

Questions & Answers about Financial Aid

Q: CAN I RECEIVE FINANCIAL AID BEFORE I APPLY FOR COLLEGE?

No. You must first apply for college admission before a college will award financial aid.

Q: HOW DO I GET THE PIN I NEED TO SIGN THE FAFSA ON-LINE?

Go to www.pin.ed.gov to apply for a PIN. This is needed to sign the FAFSA when completing it on-line. Both you and your parent need to apply for a PIN.

Q: WHERE DO I TRANSMIT OR MAIL THE FAFSA?

At www.fafsa.ed.gov. Financial aid advisors encourage families to apply on-line when possible because it is not only faster but easier and more accurate. When FAFSA is completed on-line, it will be processed in about 3 days compared to the 4 weeks it takes to be processed when mailed in. It is best to have your FAFSA completed and sent in by February 15th, 2013, as some aid sources have limited funding and are awarded first come, first serve.

Q: ARE THERE ANY DIFFERENCES IN FORMS FOR PRIVATE VS PUBLIC SCHOOLS?

Yes, some private colleges require a PROFILE form to be filled out, so make sure you check with the private college to see if you need to submit it.

Q. WHAT DO I DO IF ANY CHANGES, UPDATES, OR CORRECTIONS NEED TO BE MADE ON MY Student Aid Report (SAR)?

Contact the college financial aid office of the colleges you have applied for if corrections need to be made.

Q. WHEN SHOULD I EXPECT MY FINANCIAL AID AWARD LETTER OR PACKAGE FROM EACH SCHOOL I APPLIED TO?

You should receive this information in March or April. Make sure to sign and return the forms by the deadlines. Financial aid can be cancelled if the forms are not returned on time.

Q. WHEN DO I NEED TO DECIDE WHICH COLLEGE I AM GOING TO ATTEND?

Submit the enrollment deposit to your school of choice by May 1st.

For males only: You MUST register for the selective service when you turn 18 years of age. If you do not, you may not be eligible for financial aid. Go to www.sss.gov to register.