Planning Resources

November 2020

## General FAFSA Resources and Support

- **FAFSA Overview:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gUis5lityCQ&feature=youtu.be>
- **How to Fill Out The FAFSA Video:**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LK0bbu0y5AM&feature=youtu.be>
- **FAFSA Dependency Status Video:**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dEbxarjilLus&feature=youtu.be>
- **FAFSA Tips for Parents:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QdaGZASwjZU&feature=youtu.be>
- **FAFSA instructions for families who will have more than one child in college:**  
<https://blog.ed.gov/2018/09/fafsa-more-than-one-child/>
- **FinAid** - Great Comprehensive easy to understand website on Financial Aid: <https://finaid.org/>

## Scholarship Resources and Support

- **RiseMe** - A free resource which provides micro-scholarship opportunities to students for their college milestone accomplishments: <https://www.raise.me/>
- **College GreenLight** - A free resource for any traditionally underrepresented student with an easily searchable database filled with thousands of scholarships, grants, and merit-aid opportunities. Students create an account and receive a customized list of the awards best suited to their academic, social, and community accomplishments:  
<https://www.collegegreenlight.com>
- **College Board Opportunity Scholarships** - A scholarship program with \$5million of scholarships each year, beginning with the class of 2020. Students who complete tasks such as building a college list, practicing for the SAT, and completing FAFSA are entered in monthly drawings to reward them for their effort and initiative. This scholarship does not require an essay, application, or minimum GPA: <https://opportunity.collegeboard.org>
- **Dept of Labor** - Has a scholarship search site by keyword, degree you are pursuing, and geographic residency: <https://www.careeronestop.org/toolkit/training/find-scholarships.aspx>
- **Cappex** - Is a full-service college planning site that also has a scholarship search engine. An account must be created: <https://www.cappex.com/>
- **Fastweb** - Bills themselves as the leading online resource for finding scholarships. An account must be created: <https://www.fastweb.com/>
- **FinAid** - Is a free wealth of financial information and calculators, and offers a scholarship search: <https://finaid.org/>
- **Scholly** - Charges a monthly fee for their personalized scholarship search services:  
<https://myscholly.com>

## Non-U.S. Citizen Resources and Support

- **Connecticut Students 4 a Dream:** <https://www.ct4adream.org/>
- **Counselor Guide from Immigrants Rising** (formerly known as E4FC - Educators for Fair Consideration): [http://www.scholarshipsaz.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/E4FC\\_EducatorGuide1.pdf](http://www.scholarshipsaz.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/E4FC_EducatorGuide1.pdf)
- **NACAC Guide for Working with Undocumented Youth:** <https://www.nacacnet.org/globalassets/documents/knowledge-center/undocumented-students/supporting-undocumented-youth-ed-2015.pdf>
- **Online search engine for resources and scholarships for undocumented students:** <https://immigrantsrising.org/resources/>
- **My Undocumented Life:** <https://mydocumentedlife.org/category/high-school-scholarships/>
- **UConn Financial Aid:** [https://financialaid.uconn.edu/undocumented\\_students/](https://financialaid.uconn.edu/undocumented_students/)
- **College Board on Financial aid for Undocumented/Non-Citizens:** <https://secure-media.collegeboard.org/digitalServices/pdf/professionals/repository-of-resources-for-undocumented-students.pdf>
- **Mexican American Legal Defense Fund Scholarship Guide:** <https://www.maldef.org/resources/scholarship-resource-guide/>
- **Point Foundation Scholarships:** <https://pointfoundation.org/point-apply/apply-now/>
- **The Dream.U.S Scholarships:** <https://www.thedream.us/scholarships/>
- **CSS Profile:** <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-started/for-undocumented-students/questions-and-answers-about-paying-for-college>
- **QuestBridge:** <https://www.questbridge.org/about>
- **Hispanic Scholarship Fund:** <https://www.hsf.net/scholarship>
- **College Greenlight:** <https://www.collegegreenlight.com>

## Other College Financial Planning Resources

- **Award Comparison Calculators:**
  - Big Future Award Comparison Calculator: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/financial-aid-awards/compare-aid-calculator>
  - FinAid Award Letter Comparison Tool: <http://www.finaid.org/calculators/awardletter.phtml>
  - NASFAA Paper Worksheet: [https://www.nasfaa.org/uploads/documents/Award\\_Notification\\_Comparison\\_Worksheet.pdf](https://www.nasfaa.org/uploads/documents/Award_Notification_Comparison_Worksheet.pdf)
- **Determine how much you can afford** to borrow, based upon how much you will be able to realistically repay:
  - Decide how much you can borrow: <https://mappingyourfuture.org/paying/debtwizard/>
  - Estimate what your loan payments will be: <https://mappingyourfuture.org/paying/standardcalculator.cfm>
  - Student Loan Calculator: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/loans/student-loan-calculator>
  - ParentLoanCalculator: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/pay-for-college/loans/parent-loan-repayment>