

Financing Higher Education

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Agenda

- Application Process
- Types of Funding
- Miscellaneous Information

Application Process

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
 - Only application needed for federal aid
 - Free application
 - October 1st EVERY YEAR
 - Fafsa.ed.gov
 - I encourage all families to fill out the application

Application Process

- Some schools require the PROFILE application
 - Not all schools need/want this application
 - Check with the school you are interested in to see if they require it
 - NOT FREE (\$25 first school \$16 additional school)
 - Consideration for private/non federal aid
 - css.collegeboard.org

Types of Funding

- GRANTS (Free Money)
 - Reserved for the neediest families (low EFC)
 - Not everyone will qualify
 - Awarded based on the information that is on the FAFSA
 - Pell Grant (Award range is \$5920 to \$606 per year)
 - SEOG (Award amount varies by school)

Types of Funding

- INSTITUTIONAL AID (Free Money)
 - Awarded by the school that you are attending
 - Usually determined when you submit your Admissions application
 - Usually awarded based on GPA and/or test scores
 - Some award based on families need

Types of Funding

- SCHOLARSHIPS (Free Money)
 - Could be awarded by the school or and outside organization
 - Awarded based on a various criteria (talent/academic)
 - Student may be required to submit information for consideration
 - Scholarship search sites
 - Don't fall victim to scams

Types of Funding

- LOANS (MUST be repaid)
 - Direct Loans (In the Students name)
 - Subsidized- Govt pays interest while you are enrolled in school ½ time
 - Unsubsidized- You the student are responsible for the interest, even while enrolled
 - Yearly limit and aggregate limit (freshman yearly limit \$5500)
 - PLUS Loan (Parents borrow for the Student)
 - Parent is responsible for the repayment
 - Pre-application process that a parent must submit before they can be approved for the loan

Types of Funding

- Private Loans (Must be repaid)
 - Outside lenders (Banks or Financial Institutions)
 - Different interest rates
 - Different repayment terms
 - Should be a last resort

Why Does Aid Vary From School to School?

- If you file a FAFSA, your EFC should be the same at any school you apply to
- The Cost of Attendance is a variable
 - Community College vs 4 year Public Vs 4 year Private vs Proprietary
- Schools use Cost of Attendance-EFC to determine need for NEED based aid

What If I Don't Want Assistance?

- Scholarship searches now
 - Pay attention to deadline and required info
- Ask schools what type of payment options they have for students
 - Some offer monthly payment plans
 - Could be a fee to join
 - Pay in full
 - Most schools require payment in full prior to semester starting

Things to Watch

- Emails from Schools- Most of the time will go to the student
- Deadlines
- Award Letters
- Any Communication from Schools