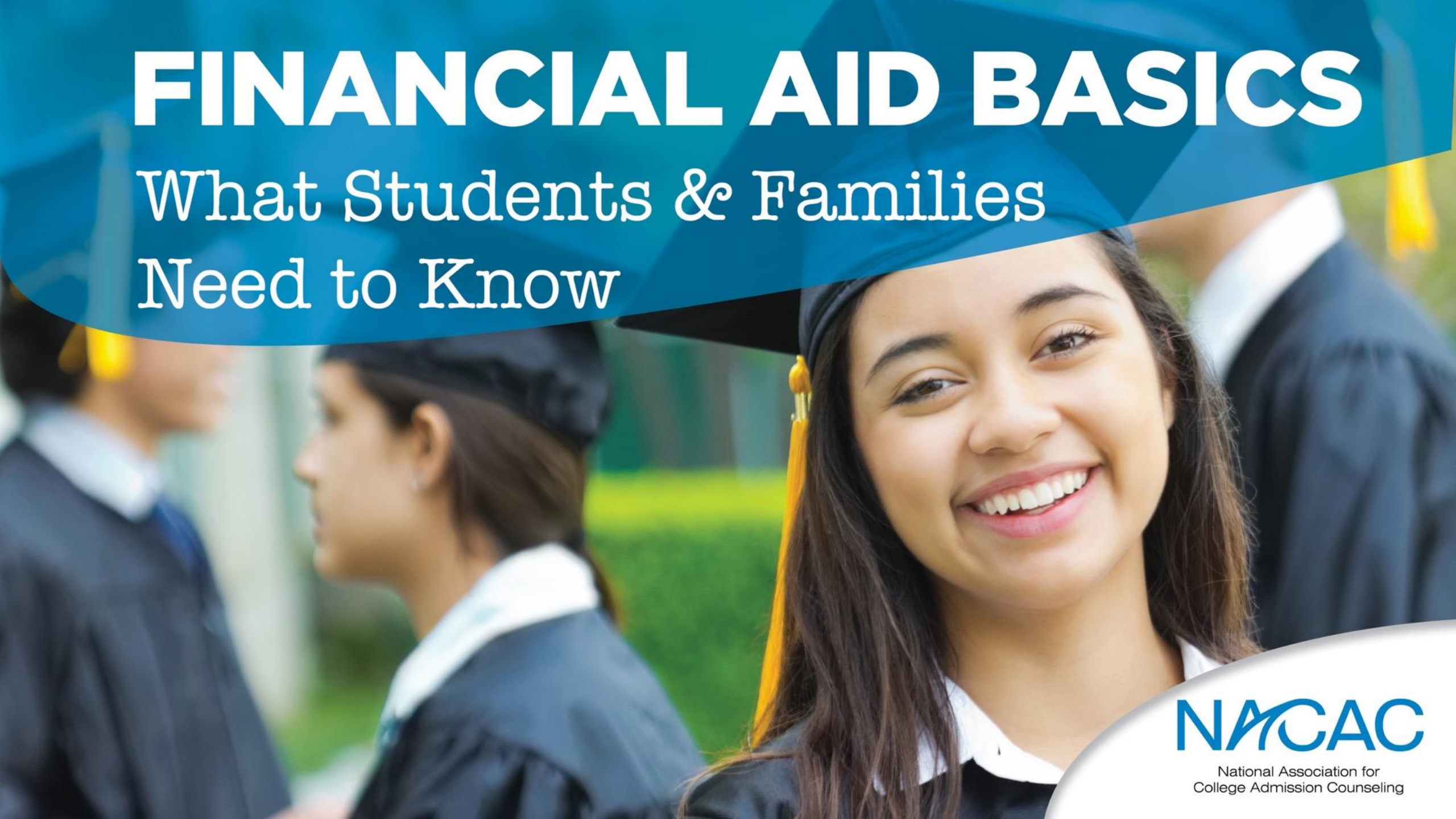
FINANCIAL AID BASICS

What Students & Families Need to Know



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Questions that we will answer in this presentation

1

How much does college cost, and what is included in the total cost?

2

What is the difference between grants, scholarships, loans, and work-study?

3

How does a student receive financial aid?

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More than half of all students attending college in the United States receive some form of financial assistance.

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COLLEGE COSTS

Knowledge is Power



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NET PRICE

NET PRICE is the amount that a student pays to attend an institution in a single academic year **AFTER** subtracting scholarships and grants the student receives.

Focus on the NET PRICE.

Not the STICKER Price.

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NET PRICE CALCULATORS



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NET PRICE CALCULATORS

Available on a college's website, net price calculators can help prospective students get a better handle on what they will be expected to pay.

Students enter information about their family's financial situation to learn what similar students paid to attend the institution in the previous year.

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WHY ARE NET PRICE CALCULATORS IMPORTANT?

Knowing your net price:

- **Gives you the best idea of what you'll pay for a particular college**
- **Makes comparing colleges easier**
- **Widens your choice of colleges**

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NET PRICE CALCULATOR TIPS

- Answer questions accurately
- Remember that this is just an estimate and the actual cost may end up being higher or lower than the estimate provided by the net price calculator

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FINANCIAL AID

The Process



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THE FINANCIAL AID PROCESS

- **FAFSA** (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) – www.fafsa.ed.gov
- **CSS Profile** – profileonline.collegeboard.com
- **Institutional aid applications**

  Be sure to check each individual school's website to find out what forms are required and when they must be filed.

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FILE YOUR FAFSA

Each year, the federal government awards roughly $150 billion to college students through need-based grants, loans, and work-study funds.

Filing the FAFSA ensures you are in the running.

- It is required.
- Watch deadlines.
- Be organized.

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AN IMPORTANT DAY



October 1 is the first day that the FAFSA can be completed.

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FEDERAL STUDENT AID

Completing the **FAFSA** is the first step in securing **federal aid** for college, career school, or graduate school.

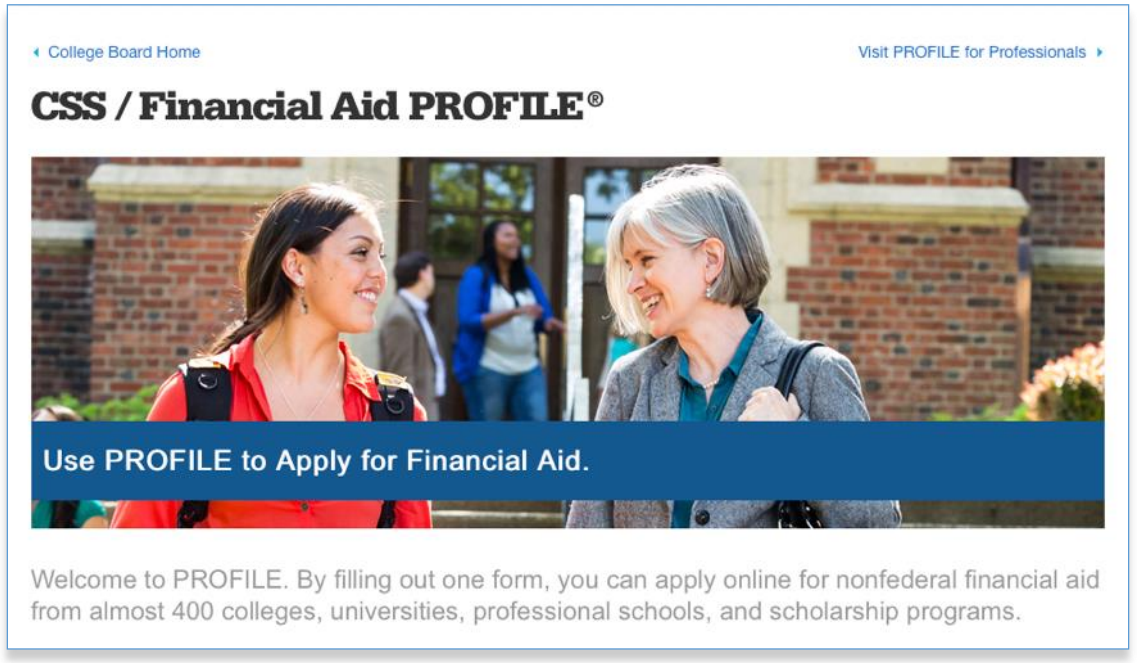


studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa.ed.gov

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CSS/ FINANCIAL AID PROFILE

The **PROFILE** is a tool created by the College Board that allows students to complete one form and apply online for **non-federal financial aid** from almost 400 colleges, universities, professional schools, and scholarship programs.



https://student.collegeboard.org/css-financial-aid-profile

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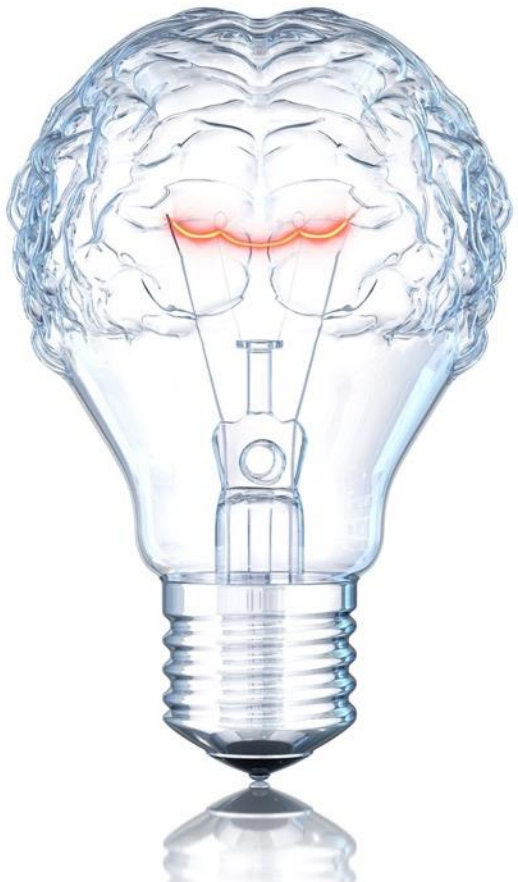
CSS/ FINANCIAL AID PROFILE TIPS



- Available on **October 1st**
- Use your **College Board Account** to complete the **Financial Aid PROFILE**
- May be **required** by some colleges and universities
- CSS / Financial Aid PROFILE is in **addition** to the FAFSA.

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BE SMART ABOUT SCHOLARSHIPS



Thousands of scholarships exist.
Some colleges automatically consider all applicants for scholarships. Other scholarships from colleges, universities, and private sources require special applications and additional work and motivation to make it happen.

Never pay money to apply to an outside scholarship.

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TAKE STEPS TO MINIMIZE DEBT



The majority of students use loans to help finance their college education.

Don’t borrow any more than you absolutely need.

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HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

BILLABLE COSTS

- **Tuition and Fees**
- **On-Campus Room and Board**

These costs **will show up** on the college bill.

INDIRECT COSTS

- **Books and Supplies**
- **Off-Campus Room & Board**
- **Personal Expenses**
- **Travel Costs**

These costs **do not show up** on the college bill.

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ASSESSING STUDENT NEED

A **student's financial need** is calculated as the difference between the cost of attending the school, the **Cost of Attendance (COA)** minus any expected financial assistance (EFA), such as gifts or outside scholarships,

and the amount the student and their family is expected to pay, the **Expected Family Contribution (EFC)**

COA – EFC = Student Financial Need

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EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION (EFC) IS INFLUENCED BY THESE FACTORS:

- The amount the student's parents will be asked to pay from income and assets
- The amount the student can contribute from earnings and savings
- Family size, age of oldest parent, number of children currently attending college
- Special circumstances: Health related expenses, loss of property or death in the family

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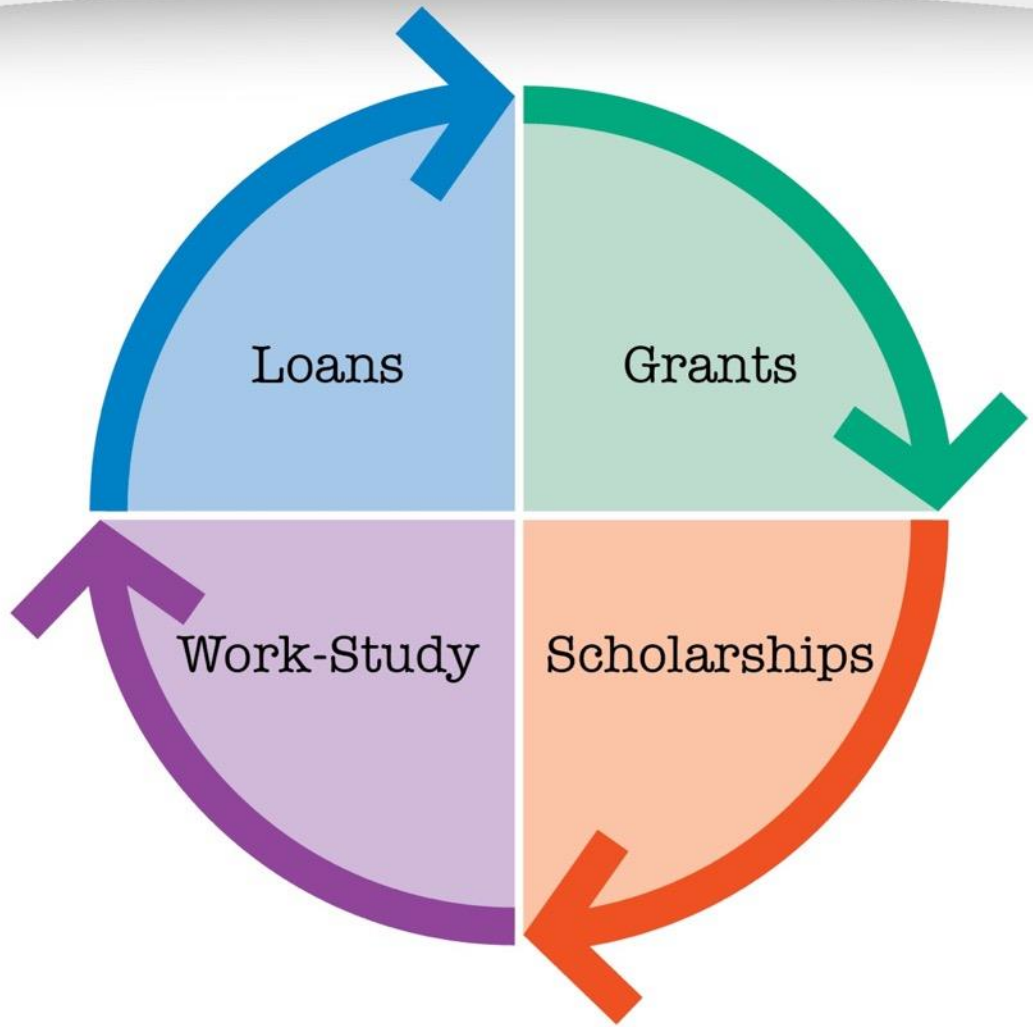
FINANCIAL AID

What is Available



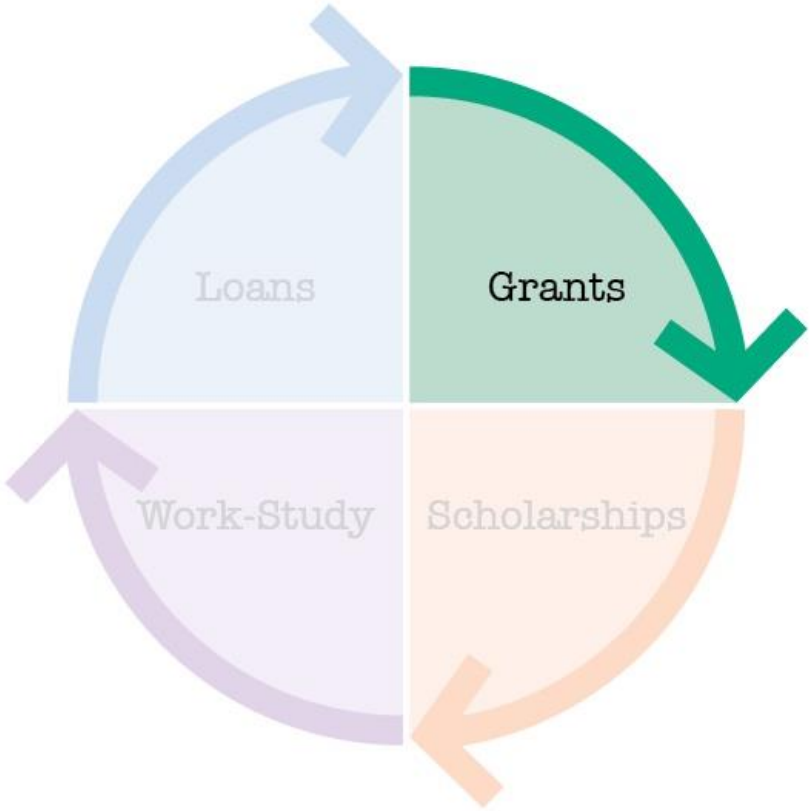
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TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID



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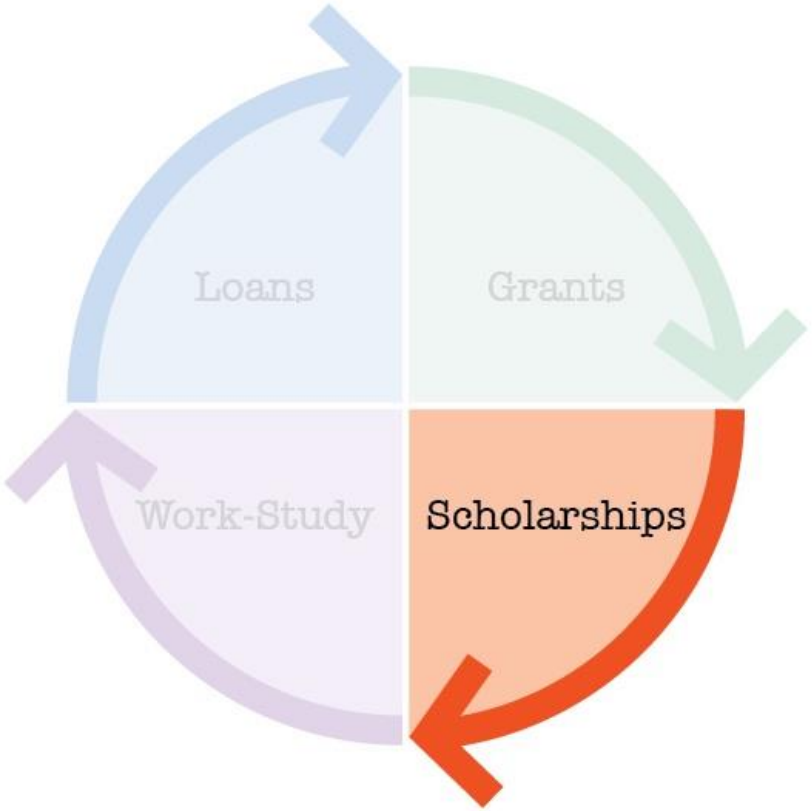
GRANTS



- Federal Pell Grants
- Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants (FSEOG)
- State Grants
- Institutional Grants

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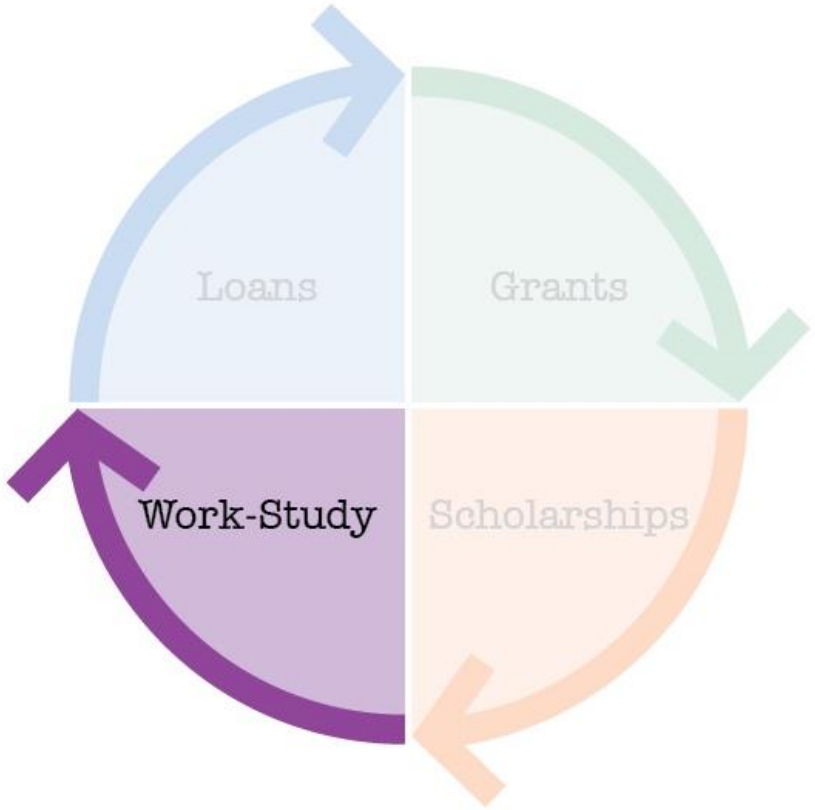
SCHOLARSHIPS



- Athletic, Academic, Leadership, Theatre, Music
- Usually Competitive
- Institutional
- National
- State, Local, or Civic

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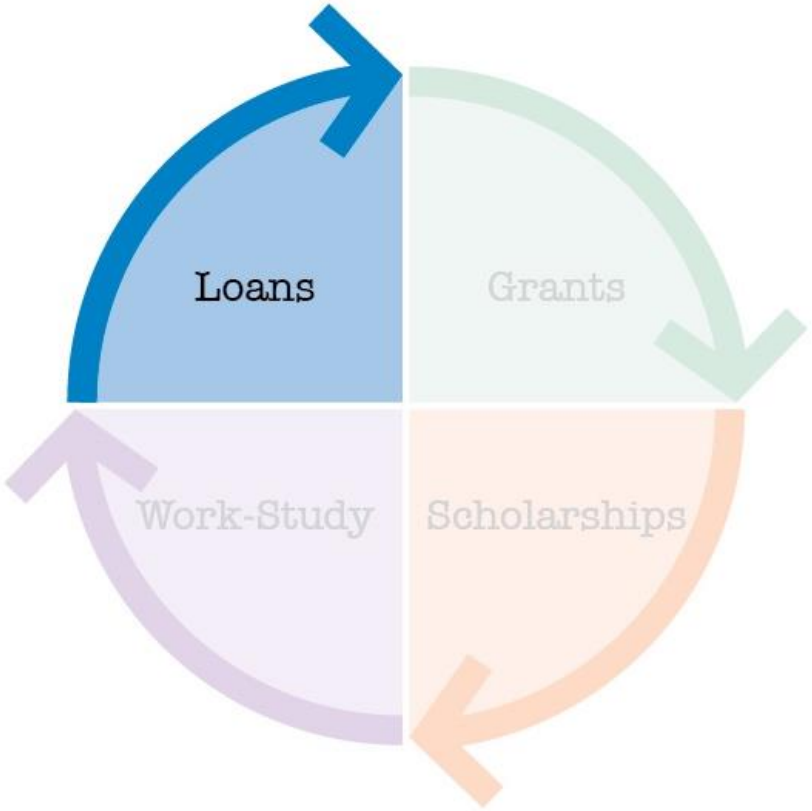
WORK-STUDY



- Based on demonstrated need
- Student is provided an on-campus job
- 10 – 15 hours per week and paid directly to student
- Generally above minimum wage

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LOANS



- Direct Subsidized & Unsubsidized
- Perkins
- PLUS (Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students)
- Private Loans

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TRUSTED SOURCES

For More Information



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TRUSTED SOURCES

Hundreds of websites purport to offer families advice about financial aid. Not all of them are truly helpful. Not all are accurate.

NACAC has curated a list of trusted, up-to-date sources to help families navigate the process.

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THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



- Financial Aid Toolkit
- 2017 – 18 Counselors & Mentors Handbook
- The National Training for Counselors & Mentors
- Helping Students Navigate the Path to College
- Federal Student Aid (FSA) Website

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THE INSTITUTE FOR COLLEGE ACCESS & SUCCESS

the institute for college access & success

- Income-Based Repayment
- College InSight
- uAspire Handout & Presentation
- Project on Student Debt

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATORS (NASFAA)

NASFAA
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATORS

- College Affordability & Transparency Resources for Counselors
- Student Aid Tips for Unique Populations

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CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU



- **Paying for College**

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NATIONAL COLLEGE ACCESS NETWORK



- **Form Your Future Campaign**

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CLOSING THOUGHTS

Planning how to finance a degree has become a more prominent part of the college application process. By becoming aware of the costs associated with college, your family is better positioned to incorporate educational costs into your savings plan.

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