

# CLW 2018:

## LEVEL UP

### FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP

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16TH ANNUAL COLLEGE LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP  
OCTOBER 20TH, 2018

# Agenda

## 1. Financial Aid Applications

- a. FAFSA
- b. CSS

## 2. Types of Federal Student Aid

- a. Loans
  - i. Government Loans
  - ii. Private Loans
- b. Grants
- c. Work-Study Program

## 3. Scholarships

- a. National Scholarships
- b. Local Scholarships
- c. Additional Resources

# FINANCIAL AID APPLICATIONS

# Overview of FAFSA

- **WHAT:** A FAFSA application is a federal aid application filed through the U.S. Dept of Education.
  - A FREE application filled out online
- **WHY:** Filing your FAFSA application determines how much government aid you qualify for.
- **WHO:** Everyone should fill out a FAFSA application!
  - It takes 1-3 hours, but it unlocks thousands of dollars of free federal aid.
- **HOW:** We'll show you!



The screenshot shows the Federal Student Aid website. At the top, it says "Federal Student Aid" and "An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION". To the right, it says "PROUD SPONSOR of the AMERICAN MIND®". There is a search bar for "Search FAFSA® Help". Below the header is a navigation menu with options: "Prepare for College", "Types of Aid", "Who Gets Aid", "FAFSA®: Apply for Aid", and "How to Repay Your Loans". The main content area is titled "FAFSA®: Apply for Aid" and includes the text: "Use the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form to apply for financial aid for college or grad school." There are two main sections: "NEW TO THE FAFSA® PROCESS?" with the text "Completing the FAFSA form is free. Fill it out now." and a "START HERE >" button; and "RETURNING USER?" with the text "Correct info • Add a school" and "View your Student Aid Report (SAR)" and a "LOG IN >" button. At the bottom, there is a "FAFSA® Announcements" section with a bullet point: "The 2019-20 FAFSA form is here! Some states and schools have limited funds, so submit your application today. Also, check out the new myStudentAid app for iOS and Android."

<https://fafsa.ed.gov/>

# Deadlines

- FAFSA Application opens: October 1
- Application CLOSES: by midnight Central Time, June 30
- State-specific deadlines:
  - Texas: As soon as possible after October 1, 2018
    - Public: January 15 (priority consideration)
    - Private - Check with your financial aid counselor. Additional forms may be required.
    - <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/sites/default/files/2019-20-fafsa-state-deadlines.pdf>
- University-specific deadlines:
  - Rice University - ED is November 15, Regular Decision is March 1
  - University of Texas, Austin - March 15
  - University of Houston - January 15 (priority deadline)
  - University of St. Thomas - April 15
  - Texas A&M University - check website
- For further information, refer to the handout

# Required Documents

- **Form 1040: Income Tax Return forms (for FY 2016 and 2017)**
  - 1 form if married household
  - If you've had a job, you will need your own Income Tax form as well.
- **W-2 Forms: Wage and Tax Statement**
  - 1 for every member of the household who has held a job
- **Bank Statements**
  - Approximately how much is in your parents' and your own checking account and saving account
- **Social Security Numbers of**
  - Both parents
  - yourself!
- **Form 1099: Miscellaneous Income**
  - Income from self employment earnings, interests and dividends, government payments, etc.

**\*\*Fill out the application using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool!**

- If you intend to apply for financial aid every year, it populates most of the application with last year's inputted tax data

# Expected Family Contribution

- **What is Expected Family Contribution (EFC)?**
  - Based on your FAFSA application, the government determines an estimation of how much they think your parents can contribute to your education costs.
- **Rice University guarantees meeting 100% of your demonstrated financial need.**
  - In other words, what Rice University will cover = Cost of Attendance - EFC
  - *2018 Rice Investment Announcement:* <https://financialaid.rice.edu/thericeinvestment>

FAMILY INCOME RANGE*	GRANT TO INCLUDE
\$65,000 and below	Full Tuition, Fees, Room and Board
\$65,001 - \$130,000	Full Tuition
\$130,001 - \$200,000	Half Tuition

- **Your EFC may or may not be accurate of how much your parents realistically can afford.**
  - In the case of this, there are other ways to cover the cost of education:
    - Scholarships
    - Loans
    - University-specific appeal process

# Overview of CSS

- **WHAT:** A CSS profile is a *fee-based* federal aid application filed through CollegeBoard.
  - However, you could qualify for a fee waiver. (see handout)
- **WHY:** Filing your CSS profile determines *also* how much government aid you qualify for.
  - Why do private universities require you to file it?
    - It's meant to provide a more detailed summary of your family's financial situation, *beyond just the FAFSA application.*
- **WHO:** If you plan to apply to any private universities (that includes Rice), you must fill out a CSS Profile (for the most part).
  - <https://profile.collegeboard.org/profile/ppi/participatinginstitutions.aspx>



ard CSS Profile Sign In

Apply for Financial CSS Profile

Nearly 400 colleges, professional schools, and Profile to award non federal aid.

Sign In to Apply

How to Apply Fee Waivers International Applicants Info for Divorced Parents

ee waivers will be automatically granted to entering undergraduate students who are experiencing hardship due to Hurricanes

<https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/>

# Deadlines



- CSS Profile opens: October 1
- *Usually*, CSS Profile deadlines are the same as FAFSA deadlines for each university.
  - Thus, refer to slide 5 for deadlines.
  - ***Verify by checking the school's financial aid website and/or calling them.***
- Application CLOSES: by midnight Central Time, June 30

# Required Documents

- Submit scans of documents through CollegeBoard's IDOC service
  - Form 1040: Income Tax Return forms
  - W-2 Forms: Wage and Tax Statement
  - Form 1099: Miscellaneous Income

*Other forms: See university's requirements*

- Also varies based on your family's unique financial situation

# TYPES OF FEDERAL STUDENT AID

# 3 Major Types



- Loans
  - Borrowed money for college or career school; you must repay your loans, often with interest
- Grants
  - Financial aid that doesn't have to be repaid (unless, for example, you withdraw from school and owe a refund)
- Work-Study Program
  - A work program through which you can earn money to help you pay for school
  - Many programs on campus will actually prefer work-study applicants over others!

**All require the FAFSA and/or CSS Profile!**

# Government Loans

Cost of Attendance - Scholarships - Grants - Parents = LOANS

## 2 Main Types:

- Unsubsidized Loans: Interest on your loans start immediately.
  - You can't borrow unsubsidized loans in excess of your cost of attendance.
- Subsidized Loans: Interest accrued in college is waived.
  - How much can you borrow? Freshmen: \$3500, Sophomores: \$4500, Juniors/Seniors: \$5500
  - You can't borrow subsidized loans in excess of your financial need (Cost of Attendance - EFC)

Government loans offer more benefits (fixed interest rates, payment plans, etc.) than private loans.

# Private Loans



Private loans are generally more expensive than government loans.  
*Start with government loans first!*

Loans are made by lenders:

- Bank
- State agency
- School
- Etc.

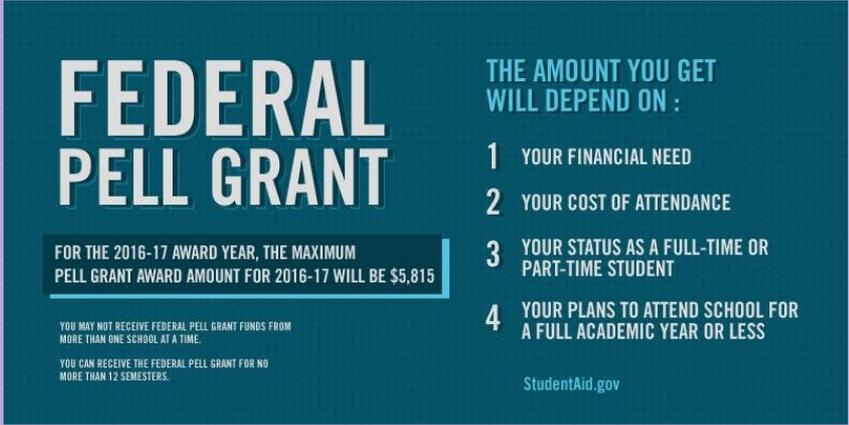
Ask questions and do your research!

# Grants

Often need-based and have many sources

## Federal Grants

- Federal Pell Grants
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG)
- Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grants
- Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grants



**FEDERAL PELL GRANT**

FOR THE 2016-17 AWARD YEAR, THE MAXIMUM PELL GRANT AWARD AMOUNT FOR 2016-17 WILL BE \$5,815

YOU MAY NOT RECEIVE FEDERAL PELL GRANT FUNDS FROM MORE THAN ONE SCHOOL AT A TIME.

YOU CAN RECEIVE THE FEDERAL PELL GRANT FOR NO MORE THAN 12 SEMESTERS.

THE AMOUNT YOU GET WILL DEPEND ON :

- 1 YOUR FINANCIAL NEED
- 2 YOUR COST OF ATTENDANCE
- 3 YOUR STATUS AS A FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STUDENT
- 4 YOUR PLANS TO ATTEND SCHOOL FOR A FULL ACADEMIC YEAR OR LESS

StudentAid.gov

Note: certain situations require a portion or all of the grant funds be repaid, ex: if you withdraw from school before finishing an enrollment period such as a semester, change in enrollment status (full to part time). Also affected by outside scholarships/grants reducing need for federal student aid

School-specific grants are a must! Starts with FAFSA!!!

# Work-Study Program



Federal student aid through part-time, on (or off) campus jobs, by the hour

## Work experience while pursuing a college degree

- Amount earned cannot exceed total Federal Work-Study award
- Not every school participates! Funds and jobs are limited
- Does not guarantee you a job, must still be earned (though some schools will match) - highly school-specific
- Not applied directly to tuition -> paycheck
- Pay varies! Depends on when you apply, level of financial need, etc

# SCHOLARSHIPS

# National Scholarships

- Many are merit-based, earned by meeting or exceeding certain standards set by the scholarship-giver. Others are based on financial need
- Major National Scholarships include:
  - National Merit Scholarship
  - Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation
  - Gates Millennium Scholarship
  - Dr. Pepper Tuition Giveaway Promotion and Contest
  - Families of Freedom Scholarship Fund
  - QuestBridge
- Deadlines and required supplements are extensive because of the high-value of reward. Do your research!!



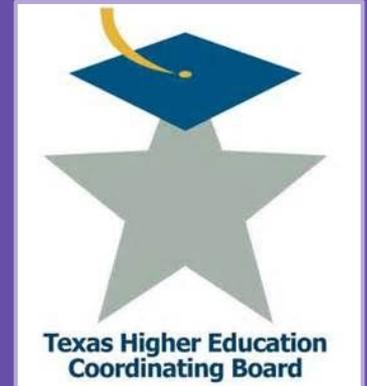
**NATIONAL MERIT  
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**



**Gates Millennium Scholars**

# Local Scholarships

- May be preferable to national scholarships because less competitive = higher likelihood of winning
- They add up quickly!
- Major Local Scholarships include:
  - Houston Community Foundation Scholarships
  - Houston Endowment Inc.
  - Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo
  - Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
  - Greater Houston Community Foundation



# Additional Scholarship Resources

>Useful Scholarship Search Engines: FastWeb, College Board, Cappex, Scholarship Search, Fast Aid

>College/Career school financial aid office

>High school or TRIO counselor

>State grant agency

Tips on Avoiding Scams

- Avoid any services that offer “commercial financial aid services”, especially if they charge thousands of dollars
- Stick to resources, preferably federal student aid, that use secure websites that are encrypted

The logo for Fastweb! features the word "fastweb!" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The exclamation point is significantly larger and more prominent than the rest of the text.The logo for Cappex.com features a stylized orange and white baseball cap with a blue "C" on it, positioned above the text "Cappex.com" in a blue, sans-serif font. Below this, the tagline "College search made simple." is written in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font.

Q&A