

Financial Aid Tips: How to Pay for College



Welcome
Students & Parents!

Welcome Students and Families!!!

Questions? Who to Contact - Introduction to Counselor Caseloads

When and where do we even begin? Know the important dates before you even begin!

Aid (merit or Need Based), Grants, Scholarships, Work Study, Loans... Help! My head is spinning!

Important Terms to Understand: Expected Family Contribution (EFC) & Cost of Attendance (COA)

That College is Too Expensive or There is No Way We Can Afford That!

Knowledge is Power and Financial Aid isn't Rocket Science

What about help for the International, Undocumented, or DACAmented Student?

Take advantage of free college opportunities BEFORE you even graduate high school!

Test Scores, GPA, Athletics & Other Ways to Qualify for College \$\$Money\$\$

Less Traditional or More Creative Ways to Finance Your Education

The FAFSA, CSS Profile, Other types of Financial Aid Applications

Help completing the FAFSA - Additional Help Resources

Paying Back Borrowed Funds - Use Caution

Understanding and/or Negotiating Your Award Letter

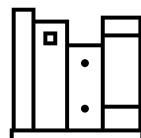
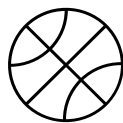
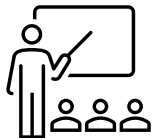
Committing to a College

Self-Advocacy Goes A Long Way - Reach Out to Your Counselor

Questions and Answers?



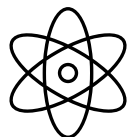
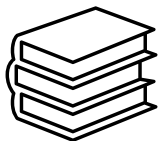
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Counselor	Caseload by Student Last Name	Hours	Email	School Phone (Primary Contact) 336-316-5802
	Lena Sarver A-Cooz	7:30 am - 3:30 pm	sarvers@gcsnc.com	Google Voice 336-496-8061
	Derrick Brower Cop-Haz	8 am - 4 pm	browerd@gcsnc.com	Google Voice N/A 336-316-5800
	Melissa Decker Hb-Miz	8:15 am - 4:15 pm	deckerm@gcsnc.com	Google Voice 336-541-6246
	Kelly Evans Mj-Schz	8:30 am - 4:30 pm	evansk@gcsnc.com	Google Voice 336-517-7596
	Mikiko Simmons Sci-Zz	7:45 am - 3:45 pm	simmonm4@gcsnc.com	Google Voice 252-481-5931



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https://studentaid.gov/sites/default/files/aid-glance-2020-21.pdf?_ga=2.147276087.1460929271.1615153085-1831249002.1610819791

October 1

Each year, the FAFSA opens on Oct. 1.
For the 2021-22 school year, the start date is Oct. 1, 2020.

Sample Timeline

Parent(s) file 2019 takes in approx. Feb-April 2020

FAFSA opens October 2020

Student & Parents complete the 2021-22 FAFSA

1 Oct 2020- 30 June 2021

The student expects to attend school Aug 2021-May 2022

Filing your FAFSA as close to Oct. 1 improves chances of qualifying for the most:

*State and/or institutional grants
scholarships
work-study aid*

*You may need to submit the FAFSA much earlier to meet financial aid deadlines for your state and college to qualify for aid dollars in time for the start of the school year.

Note/Tip: If any of the links within this presentation are not working, highlight, copy, and paste the web address into your search bar.



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Help! My head is spinning!

What is the difference between all of these?

Need vs. Merit Aid

Need

Based on financial needs of the student and the Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

Federal student aid is need-based. That means it doesn't discriminate by any factor apart from financial need. Eligibility is based solely on the assets and income of the prospective student and his or her family. Factors such as test scores or athletic ability have no bearing on need-based aid.

Merit

Based on the student's academic achievement or other talents

Merit includes a variety of talents and interests: academic, artistic, athletic, and the list goes on. Scholarships are the most common type of merit-based aid (though some do have a need-based component), which may come from the school or from outside sources. Assuming need is not a condition, a student with extensive assets and income is just as entitled to a merit-based award as a student with limited assets and income.

<https://www.princetonreview.com/college-advice/need-based-merit-based>



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Help! My head is spinning!

What is the difference between all of these?

Scholarships

Scholarships are **financial aid awards** designed to help students pay for an undergraduate degree. Sometimes a scholarship is a one-time check. Other school scholarships are renewable and provide money for students each semester or school year. Scholarships do NOT have to be repaid as loans do, except in specific circumstances (i.e. a military ROTC scholarship, should the student later decide not to join the military).

Grants

College grants are financial aid that doesn't have to be repaid and often is federal aid received from the FAFSA, but there are also state and institutional grants.

Work Study

Federal **Work-Study** provides part-time **jobs** for undergraduate and graduate students with financial need, allowing them to earn money to help pay education expenses. The program encourages community service **work** and **work** related to the student's course of **study**. ... It's available to full-time or part-time students

<https://www.cappex.com/articles/money/what-is-a-scholarship#:~:text=For%20colleges%20and%20universities%2C%20scholarships,each%20semester%20or%20school%20year.>



Help! My head is spinning!

What is the difference between all of these?

Loans

When you receive a student loan, you are borrowing money to attend a college or career school. You must repay the loan as well as interest that accrues. It is important to understand your repayment options so you can successfully repay your loan.

Loans (to be repaid) and/or Aid (Not to be repaid) for International Study

Federal student aid may be available for studying at a school outside the United States, whether you're studying abroad or getting your degree from an international school.

Aid for Military Families

There are special aid programs or additional aid eligibility for serving in the military or for being the spouse or child of a veteran. Typically, this "aid" does not have to be repaid.

<https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types>



Help! My head is spinning!

What is the difference between all of these?

Loan Types - *federal* and *private*

These loans are funded by the federal government.

Private student loans:

These loans are nonfederal loans, made by a [lender](#) such as a bank, credit union, state agency, or a school.

Federal student loans:

[Direct Subsidized Loans and Direct Unsubsidized Loans](#) and [Direct PLUS Loans \(for graduate and professional students\)](#).

Federal parent loans are

[Direct PLUS Loans \(for parents\)](#)

There is much more information available at the below site. Research is encouraged, as there could be more grants or aid available through tax benefits, your employer, and more.

<https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types>



Cost of Attendance (COA)

COA is the amount it will cost you to go to school.

Most 2 and 4 year colleges will calculate your COA to show your total cost for the school year (the fall semester plus the spring semester).

Schools with programs that last a different period of time (i.e. an 18-month certificate program) might give you a COA that covers a time period other than a year.

COA could include:

tuition and fees;

the cost of [room and board](#) (or living expenses for students living off campus);

the cost of books, supplies, transportation, [loan](#) fees, and miscellaneous expenses (including a reasonable amount for the documented cost of a personal computer);

an allowance for child care or other dependent care;

costs related to a disability;

and/or

reasonable costs for eligible study-abroad programs.

<https://studentaid.gov/complete-aid-process/how-calculated>



Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

The EFC is calculated according to a formula established by law. Your family's taxed and untaxed income, assets, and benefits (such as unemployment or Social Security) all could be considered in the formula. Also considered are your family size and the number of family members who will attend college or career school during the year.

In Depth: How to Determine EFC [The EFC Formula](#) guide

Calculating Your Financial Need

*Recall the terms from earlier in the presentation (Need vs. Merit Aid)

Cost of Attendance (COA) – Expected Family Contribution (EFC) = Financial Need

You can receive if you have *financial need* and meet other eligibility criteria.

You can't receive more *need-based* aid than the amount of your *financial need*.

If your **COA** is \$16,000 and your **EFC** is 12000, your financial need is \$4,000; you aren't eligible for more than \$4,000 in *need-based* aid.

What if I don't have that amount (my determined EFC) to contribute?

The following are the non-need-based federal student aid programs:

[Direct Unsubsidized Loan](#)

[Federal PLUS Loan](#)

[Teacher Education Access for College and Higher Education \(TEACH\) Grant](#)

<https://studentaid.gov/complete-aid-process/how-calculated>



That College is Too Expensive! There is No Way We Can Afford That!

First:

DON'T rule out a school based on the sticker price.

All schools differ on how much funding they have, what scholarships are offered, and their priorities, like where they place their funds.

A high price school may offer a large financial aid package.

Next:

Be organized and track (recommend using excel or a chart) the costs vs. the financial support from each of the schools.

As you apply to schools, complete the FAFSA, and hopefully receive grants and scholarships, record all the data in the spreadsheet or table for easy comparison and contrast.

You may find that the financial analysis alone helps you to narrow down your best fit of college.

Some Helpful Resources:

https://bethkobliner.com/advice_basics/paying-college-financial-aid/

<https://www.hsfp.org/resources/articles/infographic-paying-for-college.aspx>

Note/Tip: If any of the links within this presentation are not working, highlight, copy, and paste the web address into your search bar.



Knowledge is Power In Successfully Navigating Financial Aid

Tips to make this all more manageable.

DON'T WAIT UNTIL SENIOR YEAR.
The earlier you begin this research, the better.

If it is already senior year when you receive this information,
DON'T WAIT, get started immediately.

The more that you research ways to pay for college,
the more opportunities you will find.

If you have specific colleges already in mind, pay attention to their application
deadlines in relation to eligibility or consideration
for institutionally awarded scholarships or grants.

Also pay close attention to any additional application requirements
in order to be considered for such awards.

One of many great resources to use in learning how to prepare for
college: <https://www.firstinthefamily.org/resources/index.html>



What about me?

Help for the International, Undocumented, or DACAmented Student

[QuestBridge](#) aims to remove financial obstacles to higher education for low-income students. It prioritizes undocumented students among its served demographics.

[Hispanic Scholarship Fund](#) annual fund awards merit-based scholarships to students of Hispanic ethnicity at the high school, community, university, and graduate school levels. This scholarship is available to DACA recipients.

[California Dream Act](#) to help undocumented and non-resident students, the California Dream Act provides funding to students who attend eligible California colleges, universities, and career education programs. Applicants must submit a paper or online application for consideration each academic year.

[The Dream.US](#) supports DACA recipients and undocumented students in overcoming financial barriers standing in the way of a college education.

[Golden Door Scholars](#) program supports DACA recipients and eligible nonresident students who demonstrate academic excellence, leadership experience, and community engagement. Recipients can attend one of Golden Door Scholars' partner schools or an institution of their choosing.

As an undocumented student, scholarship opportunities are not limited strictly to ethnicity or legal status. You may also apply for scholarships related to academic performance, athletic participation, financial need, and LGBTQ+ identification, among many other factors. Expand your search for financial help with our

[scholarship directory](#).

<https://thebestschools.org/college-finances/financial-aid-undocumented-students/>



What about me?

Help for the International, Undocumented, or DACAmended Student

The College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC) contains many great resources to help families prepare for college from elementary school all the way through graduation. Learn financial literacy, apply for college, search for scholarships, and even receive FAFSA completion help.

<https://www.cfnc.org/>

<https://www.cfnc.org/en-espanol/>

Two entire PowerPoints dedicated specifically to International, Undocumented, or DACAmended Students for Financial Aid Navigation

<https://thebestschools.org/college-finances/financial-aid-undocumented-students/>

https://www.kaltura.com/index.php/extwidget/preview/partner_id/1155822/uiconf_id/31263811/entry_id/0_56f9b9jc/embed/dynamic

Understanding Federal Student Aid for Undocumented Students

https://studentaid.gov/sites/default/files/financial-aid-and-undocumented-students.pdf?_ga=2.131847500.2115079889.1615730714-1831249002.1610819791

Soy Un Lider at Guilford College -

Soy un Líder is a daylong conference focused on empowering and preparing students from the Latino and international community to apply to college.

<http://www.giving.guilford.edu/s/1833/interior.aspx?sid=1833&gid=2&pgid=620>



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What about me?

Help for the International, Undocumented, or DACAmented Student

Eligible Noncitizens "may" Qualify for Federal Aid as well as State & Other

A U.S. national (includes natives of American Samoa or Swains Island), U.S. permanent resident (who has an I-151, I-551 or I-551C [Permanent Resident Card]), or an individual who has an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) showing one of the following designations:

- "Refugee"
- "Asylum Granted"
- "Cuban-Haitian Entrant (Status Pending)"
- "Conditional Entrant" (valid only if issued before April 1, 1980)
- Victims of human trafficking, T-visa (T-2, T-3, or T-4, etc.) holder
- "Parolee" (You must be paroled into the United States for at least one year and you must be able to provide evidence from the USCIS that you are in the United States for other than a temporary purpose and that you intend to become a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.)

If you meet the noncitizen criteria above, you are eligible to receive federal student aid. If you are unsure of your eligibility, please check with your school's financial aid office for more information.

<https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/eligibility/requirements/non-us-citizens>



Take advantage of free college opportunities BEFORE you even graduate high school!

Would you like to save time and money on your college education?

Would you like to “try on” college while still in high school?

The ***Career & College Promise Program at GTCC***

(and many other community college systems)

allows any public high school student who has a **2.8 or higher unweighted GPA** to attend community college during their high school junior and/or senior year, to earn college credits while also fulfilling high school graduation requirements.

This is an excellent opportunity for all, especially for ***undocumented students*** who need to earn as much free college as possible.

Questions? Email: ccp@gtcc.edu

Research more on your own:

<https://gtcc.edu/academics/high-school-programs/ccp-college-transfer-pathway.php>

Another option students should pursue is ***Advanced Placement (AP)*** courses. These courses count as college credit at many colleges when the student scores at least a 3 of 5 on the AP Exam.



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Test Scores

- ACT & SAT Test Scores can score you scholarships.
- There are some colleges that offer full tuition for high scores on testing.
- Many colleges offer increments based on score ranges.
- The National Merit competition recognizes the top PSAT (Practice SAT) scorers in each state. There is a \$2,500 scholarship you can earn through the competition, but you can also get big scholarships from colleges.

GPA

- Like test scores, your GPA also matters.
- Many colleges offer at least small scholarships for GPAs above 3.0, increasing for each quarter of a point above 3.0.
- Also consider Honors College programs – some are automatic when you apply and meet the requirements, while other may require additional application actions.

<https://blog.prepscholar.com/guaranteed-scholarships-based-on-sat-act-scores>

Athletics

Often, student athletes are under the assumption that an athletic scholarship will cover all their college, but these scholarships are highly competitive, and the amounts offered per year could differ dramatically.

<https://www.ncsasports.org/recruiting/how-to-get-recruited/scholarship-facts>



Less Traditional Ways to Finance Your Education

A Resource List

Employer Sponsorship

<https://www.cccc.edu/registrar/forms/pdfs/DACA-Employer-Sponsorship.pdf>

<https://www.durhamtech.edu/pay-college/financial-aid/employer-sponsorship>

<https://www.estudentloan.com/blog/10-companies-will-help-pay-college>

GAP Program/OJT - <https://gapnc.org/>

https://www.apprenticeshipnc.com/sites/default/files/basic-page-files/nccc-printablehandbook-final-r1-print_quality.pdf

Military Enlistment & ROTC

<https://www.militaryonesource.mil/military-life-cycle/friends-extended-family/how-the-military-helps-pay-for-college-and-job-training/>

DANTES/DSST/CLEP

Test out of courses toward your degree and complete college more quickly.

https://www.getcollegecredit.com/what_is_dsst/

<https://clep.collegeboard.org/clep-benefits>



The FAFSA

1. Create an FSA ID

Before you go any further, take a couple of minutes to create an FSA ID. This is a username and password that you can use to sign your FAFSA electronically, as well as expedite the process of filling out the FAFSA overall.

To create an FSA ID, [visit this page](#).

You'll need your legal name, Social Security Number, and date of birth. If you're a dependent student, one of your parents will also need to create an FSA ID (whichever parent is reporting your family's info on the FAFSA, it doesn't matter).

Note that your parent needs to create their own account; they can't share yours, as each FSA ID acts as a legal signature.

Help completing your FSA ID:

https://studentaid.gov/sites/default/files/creating-using-fsaid.pdf?_ga=2.97072604.2115079889.1615730714-1831249002.1610819791

<https://collegeinfo geek.com/financial-aid/>



2. Gather the Required Information

The actual process of filling out the FAFSA doesn't take long.

The most time-consuming part is gathering all the [necessary information](#).

For this reason, take some time to collect the following info before you fill out the FAFSA:

Your Social Security Number

Your parents' Social Security Numbers (if you're filing as a dependent)

Your driver's license number (if you have one)

Your Alien Registration Number (if you're not a U.S. citizen)

Federal tax information or tax returns.

Typically, this will be your [Form 1040](#) unless you're living abroad or in a U.S. territory.

If you're filing as a dependent student, you'll also need your parents' tax information.

Records of untaxed income (child support, interest income, veterans noneducation benefits).

If you're filing as a dependent, you'll need this info from your parents as well.

Information about cash and assets (including savings/checking account balances; investments in stocks, bonds, or real estate other than the home you live in; business and farm assets.

If applying as a dependent, you'll also need this information from your parents.

Also, if you can't find all of this information at once, don't worry. You can complete the FAFSA in multiple sessions, saving your progress as you go.

<https://collegeinfo geek.com/financial-aid/>



The FAFSA

3. Fill Out the FAFSA Electronically

Now that you have the information you need, it's time to fill out the FAFSA.

Unless you're unable to, I highly recommend filling it out electronically.

It will be faster to submit than a paper copy, and you can save your progress along the way.

To start filling out the FAFSA online, [visit this page](#).

If you'd prefer to use your phone, you can also fill out the FAFSA with the myStudentAid app ([Android](#) | [iOS](#)).

Yet another option is the PDF fillable version:

https://studentaid.gov/sites/default/files/2021-22-fafsa.pdf?_ga=2.127587534.2115079889.1615730714-1831249002.1610819791

If you've created an FSA ID (which you did, right?), then you can enter it to pre-fill some of your FAFSA info, including your name, SSN, and DOB.

You'll also need an FSA ID if you're filling out the FAFSA in the myStudentAid app.

If you get stuck during the process, consult the official [FAFSA Help page](#). You can also contact the financial aid office at the college you plan to attend for further assistance.

<https://collegeinfo geek.com/financial-aid/>



4. Sign and Submit Your Application

Once you've completed the FAFSA, you need to sign and submit it. If you signed in with your FSA ID, then you won't be asked for additional signature information (yet another reason to create an FSA ID). One of your parents will also need to sign with their FSA ID if you're a dependent student.

If you or your parent didn't (or can't) create an FSA ID, you also have the option to print, sign, and mail a signature page. [Learn more here.](#)

Once you've submitted the FAFSA, you can check its status by logging in at fafsa.gov.

Note that this will only tell you if your FAFSA has been successfully processed and received. To find out how much financial aid you've received, you'll need to check with your college's financial aid office.

STUCK?! NEED MORE HELP?!

Here are 2 excellent organizations who offer FAFSA help sessions. The local colleges (if you are applying to any of them) have financial aid departments and may also be able to help.

SayYes Guilford <https://sayyesguilford.org/> or **CFNC** <https://www.cfnc.org/>



<https://collegeinfo geek.com/financial-aid/>



CSS Profile

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

Some colleges require both the FAFSA and the CSS Profile.

The **CSS Profile** is an online application that collects information used by nearly 400 colleges and scholarship programs to award non-federal aid. (For federal aid you must complete the FAFSA, available Oct. 1 at fafsa.ed.gov.)

Why complete the CSS Profile and how does it help?

<https://www.discover.com/student-loans/college-planning/how-to-pay/financial-aid/what-is-css-financial-aid-profile>

The best way to know the requirements for the schools in which you are interested, is to visit their websites and thoroughly research their admissions requirements.

Unlike the FAFSA, there is a fee to apply. The first application is \$25 and reports to additional schools are \$16 each. [Fee waivers](#) are granted to high-need students, generally for household incomes of \$45,000 or less per year.

There is also a search tool on the CollegeBoard website to view participating schools.

<https://profile.collegeboard.org/profile/ppi/participatingInstitutions.aspx>



Other types of Financial Aid

Students should utilize financial aid in the following order:

Free Money (grants & scholarships; no repayment required)

Earned Money (work study, ROTC scholarships; earn as you go & don't repay)

Borrowed Money (loans which must be repaid)

In order to earn the most possible to pay for college, it is important to begin researching potential scholarships, know the application requirements and due dates, and put forth the effort to earn scholarships.

There are too numerous of scholarship search tools to enter here, but a sampling is offered.

Keep in mind that you should not have to pay anything to search for scholarships. - don't get scammed.

Search for additional aid from the following:

- *Other government agencies*
- *The state or district where you live*
- *The college you attend*
- *Non-profit and local organizations*



Other Types of Financial Aid Applications

[Anne Ford & Allegra Ford Scholarship for Seniors with Documented Learning Disabilities](#)

[College Foundation of NC - Scholarship Search Tool](#)

[Early Preparation: CFNC Checklist for College Prep](#)

[Early Preparation: NC Plan for College Roadmap](#)

[fastweb - Scholarship Search Tool](#)

[LGBTQ Scholarships - Point Foundation](#)

[Marion Huber Learning Through Listening Awards - For Outstanding Students with Print & Learning Disabilities](#)

[National Association for Music Education](#)

[Rise Scholarship Foundation, Inc - For High School Students with Learning Disabilities](#)

[Scholarship Search Portal: Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro \(John R. Kernodle Memorial Scholarship\)](#)

[SCHOLARSHIP GREENSBORO MEN'S CLUB APPLICATION \(document accessible at the redirected link\)](#)

[SCHOLARSHIP GREENSBORO MEN'S CLUB INFORMATION \(document accessible at redirected link\)](#)

[Scholarship: Aubrey Lee Brooks](#)

[Scholarship: NC A&T Univ - SCITECH SCHOLARS SCHOLARSHI](#)

[Scholarship: NC A&T University - Gate City Alumni Chapter](#)

[Scholarship: Math & Science - Bernard Harris](#)

[Zinch Scholarship Search](#)



Borrowing Money (Student Loans) - Use Caution!

Financial Literacy at cfnc.org (Handout)

<https://www.cfnc.org/plan-your-future/planning-resources/financial-literacy/>

Understanding and Repaying Student Loans (Handout)

https://studentaid.gov/sites/default/files/direct-loan-basics-students.pdf?_ga=2.163657212.2115079889.1615730714-1831249002.1610819791

In summary:

Know (get educated) before you Borrow

Don't wait until you leave school to review your student loan debt. If you wait, you may find you have borrowed more than you can afford to repay.

Borrow only what you need

It is quite possible to over borrow and spend too frivolously – use self-discipline

https://cfnc.financialliteracy101.org/home/modules/borrowing_wisely/files/Borrowing%20Wisely.pdf

Track your borrowing as you go

Track Your Borrowing You can view your federal student aid history at StudentAid.gov/login. If you have private loans, they will not be listed there.

Have a plan for repayment

Pay Interest as It Accumulates Whenever possible, pay interest on your Direct Loans while you're in school, and during grace,* deferment, and forbearance periods. This will allow you to avoid capitalization* of any unpaid interest.



Understanding and/or Negotiating Your Award Letter

"The Student Aid Report provides basic information about your financial aid eligibility. The report includes your EFC and your answers to questions on the FAFSA. It also includes your four-digit data release number, which you'll need if you want to give a college the ability to add its school code to your application. If your FAFSA was incomplete, you'll get instructions on how to resolve any remaining issues before you can receive your EFC."

Retrieved 20 March 2021 from

<https://www.nerdwallet.com/article/loans/student-loans/fafsa-student-aid-report-efc>

Example Student Aid Report

Processed Information

Federal Student Aid FAFSA

2012-2013 Electronic Student Aid Report (SAR)

The SAR summarizes the information you submitted on your 2012-2013 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Application Receipt Date:	01/11/2012	XXX-XX-1234 JO 01
Processed Date:	01/11/2012	EFC: 7256 DRN: 4557

Comments About Your Information

Based on the information we have on record for you, your EFC is 7256. You may be eligible to receive a Federal Pell Grant and other federal student aid. Your school will use your EFC to determine your financial aid eligibility for federal grants, loans, and work study, and possible funding from your state and school.

WHAT YOU MUST DO NOW (Use the checklist below to make sure that all of your issues are resolved.)

If you have now completed your 2011 tax return, you should correct your information to reflect the income and tax information reported on your tax return. Click 'Make FAFSA Corrections' on the 'My FAFSA' page to make the correction. You may be able to retrieve your tax return information directly from the IRS. If you have not yet completed your tax return, you must correct this SAR to reflect the income and tax information reported on your tax return once it is filed.

If you need to make corrections to your information, click 'Make FAFSA Corrections' on the 'My FAFSA' page. You must use your Federal Student Aid PIN to access your record online. If you need additional help with your SAR, contact your school's financial aid office or the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243). If your mailing address or e-mail address changes, you can make the correction online or call 1-800-4-FED-AID and ask a customer service representative to make the change for you.

FAFSA Data

Assumed fields, based on the data you entered, are marked with an "*" (asterisk) sign.

1. Student's Last Name:	JOHNSON
2. Student's First Name:	ANNA
3. Student's Middle Initial:	M
4. Student's Permanent Mailing Address:	123 HOMETOWN STREET
5. Student's Permanent City:	ANYTOWN
6. Student's Permanent State:	MA
7. Student's Permanent ZIP Code:	02115
8. Student's Social Security Number:	XXX-XX-6789
9. Student's Date of Birth:	03/04/1994

Sample Student Aid Report (Left)

[http://www.cfrrr.org/downloads/Sample Student Aid Report.pdf](http://www.cfrrr.org/downloads/Sample_Student_Aid_Report.pdf)

Recommended Source to Understand the SAR – Section by Section

<https://www.fastweb.com/financial-aid/articles/understand-your-student-aid-report>

About the Student Aid Report (SAR)

<https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/review-and-correct/review>



Committing to a College

The universal college commitment deadline is May 1st!

1. Notify the other schools of your intent & withdraw your applications
2. “Deposit & Test” or “Test & Deposit”
3. Attend Orientation
4. Enjoy the summer

<https://www.collegeraptor.com/getting-in/articles/college-admissions/what-to-do-after-youve-made-your-final-college-decision/>



Self-Advocacy Goes A Long Way - Reach Out to Your Counselor

What is Self-Advocacy?

Self-advocacy is the ability to speak-up for yourself and the things that are important to you. Self-advocacy means you can ask for what you need and want and tell people about your thoughts and feelings.

Why is Self-Advocacy Important?

When you have good self-advocacy skills you can have more control and make the life decisions that are best for you.

Self-advocacy helps to empower you, to speak-up for yourself and make decisions about your life.

If you have questions, ask them.

If you are confused, don't be afraid to say so.

If you aren't getting what you need, if you address it with kindness, you can typically express yourself and get the help you need.

For more information on self-advocacy, visit the following link.

Retrieved 20 March 2021 from

<https://selfadvocatenet.com/what-is-self-advocacy/>



Questions
and
Answers?



This Presentation May Be Shared On/At:

WGHS Facebook

WGHS Instagram

WGHS Twitter

WGHS Counseling Dept. Webpage

WGHS CANVAS page (only accessible by students)

Sent to student GCS school emails

Shared with students and parents at the March 16-18 & March 23-25

FAFSA Jam Sessions at WGHS



Ways to Receive Financial Aid Assistance at WGHS:

Be sure to follow us at the above listed social media sites & join our blog.

FAFSA Fridays will be announced throughout the year.

Join a FAFSA small group as they are offered throughout the year.

March 16-18 & 23-25 Sign Up for our FAFSA Jam Sessions!

Schedule an appointment with the school counselor.

Utilize any of the materials listed throughout this session.