## National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators Presents ...

# What You Need to Know About Financial Aid

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#### Topics We Will Discuss

- What is financial aid?
- Cost of attendance (COA)
- Expected family contribution (EFC)
- Financial need
- Categories, types, and sources of financial aid
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)
- Special circumstances
- New York State Aid
- CSS Profile



#### What is Financial Aid?

Financial aid consists of funds provided to students and families to help pay for postsecondary educational expenses





### What is Cost of Attendance (COA)?

#### Estimation of expected costs

**Direct Costs** 

**Indirect Costs** 



Tuition and fees



**Transportation** 



Room and board



Miscellaneous personal expenses



Books and supplies



# What is Expected Family Contribution (EFC)?

Measurement of student's and family's ability to pay postsecondary educational expenses

Student contribution

**Parent contribution** 

(for dependent students)



#### What is Financial Need?

#### Cost of attendance (COA)

- Expected family contribution (EFC)
- = Financial need



## Samples Of Financial Need

	Community College	State School	Private College
COA	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 70,000.00
- EFC	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
= Need	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 65,000.00



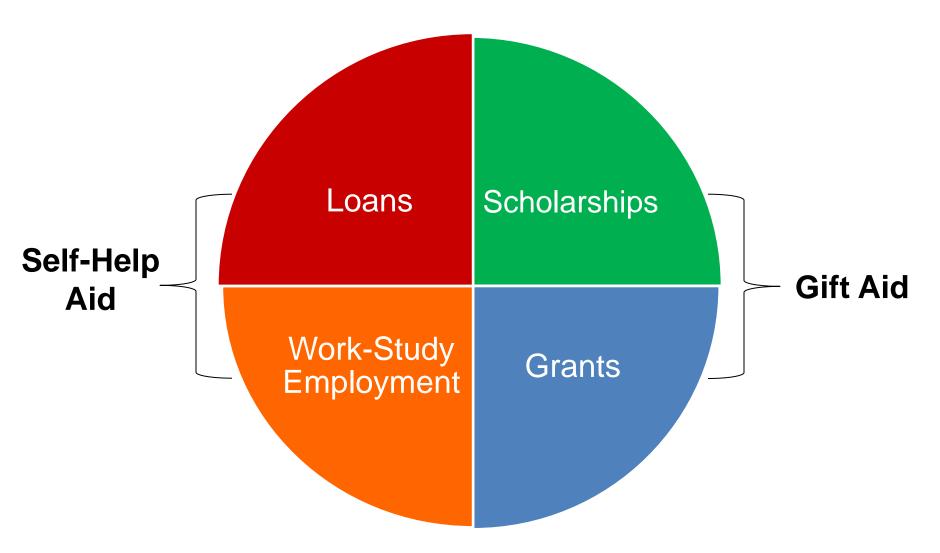
### Categories of Financial Aid





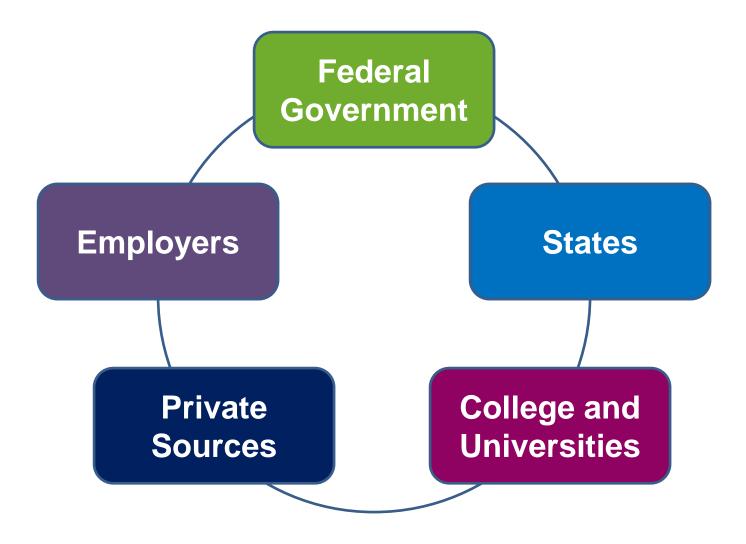


## Types of Financial Aid





#### Sources of Financial Aid





#### Federal Government

Largest source of financial aid

Aid awarded primarily on the basis of financial need

Must apply each year using the FAFSA

Eligibility requirements must be met



#### Federal Student Aid Programs

Federal Pell Grant

Iraq Afghanistan Service Grant Federal
Supplemental
Educational
Opportunity Grant
(FSEOG)

Teacher Education
Assistance for
College and Higher
Education (TEACH)
Grant

Federal Work-Study (FWS) Federal Direct Student Loans (Direct Loans)

Federal PLUS Loans



#### **States**

Residency requirements usually apply

Award aid on the basis of both merit and need

Use information from the FAFSA and/or state aid applications

More information on NYS aid later....



#### Colleges and Universities

Award aid on the basis of both merit and need

Aid may be gift aid or self-help aid (loans, work study)

Use information from the FAFSA and/or institutional applications

Deadlines and application requirements vary by institution



#### **Private Sources**

Foundations, businesses, churches, civic, and charitable organizations

Deadlines and applications procedures vary

Begin researching private sources early



#### **Employers**

Companies may have scholarships available to the children of employees

Companies may have educational benefits for their employees



#### Why is/was October 1 an important date?



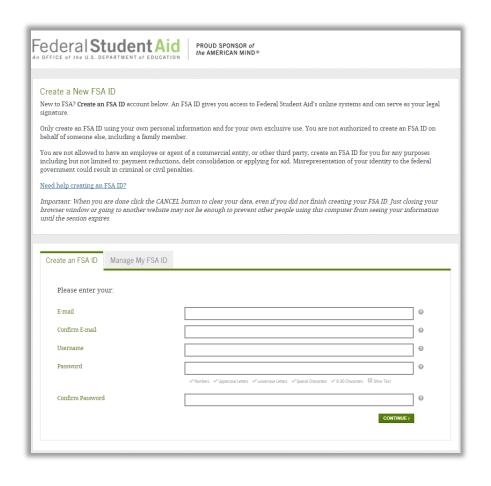
#### October 1

# First day to file the 2023-24 FAFSA!!!!



#### **FSA ID**

- Used for FAFSA completion and allows access to certain U.S.
   Department of Education websites
- May be used by students and parents throughout financial aid process, including subsequent school years
- Apply at https://fsaid.ed.gov





## Free Application for Federal Student Aid - FAFSA

- Collects demographic and financial information
- Information used to calculate the expected family contribution (EFC)
- Colleges use EFC to award financial aid
- Available in English and Spanish



#### **FAFSA**

- May be filed at any time during an academic year, but no earlier than October 1<sup>st</sup> prior to the academic year for which the student requests aid
- For the 2023-24 academic year, the FAFSA may be filed beginning October 1, 2022
  - 2021 Federal Tax Information will be used
- Most colleges set FAFSA filing deadlines



#### General Student Information

- Legal Name
- Social Security Number
- Citizenship status
- Marital status



### **Student** Dependency Status

FAFSA asks questions to determine dependency status for Title IV federal student aid (not IRS) purposes:

- If all "No" responses, student is dependent
- If "Yes" to any question, student is independent



# Financial Information About <u>Parents</u> and <u>Students</u>

- Income, tax and other financial information
- Receipt of means-tested federal benefits in the previous two years
- Assets
- Untaxed income pre-tax contributions to retirement plans



#### IRS Data Retrieval Tool

- Allows for certain tax return information to be transferred from the IRS database
- Participation is voluntary but HIGHLY recommended
- If tax record is found, IRS transfers information to populate the FAFSA
- Reduces documents requested by financial aid office



#### Additional Information

- College information
  - Can list up to 10 schools at a time on FAFSA
- Housing plans
  - If unsure, choose 'on campus'
    - Many schools award additional aid for on-campus students
- FAFSA preparer information
  - NEVER pay anyone to file your FAFSA it is a free application



#### Signatures

- Required
  - Student
  - One parent (dependent students)
- Format for submitting signatures
  - Electronic using FSA ID preferred
  - Signature page
  - Paper FAFSA



#### Frequent FAFSA Errors

- Student's Name/Social Security Number
- Divorced/widowed/remarried parental information
  - Income earned by parents/stepparents
- Untaxed income
- Household size, number in college
- Real estate and investment net worth
  - Do NOT report value of home
  - Business Income



#### Making Corrections

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

- Using FAFSA on the Web, if student has a FSA ID;
- Updating paper SAR;

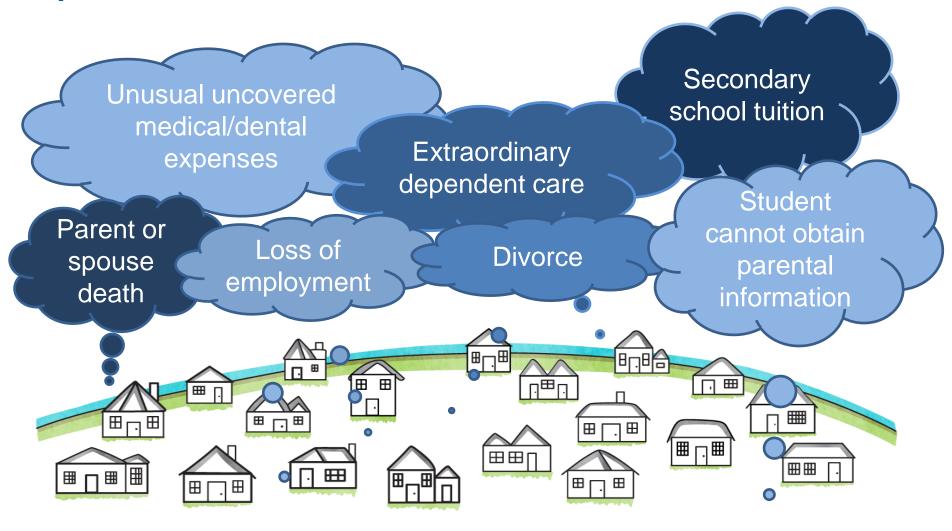


#### Special Circumstances

- Conditions exist that cannot be documented with the FAFSA
- Send written explanation and documentation to your college's financial aid office
- College will review and request additional information if necessary
- Decisions are final and cannot be appealed to U.S. Department of Education



#### Special Circumstances





#### NYS Student Aid Programs

- ★ Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)
- ★ Scholarships for Academic Excellence
- ★ STEM Incentive Program
- ★ Math & Science Teaching Incentive Program
- ★ Veterans Tuition Award
- ★ Excelsior Scholarship
- ★ Enhanced Tuition Award (ETA)



## NYS Student Aid Eligibility Requirements

#### ★ Students must:

- Be New York State residents for at least 1 year
- If dependent, parents must also be NYS residents
- Attend and be matriculated at an eligible college in New York State
- Meet other eligibility criteria for specific programs



### NYS Student Aid Programs

- ★ Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)
  - Undergraduates
  - Need-based, up to \$5,665/year
  - □ Full-time and part-time study in NYS
  - ■Based on NYS net taxable income (must be below \$80,000)



#### TAP Award Determination

- ★ TAP award amount determined by
  - Type of institution and the tuition charge
  - Financial status (dependent or independent)
  - Other family members enrolled in college
  - Combined family NYS taxable income



#### NYS Student Aid Programs

- Excelsior Scholarship
  - Provides full-tuition only coverage at <u>SUNY/CUNY schools only</u>
    - Income needs to be less than \$125,000
    - Can be used for Associates or Bachelors
    - Must meet annual completion requirements
    - Post award residency and employment requirements
      - If requirements not met, converts to interest-free loan



#### NYS Student Aid Programs

- Enhanced Tuition Award (ETA)
  - Tuition matching award for Private Colleges and Universities
    - Income needs to be less than \$125,000
    - Maximum award is \$6,000 minus other NYS aid
      - For tuition charges only
      - NYS pays half, school pays half
    - Can be used for Associates or Bachelors
    - Must meet annual completion requirements
    - Schools have option to opt-in each year
    - Post award residency and employment requirements
      - If requirements not met, converts to interest-free loan



#### Other NYS Student Aid Programs

#### ★ NYS STEM Incentive Program

- Provides full SUNY tuition scholarship at SUNY/CUNY colleges
  - Students at a Private college/university in NYS will receive an award equal to SUNY tuition
- Must be ranked in top 10% of class
- For undergraduate programs leading to a degree in Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics
- Must execute service agreement
- Apply online at hesc.ny.gov
- Cannot be awarded to students taking a Gap year after high school



#### How to Apply- New York State Aid

#### 2014-2015 Confirmation Page



Your confirmation page has been sent to you at the e-mail address: Renee Adams@ed.gov

#### PRINT THIS PAGE

Confirmation Number: F 02200164406 11/06/2013 14:49:30 Data Release Number (DRN): 1705

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



Does your brother or sister need to complete a FAFSA? If so, you can transfer your parents' information into a new FAFSA for your brother or sister to save time. Your parents will have to provide a signature again, but that's all.



Start your state application to apply for New York state-based financial aid.



#### What Happens Next

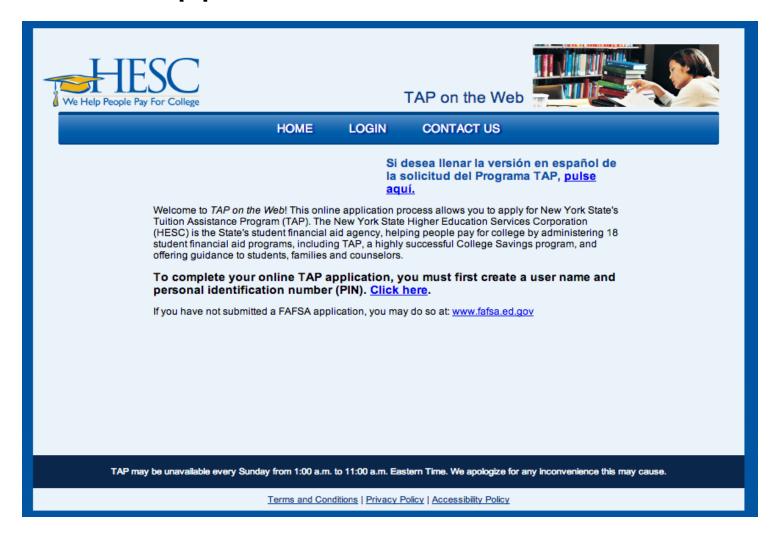
- You will receive an e-mail version of this page.
- In 3-5 business days, you will receive an e-mail notifying you that your FAFSA was processed.
- Your FAFSA information will be made available to your school(s), and they will use it to determine the aid you may be eligible to
- Your school(s) will 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).

#### School(s) on your FAFSA:

School Name	Graduation Rate	Retention Rate	Transfer Rate	Additional Information from College Navigator
SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY	82%	92%	NA	NA



#### The TAP Application





#### **CSS** Profile

- ★ Additional application used by approximately 300-400 colleges to award institutional aid
  - ★ Used for Institutional aid only
    - Check with each college
- ★ Collects more detailed income and asset information and non-custodial parent info
- ★ \$25 Application Fee; \$16 for each additional report waivers may be available for families with income up to \$100K
- Additional information and application available at cssprofile.org



#### After Applications are Filed...

- ★ Schools listed on FAFSA receive an electronic record cannot see other schools listed on FAFSA
- **★** Schools begin financial aid packaging process
  - Student may be required to provide additional documentation at this time
- ★ When processing is finished, an award notice is sent to student



#### Financial Aid Award Letter

- ★ College award letter contains
  - Amount of federal aid for which students are eligible, including loan options
  - Estimate of state aid for which students are eligible
  - Institutional aid (Merit awards, grants, etc.)
  - Breakdown of costs



Questions???

Thank You!

