



WASHBURN MILLERS

FAFSA/MN Dream Act and Financial Aid 101

What does "Financial Aid" mean?



- Scholarships
- Grants
- Work Study
- Educational Loans





College Financial Aid Steps

1. APPLY TO COLLEGE
2. PARENTS WILL USE TAX FORMS FROM 2017
3. STUDENTS WILL USE TAX FORMS FROM 2017 (IF YOU WORKED)
4. **FILL OUT FAFSA ON-LINE**
5. RECEIVE YOUR STUDENT AID REPORT (SAR)/EFC
6. GOVERNMENT SENDS INFO TO YOUR COLLEGES
7. COLLEGES OFFER YOU THEIR FINANCIAL AID PACKAGE IN WINTER/SPRING
8. **MAKE FINAL DECISION BY MAY 1**

FAFSA

- Document to fill out to receive federal and state student aid.
- Needed to get grants, loans, work study, some “scholarships”
- Most important step you can take to receive financial aid
- Must have a Social Security Number or a 1-94 number to apply
- Free to file



Before completing the FAFSA

□ Get this information

- **Students:** SSN*, 1-94*, date of birth, total amount of money saved, driver's license number*
- **Parents:** SSN*, 1-94*, date of birth, total amount of money saved, date married/separated/divorced

□ Gather these documents

- **Students:** 2017 federal income tax returns*, W-2 forms*
- **Parents:** 2017 federal income tax returns*, W-2 forms*

* = if applicable

Complete the Free FAFSA at fafsa.gov



The screenshot shows the FAFSA website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for Home, About Us, FSA ID, StudentAid.gov, and Help. A search bar is also present. The main banner features the text "Get help paying for college" and "Submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)". Below the banner, there are two columns: "New to the FAFSA?" with a "Start A New FAFSA" button, and "Returning User?" with a list of actions (Make a correction, Add a school, View your Student Aid Report (SAR), and more...) and a "Login" button. At the bottom, there are sections for "College Scorecard" and "Announcements".

***Remember to record your FSA ID – very hard to get if you get forget!
There's a worksheet in the CCC to help you!**

You can apply for the FAFSA now

- Do it!
- This is the first year students have been able to apply before the end of the year (called the Prior Prior Year – PPY)
- You will now be using tax information from the previous year (2017 tax information for the 2019 year)
- Recommended to submit tax information with the IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT)



Other Financial Aid Tips

- Fill out as early as possible!
- Be SURE you report your social security name and number as it appears on your card.
- Do not be alarmed if you are selected for “verification”
- For the FAFSA, your parents are ONLY your biological parents.
- You are considered a “dependent” until you are 25.
 - There are special circumstances in which a college may consider you independent.
- Some colleges may ask you to fill out the CSS Profile
- Reciprocity forms available on-line in Spring (getreadyforcollege.org)



GRANTS



- ▣ Based on financial need
- ▣ Money you don't pay back
- ▣ From the government

- **Federal Pell Grant: \$6,095 max** per year for 2019-2020
- **Federal SEOG Grant: limited funding;** priority given to students with exceptional need; amount will vary by school
- **Minnesota State Grant: MN residents only** going to MN schools
- **Institutional Grant: varies by institution;** talk to your college financial aid office

WORK STUDY



- ▣ Given by schools and the state
- ▣ Have a job *on campus*
- ▣ Start applying as soon as you know you've received it!



LOANS



- Federal Loans = lower interest = BEST
 - ▣ Subsidized vs. Unsubsidized
 - ▣ Note if parents are offered loans too and consider *total* aid provided.



Subsidized: interest is subsidized (paid for) by the government while you're in school.

Unsubsidized: interest accrues while you're in school.

Parent PLUS: a loan in your parent's name for your educational expenses

SCHOLARSHIPS



□ Awarded based on merit (GPA, activities, essay, etc.)

- Institutional Scholarships (90%)
- Independent Scholarships (10%)



BEWARE OF SCHOLARSHIP SCAMS!

THE CCC has resources if you want to apply for scholarships.

MN Dream Act

- State aid for students who are undocumented (not a US citizen or eligible non-citizen)
- Apply ONLY after you've gathered all financial forms because you have to send them to the MN Office of Higher Ed when you are done with the application.
- Talk to your counselor and/or CCC if you are eligible (or unsure if you're eligible)

Complete the MN Dream Act at the Office of Higher Education website

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL www.oh.edu.state.mn.us/mPg.cfm?pagelD=2056. The browser's address bar and tabs are visible at the top. The website header includes the Minnesota Office of Higher Education logo and navigation links such as "About Us", "Blogs", "School Licensure & Registration", "Fast Facts", "Consumer Information", "Investors", and "Contact". A search bar is also present.

The main navigation menu includes categories like "Preparing FOR COLLEGE", "Choosing A COLLEGE", "Paying FOR COLLEGE", "Outreach", "High School & Campus Resources", and "Research, Data & Reports".

The page content is titled "Paying for College" and includes a sidebar with links to "Financial Aid Estimator", "Online Applications", "What Does College Cost?", and "About Financial Aid". The main content area features a breadcrumb trail: [Home](#) > [Paying for College](#) > [About Financial Aid](#) > [Are You Eligible?](#) > [Resources for Undocumented Students](#) > Minnesota Dream Act.


Minnesota Dream Act

- [MN Dream Act Fact Sheet](#)
- [Hoja de información sobre la Ley Dream de Minnesota](#)

How do MN Dream Act and/or qualifying DACA students apply for benefits?

Undocumented students can apply for state financial aid by accessing the online [MN Dream Act - State Financial Aid application](#). To be eligible for the MN State Grant, the application must be submitted no later than the 30th day of the term. The results of the application can also be used to qualify for in-state tuition rates at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities and Duluth campuses. Students attending MnSCU campuses should also use this application to apply for state financial aid, but should apply for in-state tuition rates directly with the MnSCU campus.

The MN Dream Act application should be submitted once for each academic year the student is enrolled in college.



GET FAFSA and Dream Act HELP!



□ FAFSA/MN Dream Act Assistance

- Every Tuesday in the CCC during 2nd and 3rd period
- Bring all financial forms with you!
- Make sure you make an appointment



Independent Scholarships

- **Washburn's Notable Private Scholarships List**
 - ▣ Good stuff
 - ▣ WHS students have won in the past
 - ▣ Scholarships worth your time!
- **CCC Newsletter**- bi-weekly updates on scholarships.
 - ▣ This should be emailed to you. If you're not getting it, fix your email info in the CCC!
- **Naviance** holds scholarship master list- careful- not always updated. Check the CCC for the most updated info.
 - ▣ Students who are undocumented: use the Scholarships for Dreamers list in the CCC and check out private scholarships available at: www.ohe.state.mn.us/MNDreamAct

Wallin Scholarships

Wallin Scholarship (www.wallinpartners.org/apply)

4 year school scholarship (\$16,000):

- Due: February 15, 2019
- Minimum 3.0 GPA
- Minimum 19 ACT
- Attending a 4 year school in MN, WI, ND, SD, IA, or any HBCU
- Family taxable income of \$75,000 or less

2 year school scholarship (\$6,000):

- Due: March 15, 2019
- Minimum 2.0 GPA
- No minimum ACT
- Attending Minneapolis College, Normandale, or St. Paul College
- Family taxable income of \$75,000 or less



Questions, Comments, Concerns?

