BERKSHIRE SCHOOL COLLEGE COUNSELING

Parent Guide to Completing the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE

We recommend that parents of seniors likely to request financial aid complete the CSS/PROFILE available online through the College Board website. Member colleges, universities, and scholarship programs use the information collected on the PROFILE to assist in determining institutional (nonfederal) financial aid awards.

For students who have applied either Early Action or Early Decision, the PROFILE is used by some member schools to determine an initial, estimated financial aid award at the time of admission decisions in mid-December. Many schools have already moved their FAFSA deadlines later into the year which could delay some decisions. It is anticipated that the FAFSA will be available mid-December and can be accessed via the Federal Student Aid website. You will need your 2022 tax forms to complete the FAFSA. The FAFSA is required by all colleges to finalize financial aid awards for accepted students.

Parents may file the PROFILE anytime after October 1. We recommend filing in conjunction with your child's application.

To file the PROFILE:

Go to College Board

Click on the PROFILE 2025-2026 link.

The list of colleges and universities accepting the CSS/PROFILE is available as a link from this page.

Parents should have the following information available when registering:

- Type of tax return you will file for the current year (e.g., 1040, 1040 EZ, foreign return)
- If you receive TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) or SSI (Supplemental Security Income)
- If you are self-employed or own business(es) and/or farm(s)
- Your housing status (e.g., own, rent)
- Your child's personal information, including their Social Security number

The fee for the initial CSS/PROFILE application and submitting one (1) college report is $25. Additional reports to colleges are $16. Payment can be made using a credit card, debit card, or online check.

Parents and students should always refer to the admissions website of each college or university to review the specific application and financial aid requirements in detail.

Please follow up with the Berkshire College Counseling Office if you have any questions.