

FINANCIAL AID 101

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Topics We'll Cover

- Terms & tools
- Completing the 2023-24 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Types & sources of aid
- Aid programs
- Tips



Change is coming...



- Beginning with the 2024-25 FAFSA, there will be changes to the:
 - FAFSA questions/data collected
 - Federal methodology
 - Terminology

Studentaid.gov

Federal Student Aid
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

FAFSA® Form ▾ Loans and Grants ▾ Loan Repayment ▾ Loan Forgiveness ▾ Log In | Create Account

Apply for Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF)

Log In Create Account

POPULAR TOPICS

- Learn About One-time Student Loan Debt Relief >
- Learn About the Time-limited PSLF Waiver >
- Use the *PSLF Help Tool* >
- Apply for Aid Using the FAFSA® Form >
- Complete a *Master Promissory Note (MPN)* >

Considering School
I'm thinking about going to college or a career school.

In School
I'm in the process of earning a degree or certificate.

Parent
I want to help my child pay for college.

In Repayment
I have loans I need to repay.



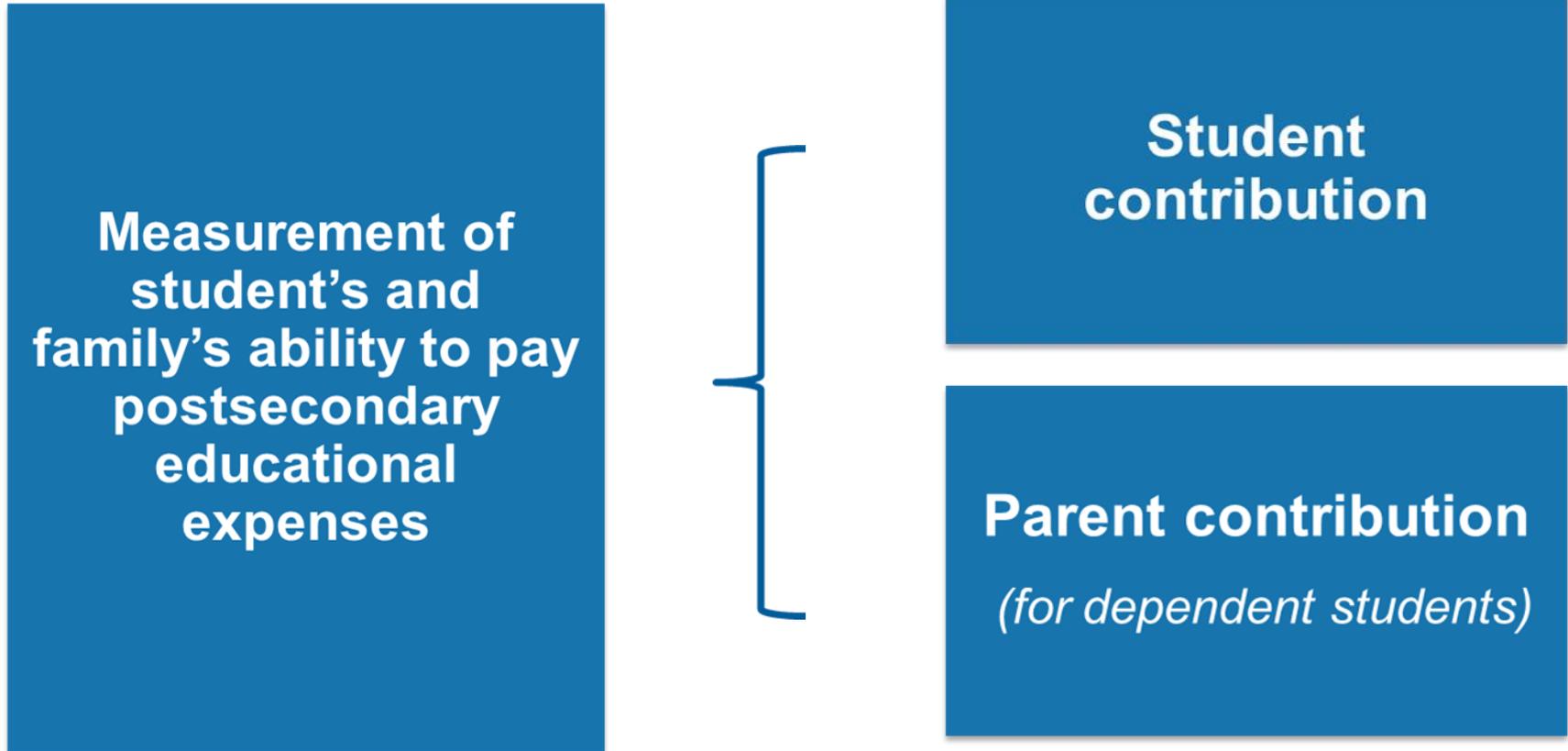
- One stop website for all things related to federal aid
- 2023-2024 FAFSA available October 1
 - Check with colleges for deadlines
- File each year for each student in college
- Use income from 2 years prior
 - 2021 income for the 2023-24 FAFSA

Federal Methodology



- Federal Methodology
 - Formula created by Congress, uses all information on the FAFSA.
 - Determines the Federal Expected Family Contribution (EFC).

Expected Family Contribution (EFC)



Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

- Index number that the financial aid office uses to determine aid eligibility
- Stays the same regardless of college choice
- The EFC is **not**:
 - The amount of money you will pay
 - The amount of federal aid you will receive



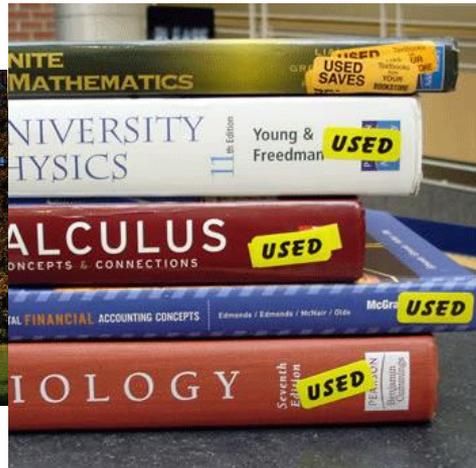
Cost of Attendance

Direct Expenses

- Tuition and fees
- Room and meals (on campus)

Indirect Expenses

- Books and supplies
- Transportation
- Personal expenses



Definition of Need

Cost of Attendance (COA)
- Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

= FINANCIAL NEED



Financial Need Examples

Cost of Attendance	\$40,000
- EFC	\$15,000
= Need	\$25,000
Cost of Attendance	\$70,000
- EFC	\$15,000
= Need	\$55,000

Net Price Calculator

- Want to get an early estimate of your aid at a particular college?
- Complete for each college in which you are interested
- Provide income information
- Gives you an estimate of the aid for which you are eligible
- Also provides cost information

<https://collegecost.ed.gov/net-price>



FSA ID

Create an Account (FSA ID)

Parents Students Borrowers

Whether you're a student, parent, or borrower, you'll need to create your own account to complete federal student aid tasks.

What You Can Use Your Account For

- Filling out the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)* form
- Signing your *Master Promissory Note (MPN)*
- Applying for repayment plans
- Completing loan counseling
- Using the *Public Service Loan Forgiveness Help Tool*

Items Needed to Create an Account

- Social Security number
- Your own mobile phone number and/or email address

Get Started

or

Log In

- Username and password
 - *Legal signature* on the FAFSA & federal loans
 - Student and 1 parent need an FSA ID
 - SSN, email address and mobile phone number cannot be used with more than one FSA ID
 - Should only be used by the person it's assigned to

<https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch>

FAFSA on the Web

Federal Student Aid
AN OFFICE OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

FAFSA® Form ▾ Loans and Grants ▾ Loan Repayment ▾ Loan Forgiveness ▾ Log In | Create Account 🔍

Welcome to the FAFSA® Form

Tell us about yourself. [? Help](#) [↪ Exit FAFSA Form](#)

- I am a student and want to access the FAFSA form. 
- I am a parent filling out a FAFSA form for a student. 
- I am a preparer helping a student fill out his or her FAFSA form. 



- Studentaid.gov
 - FAFSA Form
 - Complete the FAFSA Form

FAFSA on the Web

Federal Student Aid
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FAFSA® Form ▾ Loans and Grants ▾ Loan Repayment ▾ Loan Forgiveness ▾

Complete the FAFSA® Form

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

New to the FAFSA® Process?
Completing the FAFSA form is free. Fill it out now.

Start Here

Returning User?
Correct info | Add a school
View your *Student Aid Report (SAR)*

Log In

- Fafsa.gov

FAFSA on the Web

The screenshot shows the 'Add Your High School' section of the FAFSA on the Web application. At the top, a navigation bar contains seven tabs: 'Student Demographics' (with a checkmark), 'School Selection' (with a circled '2'), 'Dependency Status' (with a circled '3'), 'Parent Demographics' (with a circled '4'), 'Parent Financials' (with a circled '5'), 'Student Financials' (with a circled '6'), and 'Sign & Submit' (with a circled '7'). A red arrow points to the 'Student Demographics' tab, and another points to the 'School Selection' tab.

Below the navigation bar, the page title is 'STUDENT INFORMATION Add Your High School'. A green success message states: 'Application was successfully saved.' Below this is a blue information box with an 'i' icon: 'Because the FAFSA® form belongs to the student, "you" and "your" always (unless otherwise noted) refer to the student.' A red arrow points to this box. Another blue information box with an 'i' icon says: 'To find your high school, enter the following criteria and select "Search."'.

The main form area contains three input fields: 'State / Province / Territory' (a dropdown menu with 'Select' and a 'My country is not listed' link), 'City - optional' (a text box), and 'High School Name - optional' (a text box). A red arrow points to the 'City - optional' field. Below these fields is a blue 'Search' button. At the bottom left of the form is a 'Previous' button.

General Eligibility Requirements - Students

- Earn a high school diploma or equivalent.
- Accepted for enrollment in an eligible program.
- Must be U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen.
- Must have valid Social Security Number



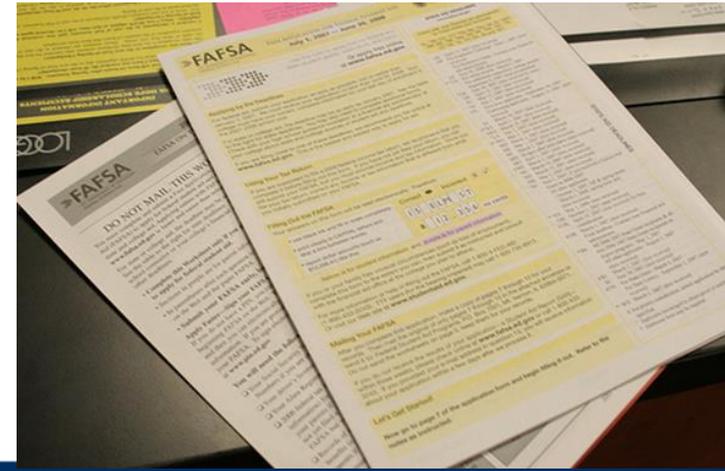
Completing the FAFSA

- **Student demographic information**
 - SSN
 - Citizenship status
 - Marital status
 - State of legal residence
 - Level of parents' school completion
- **College Search**
 - List the colleges to receive the information (up to 10)



Completing the FAFSA

- **Student dependency status**
 - Born before January 1, 2000
 - Married
 - Serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces
 - Veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces
 - Since turning age 13
 - Both parents were deceased
 - In foster care
 - Dependent or ward of the court
 - Emancipated minor
 - In legal guardianship



Completing the FAFSA

- **Student dependency status**

- Working on a master's or doctorate program
- Having children who receive more than half of their support from you
- Having dependents other than children who live with you and receive more than half of their support from you
- Homeless or at the risk of being homeless

If none of these items apply to the student, they are dependent and will need to provide parent information.

Completing the FAFSA

- **Parent(s) Information**
 - Marital Status (as of the day the FAFSA is completed)
 - Never married
 - Unmarried, both legal parents living together
 - Married or remarried
 - Divorced or separated
 - Widowed
 - Household size/# in college
 - SSN/Name/Date of Birth
 - State of legal residence



IRS Data Retrieval Tool

- The IRS will authenticate the taxpayer's identity.
- Applicants may choose whether or not to transfer the data.
- Data elements transferred are marked, "Transferred from IRS."



IRS Data Retrieval Tool

■ Tips

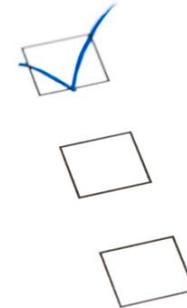
- Schools and state agencies can view the data.
- Joint filers manually enter income earned from work.
- Do not change the IRS data.

The screenshot shows the 'Student Financials' step of the FAFSA process. The progress bar at the top indicates that steps 1 through 5 (Student Demographics, School Selection, Dependency Status, Parent Demographics, and Parent Financials) are complete, while step 6 (Student Financials) is the current step. The 'Student Tax Filing Status' section contains three informational messages: a success message, an attention warning to provide 2021 tax return information, and a note that 'you' and 'your' refer to the student. Below these are three dropdown menus: 'For 2021, have you completed your IRS income tax return or another tax return?' (set to 'Already completed'), 'What income tax return did you file for 2021?' (set to 'IRS Form 1040'), and 'For 2021, what is your tax filing status according to your tax return?' (set to 'Single').

The screenshot shows the 'RECOMMENDED IRS Data Retrieval Tool' screen. It features the FAFSA logo and text stating: 'Applying is faster and easier if you transfer your tax return information into this FAFSA® form with the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT)!' Below this, a note says: 'For your protection, your tax return information will not display on the IRS website or on the FAFSA® form.' At the bottom, there are three buttons: 'Previous', 'Skip IRS DRT and Complete Manually', and 'Proceed to the IRS >'.

Completing the FAFSA

- **Asset questions**
 - As of the day the FAFSA is completed
 - Cash, savings and checking accounts
 - Investment net worth
 - Business/Investment Farm
- **Demographic Survey**



Agreement of Terms and Sign

Student Demographics ✓ School Selection ✓ Dependency Status ✓ Parent Demographics ✓ Parent Financials ✓ Student Financials 6 Sign & Submit 7

SIGN & SUBMIT

Read Before Proceeding

✓ Application was successfully saved.

By signing this application electronically using your FSA ID (username and password) and/or any other credential or by signing a signature page and mailing it to us, YOU, THE STUDENT, certify that you

1. will use federal and/or state student financial aid only to pay the cost of attending an institution of higher education.
2. are not in default on a federal student loan or have made satisfactory arrangements to repay it.
3. do not owe money back on a federal student grant or have made satisfactory arrangements to repay it.
4. will notify your school if you default on a federal student loan, and
5. will not receive a Federal Pell Grant from more than one school for the same period of time.

By signing this application electronically using your username and password, and/or any other credential or by signing a signature page and mailing it to us, you certify that all of the information you provided is true and complete to the best of your knowledge and you agree, if asked to provide

1. information that will verify the accuracy of your completed form, and
2. U.S. or state income tax forms that you filed or are required to file.

Previous Continue

You also certify that you understand that the secretary of education has the authority to verify information reported on your application with the Internal Revenue Service and other federal agencies.

If you sign this application or any document related to the federal student aid programs electronically using a username and password, and/or any other credential, you certify that you are the person identified by the username and password, and/or any other credential and have not disclosed that username and password, and/or any other credential to anyone else. If you purposely give false or misleading information, you may be fined up to \$20,000, sent to prison, or both.

I, TestE Perez, agree to the terms outlined above.

Previous Continue

- Both student and parent
 - Agree to the terms
 - Sign the FAFSA

Student Demographics ✓ School Selection ✓ Dependency Status ✓ Parent Demographics ✓ Parent Financials ✓ Student Financials 6 Sign & Submit 7

SIGN & SUBMIT

Which parent are you?

Parent 1

Unsigned

Last Name
Walter

Date of Birth
12/11/1970

Social Security Number
----7890

Provide Parent Signature

Parent 2

Unsigned

Last Name
Brown

Date of Birth
11/30/1980

Social Security Number
----8463

Provide Parent Signature

Previous

FAFSA Confirmation Page

FederalStudentAid

UNDERSTAND AID | APPLY FOR AID | COMPLETE AID PROCESS | MANAGE LOANS

Congratulations, TestM!
Your FAFSA form was successfully submitted to Federal Student Aid.

06/02/2021 14:42:08
Confirmation Number:
Data Release Number (DRN) 4454

Here's what happens next:

- You will receive an email version of this page.
- In 3-5 business days, you will receive an email notifying you that your FAFSA form was processed.
- Your FAFSA information will be made available to your school(s), and they will use it to determine the aid you may be eligible to receive.
- Your school(s) will contact you if they need more information or when they are ready to discuss your financial aid award.
- If you have questions about your financial aid package, contact your school(s).

Do you have another child who needs to complete a FAFSA?
If so, you can transfer your information into a new FAFSA form for your other child to save time. You will have to provide a signature again, but that's all.

[Transfer FAFSA Information](#)

School(s) On Your FAFSA Form

School Name	Graduation Rate	Retention Rate	Transfer Rate
Alabama Agrcltl & Mechl Univ	25%	60%	41%
Alabama State University	N/A	N/A	N/A

Process



- Complete any institution specific applications
 - CSS Profile
- Receive/Review Financial Aid Award Offer
 - Must have listed the school on the FAFSA
 - Must be admitted
- Provide Additional Documentation
 - If requested
- Process Student Loans

Changes in Circumstances

- Have there been changes in your financial circumstances since 2021?
 - Job loss
 - Unemployment benefits ended
 - Loss/reduction of untaxed income
 - Unreimbursed medical expenses
- Address with the college student plans to attend
- Do not make changes to your FAFSA!



Sources of Aid

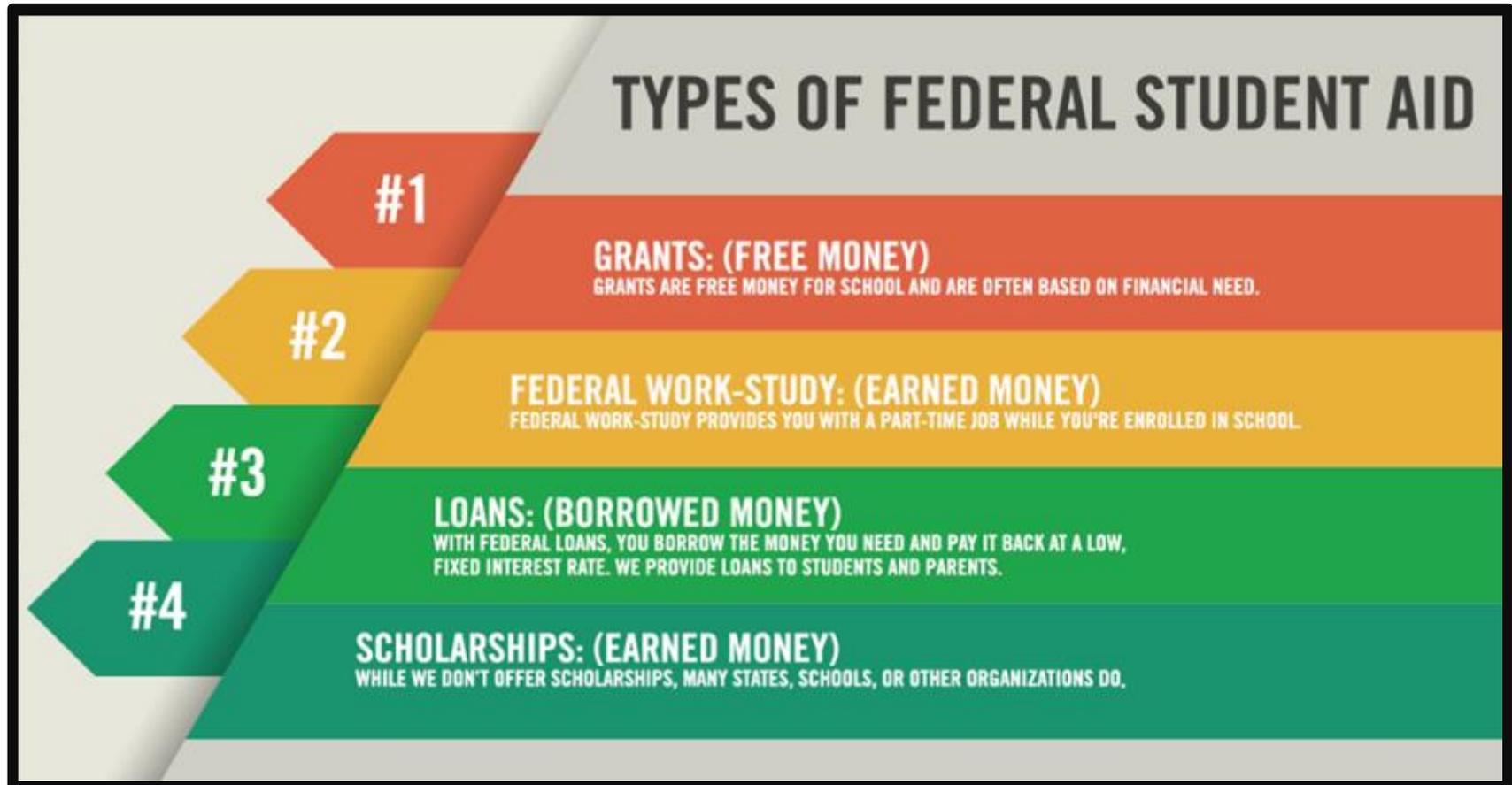
- Institutional
 - Merit based
 - Need based
- Federal
- State
- Other
 - Athletic Scholarships
 - Outside Scholarships
 - Veteran's benefits
 - Resident Assistantships
 - Tax Credits

FINANCIAL AID IS AVAILABLE FROM A VARIETY OF SOURCES:

- The U.S. Federal Government
- Your State Government
- Your College or Career School
- Nonprofit or Private Organization



Types of Financial Aid



Grants and Scholarships

- Federal
 - Pell Grant
 - FSEOG
 - TEACH
- State hesaa.org
 - NJ TAG
 - EOF
 - NJSTARS
 - Community College Opportunity Grant
 - Garden State Guarantee



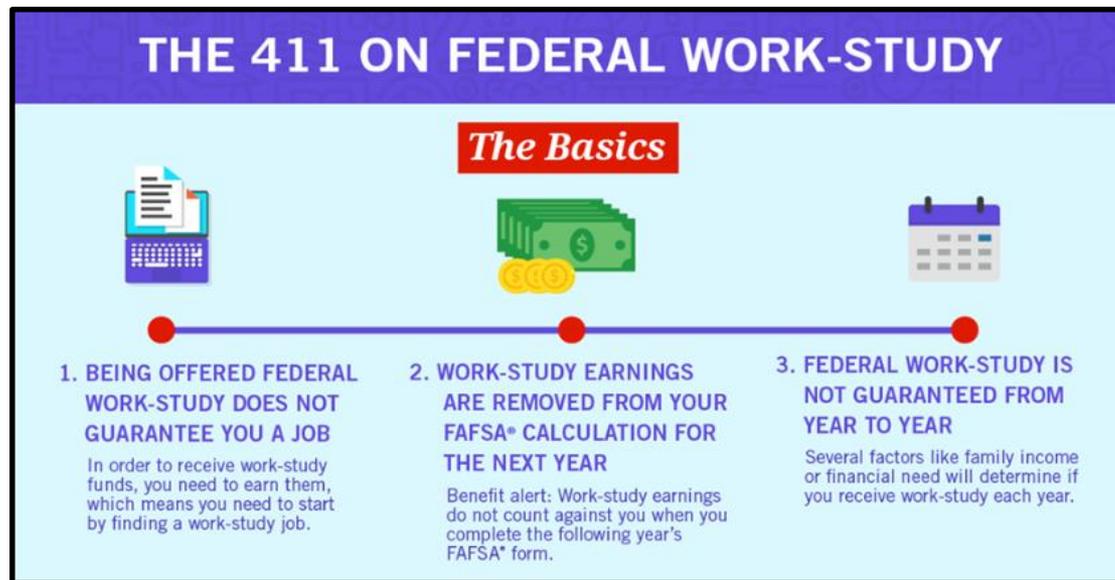
Grants and Scholarships

- Private Sources
 - Think local and global
 - Use the Counseling Office's Resources
 - Web Resources
 - www.fastweb.com
 - www.scholarships.com
 - Only use free websites!



Employment

- Federal Work Study
- Institutional Work Programs
- Off-Campus Jobs



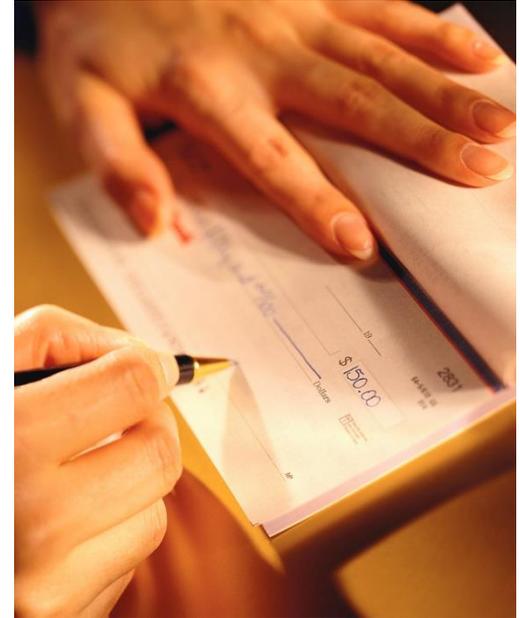
Loan Programs

- Federal Direct Loan Program
- Federal Parent PLUS
- Private Education Loan



Tuition Payment Plans

- Not a loan
 - Enrollment fee
- Make tuition payments in monthly installments
- Fit payments into your monthly budget
- Various payment options



Tips

- READ, READ, READ
 - all mail/email promptly
 - instructions carefully
 - review before submitting
 - keep copies
- Involve your student
- Consult a financial aid officer



