



# Financial Aid Overview

Presented by the  
Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA)



# Financial Aid Overview

2024-25 High School Student Graduates  
Enrolling/Applying for the  
2025-26 Academic Year

# Financial Aid has its own language and acronyms:

- COA - Cost of Attendance
- CSS Profile - College Scholarship Service Profile
- FAFSA - Free Application for Federal Student Aid
- FSA ID - Federal Student Aid Identification
- FSS - FAFSA Submission Summary
- SAI - Student Aid Index
- FFAA - Florida Financial Aid Application
- ED/FSA - U.S. Department of Education/Federal Student Aid
- FLDOE/OSFA - Florida Department of Education/Office of Student Financial Assistance

# Agenda

- What is Financial Aid?
- Where do I Find Financial Aid?
- How and When Do I Apply?
- Who Can Help me?

# What is Financial Aid?

Monies received from four sources:

1. Federal
2. State
3. Institutional
4. Private

May also be categorized as:

- Gift Aid
- Self Help
- Need-based
- Merit-based

Can cover direct or indirect costs

# What is Financial Aid?

Monies received from four sources:

**1. Federal Aid:**

- Pell Grant (Gift Aid) (Need-based)
- FSEOG (Gift Aid) (Need-based)
- Work Study (Self-Help)
- Federal Student Loans (Self-Help)
  - Student (Subsidized/Unsubsidized)
  - Parent Loans

# What is Financial Aid?

Monies received from four sources:

## 2. State Aid:

- Benacquisto (Merit-based)
- Bright Futures Scholarship (Merit-based)
  - Academic/Medallion/Gold Seal
  - Vocational/Gold Seal CAPE
- Florida Work Experience Program (Self-Help)
- Effective Access to Student Education
- Additional programs can be found at [www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org)

# What is Financial Aid?

Monies received from four sources:

## 3. Institutional Aid:

- Academic (Gift Aid) (Merit-based)  
(Need-based)
- Major/Specific Study (Gift-Aid)  
(Merit-Based)

# What is Financial Aid?

Monies received from four sources:

## 4. **Private:**

- School (Gift Aid) (Merit-based)
  - High School/Postsecondary Institution
- Employment
  - Students/Parents

## College Cost

- Cost of Attendance (COA) varies from:
  - Institution to Institution
  - In State vs. Out of State
  - On Campus vs. Off Campus
- $COA = \text{Direct Cost} + \text{Indirect Cost}$
- Net Price Calculator  
Requirement for every institution

# College Cost

- Public 2-year college (tuition and fees, in-state) \$3,205
- Public 4-year college (tuition and fees, in-state) \$6,113
- Public 4-year college (tuition and fees, out-of-state) \$28,240
- Private 4-year college (tuition and fees) - \$39,400

Sources: State University System of Florida, Florida College System and College Board-Big Future

# Where do I Find Financial Aid?

## Financial Aid Applications

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (**FAFSA**)
- Florida Financial Aid Application (**FFAA**)
- College Scholarship Service Profile (**CSS Profile**)
- Institutional Applications
- Private Scholarships

# Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- Federal government is largest source of student aid; FAFSA distributed and processed by the U.S. Department of Education.
  - Manual or electronic options
  - 2025-26 FAFSA is scheduled to open December 1, 2024
- Must be completed **annually** (per academic year) to be evaluated for financial aid

# FAFSA website: studentaid.gov

An official website of the United States government. Help Center English | Español

FederalStudentAid  
AN OFFICE OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

FAFSA ▾ Loans & Grants ▾ Repayment ▾ Loan Forgiveness ▾

Log In | Create Account


## Get Money to Pay for School

Use the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form to apply for financial aid for college or graduate school.

### 2024-25 FAFSA Form

[Start a New Form](#) [Edit Existing Form](#)

Need to access last year's form? [Start or Edit a 2023-24 Form](#)



## FAFSA® form

### Check FAFSA® Deadlines for the State You Live In


Some states and colleges use FAFSA information to award their own grants, scholarships, and loans. Check your state's deadlines here!

School Year

State of Residence


[Find Deadlines](#)

[View All FAFSA Deadlines](#)




#### Who Should Complete This?

Any student, regardless of income, who wants to be considered for federal, state, and school financial aid programs, which includes scholarships, grants, loans, and Federal work-study.



#### How Long Will it Take?

It takes most people less than an hour to complete, including gathering any documents or data needed.



#### What Do I Need?

- Verified StudentAid.gov account
- Social Security Number
- Parent or spouse contributor email addresses
- Income and asset information, if required

# FAFSA Getting Started

- Gather important data
- Monitor priority deadlines
  - State and institutional deadlines
  - Confirm FAFSA dependent vs independent requirements
    - Dependent students are required to include parent/contributor information
    - Independent students are not required to include parent/contributor information
  - Search for school codes

# FAFSA Submission Summary (FSS)

- Provides basic information about federal student aid eligibility
- Received (after you submit the FAFSA) via email within 3-5 days if you provided an email address
- Correct errors, if needed
- Will contain a Student Aid Index (SAI)
  - Assists institutions in the financial aid award packaging process

# FAFSA Additional Information

- Contact institution:
  - To determine award disbursement process
  - For special circumstances of professional judgment review
  - To determine what other types of aid applications are necessary

# FAFSA Additional Information

- Verification Process
- Communication with Postsecondary Institutions
- Offer of Financial Aid:

COA-(SAI determined) = Financial Need

(-) Scholarship/Grants (Federal/State/Institutional)

(-) 529 College Plans (Florida Prepaid)

(-) Federal Loans (Student, Subsidized/Unsubsidized)

(-) Federal Parent Loans

(-) Private Loans Optional


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Goal maximize Financial aid offer to approach \$0 Need

# Florida Financial Aid Application

- The Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) opens **October 1**
- Apply Early – must be completed prior to August 31 of high school graduation year
- One application is used for multiple programs, not just the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program
- Students may login to view status, online notifications, and award history
- Apply at [www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org)

# Florida Financial Aid Application



Office of Student Financial Assistance

## Florida Student Scholarship & Grant Programs

[Login](#)

### State Scholarship and Grant Programs

- Benacquisto Scholarship Program (FAQ)
- Bright Futures Scholarship\*
- Effective Access to Student Education
- First Generation Matching Grant
- Florida Farmworker Student Scholarship\*
- Florida First Responder Scholarship Program
- Florida Law Enforcement Reimbursement Program - Application
- Florida Student Assistance Grant - Career Education
- Florida Work Experience Program
- Honorably Discharged Graduate Assistance Program
- José Martí Scholarship Challenge Grant\*
- Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship
- Minority Teacher Education Scholarship
- Open Door Grant Program - Webinar
- Randolph Bracy Ocoee Scholarship Program\*
- Rosewood Family Scholarship\*
- Scholarships for Children and Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans\* (Award Amounts)

### First-Time Applicants



Students must submit a completed Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) to OSFA for programs denoted by an asterisk (\*). In order to apply for State Scholarship & Grant Programs, a student must first [Create a Student Account](#). After logging into your account, you may proceed to complete the FFAA.

### Eligible Institutions

High Schools:  
Verify if your high school is a participating Florida public or private high school.

Postsecondary Institutions:  
Verify if the postsecondary institution you are planning to attend is eligible to disburse state aid.

**NOTE: We recommend downloading the newest version of your preferred browser for the best experience. (Chrome, Firefox, Microsoft Edge, Safari)**

#### APPLICATIONS

- Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA)
- Reinstatement/Restoration Application
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Document Upload

#### REPORTS

- Student Financial Assistance Annual Report - (Archives)
- End-of-Year Reports - (Archives)
- Bright Futures Statistical Reports

#### RESOURCES

- Federal Student Aid
- Financial Aid Terms and Definitions
- Money for College Brochure
- Navigating Your Financial Future
- State Scholarship and Grant Calendar

#### STATUTES AND RULES

- Florida Statutes
- State Board of Education Rules
- Legislative Changes
- Postsecondary Compliance Audits
- Postsecondary Eligibility Requirements

Florida Department of Education | Office of Student Financial Assistance | 325 W. Gaines St, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400 | (888) 827 - 2004 | [osfa@fldoe.org](mailto:osfa@fldoe.org)

# Florida Financial Aid Application

State Scholarship and Grant Programs requiring a timely completed Florida Financial Aid Application:

- Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program
- Scholarship for Children and Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans
- José Martí Challenge Grant
- Rosewood Family Scholarship
- Florida Farmworker Student Scholarship
- Randolph Bracy Ocoee Scholarship

# State Scholarship and Grants

- Need-Based Programs:
  - Florida Student Assistance Grant (FSAG)
  - Florida Work Experience Program (FWEP)
- Tuition Assistance Program
  - William L. Boyd, IV, Effective Access to Student Education Grant Program (EASE)

# State Scholarship and Grants

- Merit-Based Programs:
  - Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program
  - Benacquisto Scholarship Program

# State Scholarship and Grants

- Other Programs:
  - First Generation Matching Grant (FGMG)
  - Florida Farmworker Student Scholarship (FFSS)
  - José Martí Scholarship Challenge Grant (JM)
  - Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship (MMB)
  - Minority Teacher Education Scholarship (MTES)
  - Rosewood Family Scholarship (RFS)
  - Scholarships for Children and Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Veterans (CSDDV)
  - Randolph Bracy Ocoee Scholarship (OCOE)
  - Florida First Responder Scholarship Program (FFRSP)
  - Open Door Grant Program (ODGP)

# State Scholarship and Grants

- Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program for home education program students:
  - Meet the General Requirements for a Bright Futures Award;
  - Submit a timely FFAA;
  - Earn required minimum test scores; and
  - Complete the minimum number of volunteer service hours, paid work hours, or combination of 100 total hours.

# Private Scholarships

## Search Criteria:

- Targeted Searches
  - Schools (high school/postsecondary institution)
    - Private Scholarship list website (traditionally requires separate application)
  - Scholarships at specific college
- Place of employment (students/parents)
- National websites

# Review Action Items:

- Federal – Financial Aid (FAFSA)
  - Monitor application opening date: December 1, 2024
  - Create an FSA ID and password NOW
- State – Financial Aid (FFAA)
  - Monitor application opening date: October 1, 2024
  - Ensure meeting requirements
- General Requirements
- Scholarship Program Requirements
- Private Scholarships – apply, apply, apply
- CSS Profile – If institution requires
- Additional required institutional applications



## Additional Information

### **Office of Student Financial Assistance State Scholarship and Grant Programs**

Website: [www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAidsg.org)

[www.navigatingyourfinancialfuture.org](http://www.navigatingyourfinancialfuture.org)

Email: [Pedro.Hernandez@fldoe.org](mailto:Pedro.Hernandez@fldoe.org)

Telephone: (850) 245-1821



**[www.FLDOE.org](http://www.FLDOE.org)**