



Office of the Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs
UCLA Early Academic Outreach Program
FINANCIAL AID FOR COLLEGE

What is Financial Aid?

Financial aid is money that is given, paid or loaned to you to help pay for college.

Financial Aid can be:

- Grant** free money that does not have to be paid back.
- Scholarship** free money awarded to students for academic achievement or many other special talents.
- Work-study** salary for students to work part-time during the school year adding money to their financial aid package to help pay for their schooling.
- Loan** money that is borrowed and must be repaid with interest.

How do I apply for this money?

To apply for any money, you must complete and mail a Free Application for Federal Aid (FAFSA). Application must be postmarked between January 1st and March 2nd of your senior year in high school. This is the priority deadline for consideration for the CAL Grants and other institutional awards.

Where can I get a FAFSA?

You can get an application from your high school college counselor, local college, or public library. You can also call 1-(800) 433-3243 to request an application.

How much does a college education cost?

Costs vary from institution to institution. Public institutions are usually less expensive than private institutions. Private colleges tend to charge more, because they receive less financial support from state and local government than public colleges.

- Tuition** the amount of money that a college charges for instruction and the use of some facilities such as libraries.
- Fees** charges that cover costs generally not associated with student's course load (athletic activities, student activities, clubs and special events).
- Other Expenses** includes room and board (housing and food), books, transportation, supplies and other miscellaneous costs.

Who can I call if I have questions?

You can call your high school college counselor or the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1-(800) 433-3243 or you can write: Federal Student Aid Information Center, P.O. Box 84, Washington, DC 20044. Information is also available on their web site: http://www.ed.gov/prog_info/SFA/StudentGuide .

Financial Aid Websites

FAFSA on the Web

www.fafsa.ed.gov

See this site before you wait in line at the financial aid office. It will answer most of your questions and allow you to apply for financial aid on-line.

FinAid

www.finaid.org

The calculator feature on this site is a great tool for figuring out exactly how much you will need in scholarships.

FastWeb.monster.com

www.fastweb.com

This site offers a free scholarship search along with other resources for college students.

Scholarships.com

www.scholarships.com

This is a *free* college scholarship search and financial aid resource. It provides links to contests that offer scholarship awards up to \$10,000.

Other Important College-Related Web Sites

Community Colleges

www.cccco.edu

This is your connection to all community colleges in California, including links to all of their websites.

California State Universities

www.csumentor.edu

With links to all Cal-States it provides numerous amount of information regarding the 23 campuses and it allows you to apply online for the different campuses.

University of California

www.universityofcalifornia.edu

This site allows you to apply online to all 10 campuses using one application. Use the campus links to find information about admissions, majors and much more.

Private Colleges

Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities

www.aiccu.edu www.aiccumentor.org

Website offers resources regarding all Private colleges in California including links and information to all the campuses. Also this website allows you to apply to the private colleges.

Preparation

California Colleges

www.californiacolleges.edu

Not sure where to start or what to do? This website gives all the information regarding higher education. It includes great resources and links to colleges and universities.

College Board

www.collegeboard.com

Log on to register for SAT and to find out test dates. Also check out other online SAT test prep courses, check scores, plan for college, and apply to many private colleges.

ACT

www.actstudent.org

Allows you to register online for ACT tests, find out test dates, and check scores.