



# Financial Aid Overview

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# What is Financial Aid?

- Financial Aid is money received from state and federal governments and private institutions that is awarded to help students pay for college expenses.






# Types of Financial Aid

- Costs include:
  - Tuition, books, fees
  - Living expenses
- Four types of aid:
  - Grants
  - Scholarships
  - Work study
  - Student loans
- Aid for all income levels
  - Watch for aid deadlines



# College Costs

- The average cost for published tuition and fees in a public two-year Florida college per year was **\$2,291** in 2008-09.
  - The average cost for published tuition and fees in a public four-year Florida college or university per year was **\$3,792** in 2008-09.
  - The average cost for published tuition and fees in a private four-year Florida college per year was **\$23,411** in 2008-09.
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## Source for Statistics:

The College Board, "Regional Variation in Charges," *Trends in College Pricing*, Oct. 2008

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# FAFSA4caster

- Get an early start on the financial aid process, Explore your financial aid options at [www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov)
- You can easily transition from FAFSA4caster to *FAFSA on the Web*.
- Much of the information that you enter in the FAFSA4caster will populate on your *FAFSA on the Web* application, making the experience of applying for federal student aid much easier.

## Source for Statistics:

The College Board, "Regional Variation in Charges," *Trends in College Pricing*, Oct. 2008

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www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov



FAFSA4caster - U.S. Department of Education - Windows Internet Explorer

http://www.Fafsa4caster.ed.gov/

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FAFSA4caster - U.S. Department of Education

**START HERE GO FURTHER FEDERAL STUDENT AID** **FAFSA4caster**

FAFSA4caster Home Student Aid on the Web Students.gov PIN Site Contact Us About Us

[English](#) | [Español](#)

**A Get Started**

**B Use the FAFSA4caster**

**C Take the Next Step**

Special Announcements

**Seniors. Ready to fill out the FAFSA?**

High school seniors in the last semester of school must fill out a FAFSA to determine eligibility for financial aid.

[Link to FAFSA on the Web](#)

**Federal Student Aid FAFSA4caster**

**Get Started**

Understanding financial aid. What is federal student aid? Who qualifies? How do you apply? Get an early start on the financial aid process by learning the basics now. It can be as easy as A-B-C!

[Link to section](#)

**Use the FAFSA4caster**

[Begin Now](#)

**Take the Next Step**

What are your next steps? Learn how to transition from FAFSA4caster to FAFSA on the Web, follow the financial aid timeline, and perform searches for scholarships and other sources of federal financial aid.

Preparing for college takes planning and organization.

Paying for college takes financial aid.

FAFSA4caster will help you get an early start on the financial aid process by providing you with an early estimate of your eligibility for federal student aid.

In addition, FAFSA4caster will increase your knowledge of the financial aid process and provide information about other sources of aid.

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# *The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)*

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# What is the FAFSA?

- The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is a form that current and prospective students must annually complete to apply for federal student aid.
- The FAFSA is distributed and processed by the largest source of student aid in the nation, the U.S. Department of Education
- Applications are available electronically or in paper form.
- Students are encouraged to apply as soon as possible on or after January 1st.






# Before Beginning the FAFSA

- Check application deadlines.
  - School and state deadlines may differ from federal guidelines.
- Confirm your dependency status.
- Search for school codes.
- Determine how you will sign the FAFSA.
  - To sign the FAFSA electronically, you and your parents (if applicable) will need to establish a Personal Identification Number (PIN).
  - You can apply for a PIN at [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov).
  - Your PIN provides access to your personal records.
  - If you cannot remember your PIN, you may request a duplicate PIN.
  - Never give your PIN to anyone!






# Before Beginning the FAFSA - Organize your documents

- Documents needed to complete the FAFSA include:
    - Your Social Security number
    - W-2 Forms and other records of money earned
    - Your Federal Income Tax Return for the current tax year
    - Your parents' Federal Income Tax Return (if you are a dependent student)
    - Your untaxed income records
    - Your bank statements
    - Your other investment records
    - Your alien registration or permanent resident card (if you are not a U.S. citizen)
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# Complete the FAFSA - Electronically

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- The “FAFSA on the Web Worksheet” allows you to read and complete FAFSA questions before entering your information online. (This saves you time!)
  - These questions are listed in the same order that they appear on the official electronic application.
  - The “FAFSA on the Web Worksheet” is available online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).
  - You can also obtain printed copies of this worksheet by calling 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243) or through your financial aid office.
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# Complete the FAFSA - Electronically

- Go to [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) and click on "Fill Out Your FAFSA."
  - Complete the FAFSA by transferring the data from your "FAFSA on the Web Worksheet" to your electronic application.
  - Sign and submit the electronic FAFSA with your PIN.
    - Remember, you can apply for a PIN before or during the FAFSA process. If you cannot remember your PIN, you may request a duplicate PIN by visiting [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov).
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# Complete the FAFSA - Paper

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- You can request a paper FAFSA in English or Spanish from the Federal Student Aid Information Center by calling 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243). A .pdf version of the application is also available at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).
  - Complete, sign, and mail the FAFSA in the pre-addressed envelope, or send it to the address indicated in the PDF, if you printed one
  - Your FAFSA will be processed in two to three weeks.
- 








# Your Student Aid Report (SAR)

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- After you submit your FAFSA, you will receive your Student Aid Report (SAR). Your SAR summarizes all the information you provided on your FAFSA.
  - Review your SAR carefully to make sure it is correct and complete.
  - Verification
    - 30% of students may be selected for verification
    - You will be required to submit signed copies of tax returns with verification worksheets to financial aid staff for review.
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# Your Student Aid Report (SAR)

- Your SAR will contain your official Expected Family Contribution (EFC).
    - The U.S. Department of Education calculates your EFC, and sends your EFC to the postsecondary institutions you listed on your FAFSA.
  - The postsecondary institutions will use your official EFC to determine how much financial aid you are eligible to receive, based on your school's cost of attendance.
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# Your Student Aid Report (SAR)

- You will receive:
    - Your SAR by E-mail three to five days after your FAFSA has been processed, if you provided an E-mail address when you applied.
    - Your paper SAR by mail seven to ten days after your FAFSA has been processed, if you did not provide an E-mail address when you applied.
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# Information to Keep in Mind



- Contact your school to determine your award eligibility.
- Your FAFSA may be used to apply for aid from other sources, including your school and state.
- If you need help filling out the FAFSA or if you have any questions about the FAFSA, call the Federal Student Aid Information Center toll-free at 1-800-4-FED-AID.
- Don't forget to apply for grants, scholarships, or other financial aid at the institution you want to attend.
- Use student loans as a last resort.





# Review Eligibility



- **Grants and Scholarships**
  - money you do not pay back (with exception)



- **Work study**
  - Money the student earns by working in a job provided by the school



- **Loans**
  - Money that you must repay
  - Subsidized versus unsubsidized
  - Additional unsubsidized versus PLUS



# IMPORTANT!

Keep copies of ALL financial documents!



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# State Grants and Scholarships



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# State Grants & Scholarships



- The Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) administers state-funded grant and scholarship programs and the Federal Family Education Loan Program.
- Please visit [www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org) for detailed information, applications, and deadlines.





# How to Apply for State Grants & Scholarships



- [www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org)
  - Application available **December 1**
  - Application Deadlines vary per Grant or Scholarship
  - Apply early and check site often to track application progress and make updates





*www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org*

OSFA Home - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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Address <http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/> Go Links

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Welcome to the

# Office of Student Financial Assistance

Florida Department of Education

Welcome to

MyFlorida

Student Loans - Information for Students, Parents, Schools & Lenders

State Grants, Scholarships & Applications

Florida Department of Education

Mission Statement

Commissioner

Privacy Statement

Done Internet

# Student Application

Florida Student Scholarship & Grant Programs - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Address: <http://www.floridaintfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/home/uamain.htm>

Welcome to **Florida Student Scholarship & Grant Programs**

1-888-827-2004  
Florida Department of Education  
Office of Student Financial Assistance

Home Programs Offered **Apply Here** Application Status & Award History Postsecondary Institutions High Schools Other Agency Certifiers State Program Links Education Links Frequently Asked Questions

**What's New**  
Find out the latest information.

**Applicant Quick Links**  
[Student Application](#)  
[Teacher Application](#)  
[View Student Financial Aid History](#)  
[Update My Demographics](#)  
[Check My Status](#)

**Administrator Quick Links**  
[Program Compliance Audits](#)  
[SSFAD Guide for Postsecondary Institutions](#)  
[SSFAD Guide for High School Personnel](#)

**Want Bright Futures?**  
Seniors submit a Florida Financial Aid Application by high school graduation.

**Who We Are**  
The Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) State Programs, within the Florida Department of Education, administers a variety of postsecondary educational state-funded grants and scholarships, and provides information to students, parents, and high school and postsecondary professionals.

**We offer easy access to review the available programs, complete online applications and follow the progress of all award activities, as well as quick links to an abundance of postsecondary financial aid information.**

**Contact Us**  
1-888-827-2004  
Toll-Free  
[osfa@fldoe.org](mailto:osfa@fldoe.org)  
[Take our Survey](#)

**Great Resources**  
FACTS.org  
FAFSA ED.gov  
PREPAID COLLEGE NSLDS National Student Loan Data System  
ACT SAT CollegeBoard  
FASFAA FASFAA Be Cool, Go To School!

myFlorida.com

OSFA<sup>sm</sup>  
Office of Student Financial Assistance

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# Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program

- The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program provides scholarships based on high school academic achievement and is Florida's largest merit-based scholarship program.
- The Program offers three levels of scholarship awards – the **Florida Academic Scholars** award (and Top Scholars), the **Florida Medallion Scholars** award, and the **Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars** award.
- To be considered, a student must submit a completed (error-free) *Florida Financial Aid Application* during his or her last year in high school (after December 1<sup>st</sup> and prior to graduation).
- Awards vary according to a student's level of eligibility. Please visit our Web site (<http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/factsheets/BF.htm>) for a complete list of eligibility requirements.

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# Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program

- Students are NOT REQUIRED to enroll full-time to receive Bright Futures funding.
  - However, full-time students must earn 24 semester hours (or the equivalent) per academic year
- Students MAY enroll part-time and receive Bright Futures funding.
  - Part-time students must enroll in a minimum of 6 hours per term (or the equivalent)
  - Part-time students must earn the required number of hours for which they were funded; see chart at [www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/ssfad/bf/renwrequiredhrs.htm](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/ssfad/bf/renwrequiredhrs.htm)



# Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program

- Students must refund to their institution the cost of any dropped or withdrawn Bright Futures funded course.
- Florida Academic Scholars will not receive a college-related expense allowance for 2009-10.
- Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars may no longer renew to Florida Medallion Scholars and may only receive funding for a total of 90 semester hours (or the equivalent).
- Students will receive a flat cost per credit hour award during the 2009-10 academic year.



**2009-10 Award Amounts per Credit Hour  
Florida Bright Futures Scholarships**

	FAS*	FMS***	FMS@ CC****	GSV*****
<b>4 Year</b>				
<b>Cost per Semester Hour</b>	<b>\$ 126.00</b>	<b>\$ 95.00</b>		<b>\$ 95.00</b>
<b>Cost per Quarter Hour</b>	<b>\$ 84.00</b>	<b>\$ 63.33</b>		<b>\$ 63.33</b>
<b>2 Year</b>				
<b>Cost per Semester Hour</b>	<b>\$ 78.00</b>	<b>\$ 59.00</b>	<b>\$ 78.00</b>	<b>\$ 59.00</b>
<b>Cost per Quarter Hour</b>	<b>\$ 52.00</b>	<b>\$ 39.33</b>		<b>\$ 39.33</b>
<b>Cost per Clock Hour</b>	<b>\$ 2.60</b>	<b>\$ 1.97</b>		<b>\$ 1.97</b>
<b>CC Baccalaureate Programs</b>				
<b>Cost per Semester Hour</b>	<b>\$ 87.00</b>	<b>\$ 65.00</b>		<b>\$ 65.00</b>
<b>Career / Technical Centers</b>				
<b>Cost per Semester Hour</b>	<b>\$ 64.00</b>	<b>\$ 48.00</b>		<b>\$ 48.00</b>
<b>Cost per Quarter Hour</b>	<b>\$ 42.67</b>	<b>\$ 32.00</b>		<b>\$ 32.00</b>
<b>Cost per Clock Hour</b>	<b>\$ 2.13</b>	<b>\$ 1.60</b>		<b>\$ 1.60</b>

\*FAS = Florida Academic Scholar

\*\*\*FMS = Florida Medallion Scholar

\*\*\*\*FMS@CC = Florida Medallion Scholars at Public Community Colleges in Associate Degree Programs

\*\*\*\*\*GSV = Gold Seal Vocational Scholar

# Other State Grants & Scholarships

- One application determines your eligibility for ALL other state grants and scholarships!
- Florida Student Scholarship Programs
- Florida Student Grant Programs
- Florida Professional Programs

*For more details about these state programs,  
please visit:*

[www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/home/ProgramsOffered.htm](http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/home/ProgramsOffered.htm)

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*www.facts.org*



- Florida Academic Counseling and Tracking for Students ([facts.org](http://facts.org)) is Florida's official online student advising system that can assist high school students, college students, parents, and even counselors to help plan and track educational progress in Florida.



- Go to [www.facts.org](http://www.facts.org):
  - Click on "High School Students."
  - Click one of the links under "Plan and Track Progress."
  - Requires User ID/Password



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# www.facts.org

**FACTS.org - It's all academic - Windows Internet Explorer**

http://facts23.facts.org/florida/facts/Home\_Page/ut/p/c5/d4\_SB8K8xLLM9MSSzPy8xBz9CP0os3IDEEIPf9TQwOLABdDA93dw8vA29nQ09JM\_1wkA

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FACTS.org - It's all academic

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Go Higher Florida,  
*education pays!*

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Middle School Students | High School Students | Finding a College or Program | Paying for College | Applying for College | College Students | Counselors & Educators

**Florida's educational opportunities and student advising at your fingertips!**

■ FACTS.org is Florida's Academic Counseling and Tracking for Students. Sponsored by the Department of Education and the Florida Center for Advising & Academic Support, this free online advising website helps students plan and track their education progress from middle school through college.

**News & Info:**

- NEW!** [Changes to FACTS.org/ePEP Account Creation Procedure \(PDF\)](#)
- [New 9th Grade Requirements \(PDF\)](#)
- [Total FACTS.org site activity almost doubles in 2008-2009 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Updated 2 + 2 publication available to help college students prepare for transfer \(PDF\)](#)
- [Changes to Bright Futures Awards \(PDF\)](#)
- [FACTS.org to take part in SUS Admissions Tour \(PDF\)](#)
- [FAME Conference September 30-October 2 - FACTS.org will present](#)

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# Use facts.org to Check Bright Futures Eligibility

FACTS.org - It's all academic - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by OSFA

http://facts23.facts.org/navigation/pages/splash.jsp?pageId=02

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Middle School Students High School Students Finding a College or Program Paying for College Applying for College College Students Counselors & Educators

### High School Students

Explore Careers	High School 101	Plan & Track Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Career Development</a></li><li><a href="#">Career Planning - Florida CHOICES</a></li><li><a href="#">Career Clusters &amp; Major Areas of Interest</a></li><li><a href="#">Related Links &amp; Resources</a></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Graduation Requirements</a></li><li><a href="#">Earning College Credit Now</a></li><li><a href="#">Bright Futures Scholarships</a></li><li><a href="#">FCAT &amp; College Entrance Tests</a></li><li><a href="#">State University Admission Requirements</a></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Academic planning with ePEP</a></li><li><a href="#">Check Bright Futures Scholarship Eligibility</a></li><li><a href="#">Check Graduation Status</a></li><li><a href="#">Check University Admission Requirements Status</a></li><li><a href="#">Major Area of Interest Search</a></li><li><a href="#">Things to Do, Year-by-Year</a></li></ul>
Go Higher, Education Pays	Getting Ready for College	Family & Mentors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Why go to college?</a></li><li><a href="#">Which degree is for me?</a></li><li><a href="#">Can I get in?</a></li><li><a href="#">What's the cost?</a></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Finding a College or Program</a></li><li><a href="#">Paying for College</a></li><li><a href="#">Applying for College</a></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Parent's Guide to ePEP</a></li><li><a href="#">Parent Primer on Career Exploration</a></li></ul>

Quick Links:

[ePEP & High School Evaluations](#)

[Search HIGH SCHOOL Majors](#)

[Choices PLANNER Explore Careers](#)

[Watch 'Take the Tough Classes'](#)  
[Watch ePEP Tutorial](#)

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# *searching for other Types of Aid*

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*www.fastweb.com*



- FastWeb offers a free scholarship database that includes over 1.3 million scholarships worth over \$3 billion.
- Database sources include local, national, and college-specific scholarships.
- Search and compare detailed college profiles on FastWeb's database.
- FastWeb is recommended by more than 16,000 schools and 3,600 colleges.
- Access FastWeb by visiting [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) (*requires userid and password*).



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## Other Sources

- Use [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org) to search for available monies through scholarships and grants nationwide.
- The Web site [www.scholarshipcoach.com](http://www.scholarshipcoach.com) provides free information about scholarships, tuition reduction, college savings plans, and other opportunities.
- Be aware of recent scholarship scams. These scams can be received via phone, letter in the mail, or E-mail.
- Visit the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) Web site at [www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov) for additional information on scams, or contact the FTC by calling 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357) or TTY 1-866-653-4261.



# Other Sources

- State
- School financial aid office
- School foundation office
- School department head (for your major)
- Church
- Civic organizations
- Employer
  - Both parent and student
- Scholarships
  - Internet
  - Library

Only use 'free' resources



# College Goal Sunday



- Applying for financial aid means filling out complicated applications. College Goal Sunday makes the process easier. Attend College Goal Sunday for free assistance filling out your financial aid application and start off on the right track toward paying for college!



- College Goal Sunday is January 31, 2010

- [www.collegegoalsundayflorida.org](http://www.collegegoalsundayflorida.org)



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# QUESTIONS?

- Please contact the Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance:
  - 1-888-827-2004 (Grants/Scholarships)
  - 1-800-366-3475 (Loans)
  - [www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org](http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org)



*Thank you for attending  
this workshop*

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