FINANCIAL AID

Who, What, How of Applying for FA

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WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

U.S. Citizen, Eligible Noncitizen,

Who have a valid Social Security/Taxpayer ID/Alien Registration #

OR

DACA/HB1079 Students, and will have

High School Diploma, General Educational Development (GED) Certificate; or completed high school education in a home-school setting approved under state law by the start of the Academic Year of College Attendance.



HOW TO APPLY?

Citizens & Eligible Noncitizens

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- www.studentaid.gov

DACA/HB1079

- Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA)
- www.wsac.wa.gov/wasfa

- Student and Parent(s) need separate FSA ID
- https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch
- Consent to IRS Data Transfer
- Electronic Signatures
- Verify Identity- Database Matches



WHAT DO I NEED HANDY TO APPLY?

Social Security Card or Green Card

Email Addresses, Date of Birth, Legal Name

W2s, 1099s, or Amended Tax Returns

Bank Statements

Child Support documents- Total Contribution

Value of Farm or Business

Family Size changes from Prior-Prior Year

List of Colleges of Interest



IDENTITY VERIFICATION

Real Time Verification of student identity.

Federal Measures to reduce Financial Aid Fraud and Fraud Rings

Student should have Government Issued Identification and a mobile device available

If student can not be verified on the spot, verification will be completed with the Colllege or University student selects. Typically called "V4 or V5"

TIPS & TRICKS

- If Parent is NOT US Citizen or Eligible Non-Citizen, Parent should start the Application and Invite Student.

- Make sure your child knows your legal name and DOB. Nicknames will not pass Federal Matches

- Date of Application- avoid Payday

- Reduction of Income, High Medical or Dental Expenses, One-Time Income- Check with your College for “Special Circumstances”

- “Unusual Circumstances”- Homeless Youth or Dependency Override Petition

- Include all the colleges student is considering applying to; or using as a backup

- Watch for application deadlines

FAFSA & WASFA

Used by Financial Aid Office to calculate the student/family's ability to contribute to the cost of paying for higher education.

Based on prior-prior year income information (2025)

- Taxable income
- Untaxable income
- Assets

Based on current year educational and social information

- Age
- Marital Status
- Grade Level
- Program of Study (AA Transfer, Technical, BA)

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION…

Dependent Students- Under the age of 24, not married, no children of their own, have not served in the military, etc.

Dependent Students- Does not matter if they are claimed on the Tax Return

Independent Students- Foster Youth, Homeless or Risk of Homeless

Parent- Both parents if married. Joint Tax Return vs Filing Separately

Parent- One Parent if single. Birth or Adoptive Parent who contributes the most to student's financial needs*

*If birth parents are not married, but live in the same household, both must contribute to the FAFSA

I COMPLETED THE FAFSA …NOW WHAT?

- Awarding is done on “first come, first serve” basis
- Check for requirements- Registered for classes?
- Missing Information/Supplemental App?
- Award Letter
- Disbursement
- Refund Process



FINANCIAL AID OFFER

Federal Pell Grant $7395/year

Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) $Depends on College

Washington College Grant (WCG) $5094*/year

College Bound Scholarship (CBS) $500/year in addition to WCG

Federal Subsidized & Unsubsidized Loan $3500/$2000 First Year

Federal and State Work Study Programs $Depends on the College

*State CTC Amounts. State and Private Colleges & Universities have $$ amounts

QUESTIONS?



CHECKLIST

1. Check School for Deadlines- they matter
2. Create FSA ID for Student and Parent(s) or Spouse
3. Submit FAFSA or WASFA via website
4. Contact College/University for “Special” or “Unusual” Circumstances
   - Dependency Override Documents
   -Homeless Youth Determination
   -Income or Medical Documentation for adjustments
5. Notify Scholarship or Third Party Donors of School Address & Payment Method