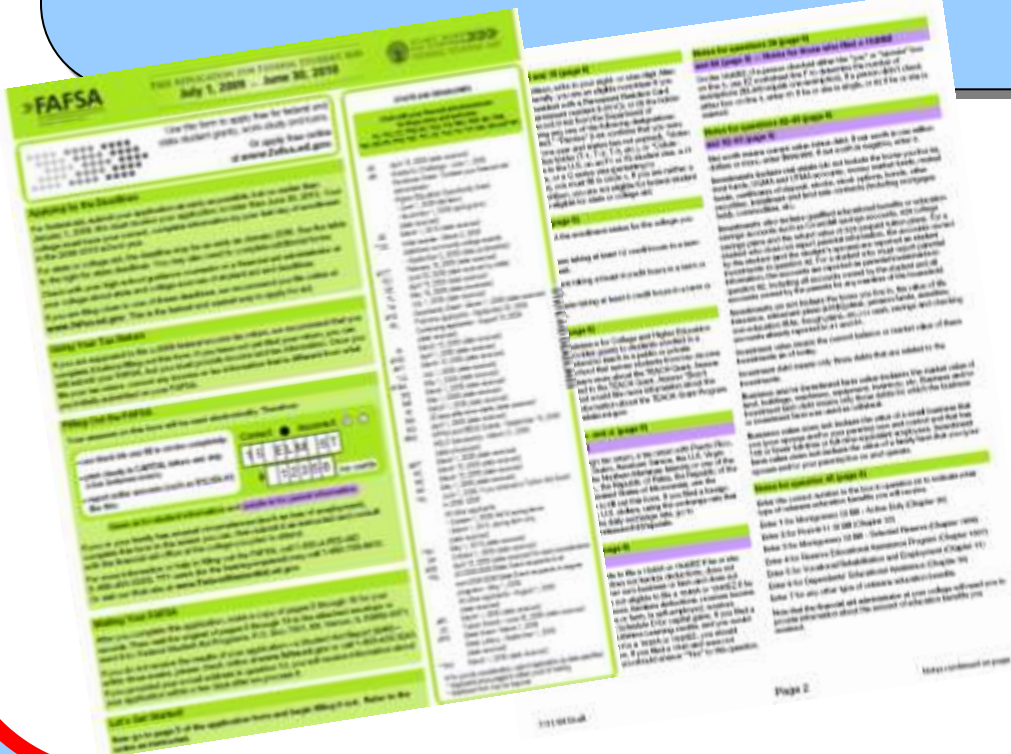




Financial Aid 101



Application and Processing



2010-2011 Application Processing

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► PIN Web Site

- Who can apply for a PIN
 - Students
 - Parents (custodial)

The screenshot shows the Federal Student Aid PIN website interface. At the top left is the logo with the text "START HERE GO FURTHER FEDERAL STUDENT AID". To the right is the title "Federal Student Aid PIN". Below the title is a navigation bar with links: "PIN Home", "Help", "Contact Us", "FAQs", and "About Us". The main content area has a heading "Welcome to the Federal Student Aid PIN Web site" and a sub-heading "Apply For a PIN" which is circled in red. Below the heading is a paragraph: "This Web site is your source of information for the Federal Student Aid PIN. Your PIN can be used each year to electronically apply for federal student aid and to access your U.S. Department of Education records online. If you receive a PIN, you agree to not disclose or share your PIN with anyone. Your PIN serves as your electronic signature and provides access to your personal records. You should never give your PIN to anyone, including commercial services that offer to help you complete your FAFSA. Be sure to keep your PIN in a safe place." Below this text is a blue button labeled "APPLY NOW". On the left side of the page, there is a vertical menu with links: "Apply For A PIN", "Check PIN Status", "Request A Duplicate PIN", "Change My PIN", "Update My Personal Information", "Disable My PIN", "Reestablish My PIN", and "Activate My PIN". Below the menu is a "Helpful Links" section with links to "Student Aid on the Web" and "Links to Federal Student Aid Electronic Services".

2010-2011 Application Processing

► FAFSA on the Web (FOTW)

The screenshot shows the FAFSA website in Internet Explorer. The browser title is "FAFSA - Free Application for Federal Student Aid - Windows Internet Explorer" and the address bar shows "http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/". The page features the FAFSA logo and the text "Free Application for Federal Student Aid". A navigation menu includes "FAFSA Home", "Student Aid on the Web", "Application Deadlines", "PIN Site", "Help", "Contact Us", "FAQs", "Site Map", and "About Us". The main content area is titled "Federal Student Aid FAFSA" and includes a sub-header "Free Application for Federal Student Aid". Below this, there are three numbered sections: 1. "Before Beginning a FAFSA", 2. "Filling Out a FAFSA", and 3. "FAFSA Follow-Up". Each section contains a brief description and a list of links. A sidebar on the left includes "Before Beginning a FAFSA", "Filling Out a FAFSA", "FAFSA Follow-Up", and "Special Announcements". The footer contains "FOIA | Privacy | Security | Notices" and "WhiteHouse.gov | USA.gov | ED.gov". The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the start button, several open applications, and the system clock at 4:12 PM.

FAFSA - Free Application for Federal Student Aid - Windows Internet Explorer
http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

FAFSA - Free Application for Federal Student...

START HERE
GO FURTHER
FEDERAL STUDENT AID

Free Application for Federal Student Aid

FAFSA Home Student Aid on the Web Application Deadlines PIN Site Help Contact Us FAQs Site Map About Us

English | Español

Federal Student Aid FAFSA

We have simplified the process of filling out the FAFSA. You can follow each section all of the way through for a comprehensive set of instructions.

- 1 Before Beginning a FAFSA**
Get organized! To simplify the application process, gather required documents and other information ahead of time.
 - Determine Your Dependency Status
 - FAFSA on the Web Worksheet
 - Search for School Codes
 - Students & Parents Apply For a PIN
 - Check Application Deadline Dates
- 2 Filling Out a FAFSA**
Fill out the application! The FAFSA contains questions that ask about you, your financial information, your school plans, and more.
 - Fill Out Your FAFSA
 - Open Your Saved FAFSA or Correction Application
 - Sign Electronically With Your PIN
- 3 FAFSA Follow-Up**
View your results online! You can check the status of your application, make corrections to a processed FAFSA, and get other information.
 - Check Status of a Submitted FAFSA or Print Signature Page
 - Make Corrections to a Processed FAFSA
 - Add or Delete a School Code
 - View and Print Your Student Aid Report

FAFSA ALERTS:
FAFSA Deadlines:
Submit 2009-2010 Corrections on the Web forms by **midnight Central Daylight time**, September 21, 2010.
Submit 2010-2011 FAFSA on the Web Applications by **midnight Central Daylight time**, June 30, 2011. [More](#)
State deadlines are normally much earlier than Federal deadlines. To find your state's deadline, select [state deadlines](#).

Scheduled Maintenance:
FAFSA on the Web will be unavailable every Sunday from 5 a.m. to 11 a.m. (Eastern Time). We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. [More](#)

Site Last Updated: Friday, January 1, 2010

FOIA | Privacy | Security | Notices WhiteHouse.gov | USA.gov | ED.gov

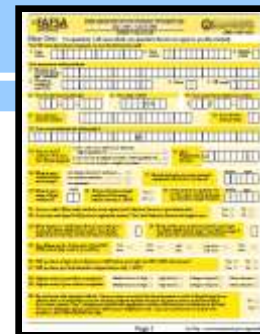
Internet 100%

start Mez... Nov... GO... Doc... Gro... Mail... Ch... Fna... FAF... FOT... 4:12 PM

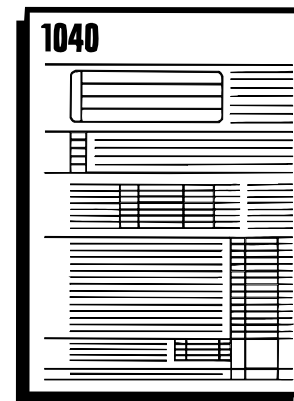
www.fafsa.ed.gov

Application Process

▶ Applying for Aid



- FAFSA
- Cal Grant GPA Verification Form*
- Other applications or forms as required by the college such as
 - CSS Financial Aid Profile
 - Institutional Scholarship and/or
 - Financial Aid Application
 - Previous year's federal tax returns (along with schedules and W2-s) or other income documentation
 - *California residents attending California institutions



Application Process

▶ CSS Financial Aid PROFILE

- Registration Guide


- No paper registration or form

<https://profileonline.collegeboard.com/index.jsp>

- 2-step process

- \$9 online registration
- \$16 per school

2010-11
School Year



CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE®

Student Guide

This guide provides the basic information you need to complete your PROFILE application at www.collegeboard.com beginning Oct. 1, 2009.

WHAT is the PROFILE? The PROFILE is an online application that collects information used by certain colleges and scholarship programs to award institutional aid funds. (All federal funds are awarded based on the FAFSA, available after Jan. 1 at www.fafsa.ed.gov.) Some colleges may require additional information, such as tax returns or an institutional application. If your parents are divorced, some colleges will also require your noncustodial parent to complete the Noncustodial PROFILE.

WHEN do I file the PROFILE? You may file the PROFILE as early as Oct. 1, 2009. However, you should file no later than two weeks before the EARLIEST priority filing date specified by your college or program.

WHO must file the PROFILE? Check your college/program information to determine whether they require the PROFILE. A list of colleges that require PROFILE lists at least some of their applicants is found on the back of this page. The most up-to-date list, including search capabilities and additional information, can be found by clicking on "List of colleges, universities, and scholarship programs" on the PROFILE Index Page.

HOW do I file the PROFILE? You file the PROFILE online at www.collegeboard.com by selecting "CSS/PROFILE" under "Pay for College." If you do not have a computer at home, register for PROFILE at your high school or local library, print the Pre-Application Worksheet and Instructions, and review them with your parents. Return to your high school or library and enter the information by logging back into your application using your secure username and password.

WHAT does the PROFILE cost? The fee for the initial application and one college or program request is \$16. Additional requests are \$18. Payment may be made via credit card, debit card (VISA or M/C) or online check. A limited number of fee waivers are granted automatically — based on the information entered on the PROFILE application — to U.S. citizens or eligible noncitizens who are first-time college applicants and are from families with very low income and assets. This waiver covers the application fee and the reporting fees for up to six colleges or scholarship programs.

Information to have available when you register:

- Type of tax return you and your parents will file for the current year (e.g., 1041, 1040 EZ, foreign return)
- If your parents receive TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) or SSI (Supplemental Security Income)
- If your parents are self-employed or own businesses and/or farms
- Your parents' housing status (e.g., own, rent)
- Your personal information, including your Social Security number

Once you register, you will find detailed instructions and an extensive Help Desk, including Frequently Asked Questions, online.

The Process: Three Easy Steps

1. **Register** — Your PROFILE application is tailored to your family situation, based on your registration answers and the college/programs you select. After registering, you can securely save your application and return to complete it at any time. JAY, using your collegeboard.com username and password.
2. **Complete the Application** — Use the customized Pre-Application Worksheet and Instructions to help you complete the PROFILE. As you answer questions, the system provides online help and edits to minimize mistakes.
3. **Submit the Application** — The date and time you submit your completed application will be recorded based on **Eastern Time**. You pay online and will receive an online PROFILE Acknowledgment as a record of your payment and application information. The acknowledgment may include your next steps to complete your financial aid application, payment, or be able to print a copy for your parents.

As any time, you may add a college/program by going to the PROFILE home page and clicking "Add Colleges to Submit an Application." You will be charged \$16 for each college or program you add. Any unused fee-waiver eligibility will be automatically applied to your charges. You may not delete any requests once you have submitted your application.

Questions? Contact customer support at 866-629-6993 (Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern Time, with extended hours from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. January through April) or e-mail help@css.profiles.org.

Timeline of Financial Aid

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► Forms

- **CSS/ Financial Aid Profile**
 - As early as October 1 of the senior year
- **Free Application for Federal Student Aid**
... **FAFSA on the Web (FOTW)**
 - Beginning January 1 of the senior year
- **Cal Grant GPA Verification Form**
 - By March 2 of the senior year

Timeline of Financial Aid

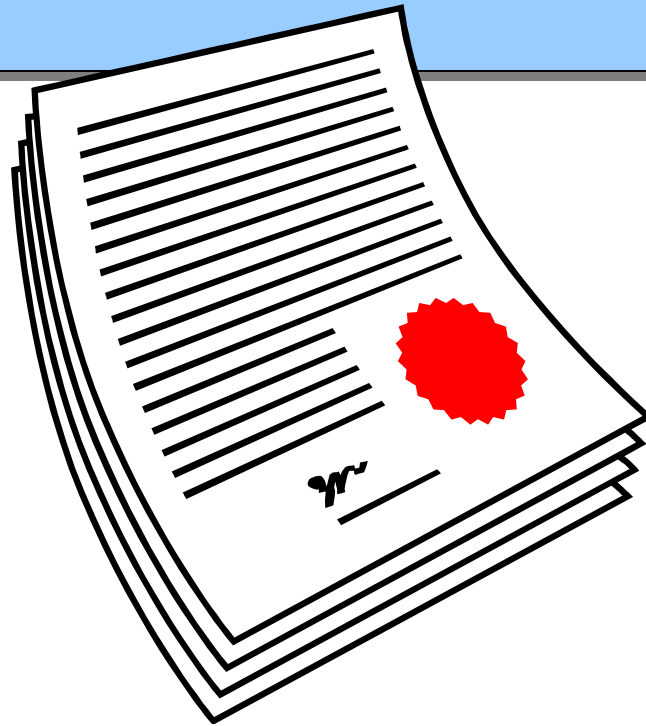
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▶ Process

- FAFSA completed by March 2 of the senior yr
- Student Aid Report (SAR) received by student and institution
- Financial Aid Award Letters sent to students between February and April
- Funds released to institution/student beginning of fall term

Aid disbursed equally over semesters/quarters

EFC and COA



Calculating "Need"

10

Cost of Attendance (COA)

- Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

= Student's Financial Need (eligibility)

Cost of Attendance (COA)

- Tuition and fees
- Room and board
- Books and supplies
- Transportation
- Miscellaneous personal expenses
- May cover cost of computers or also include other extraordinary expenses

Expected Family Contribution(EFC)

- Calculated from information provided on the FAFSA
- Families are evaluated by their present financial situation
- Parents are responsible for helping to pay for a dependent child's education
- Students share the responsibility of helping pay for their educational costs

What Factors Drive EFC?

In the calculation of Expected Family Contribution generated from the FAFSA*:

- Number in family at home
- AGI/earnings/non-taxable income/taxes paid
- Number of dependent students in college
- Age of the older parent
- Assets outside of the family home

**CSS Profile schools will use home equity and perhaps info on the non-custodial parent's income in determining EFC.*

EFC Calculators

www.finaid.org

Click on Calculators

Click on Expected Family Contribution and
Financial Aid Calculator

www.FAFSA4caster.ed.gov

www.Collegeboard.com

Under "For Students"

Click on Pay for College

Click on Financial Aid Easy Planner



Need and Eligibility Depend on Cost

Private 4-year

COA \$40,685
- EFC \$1,000
= Need \$39,685

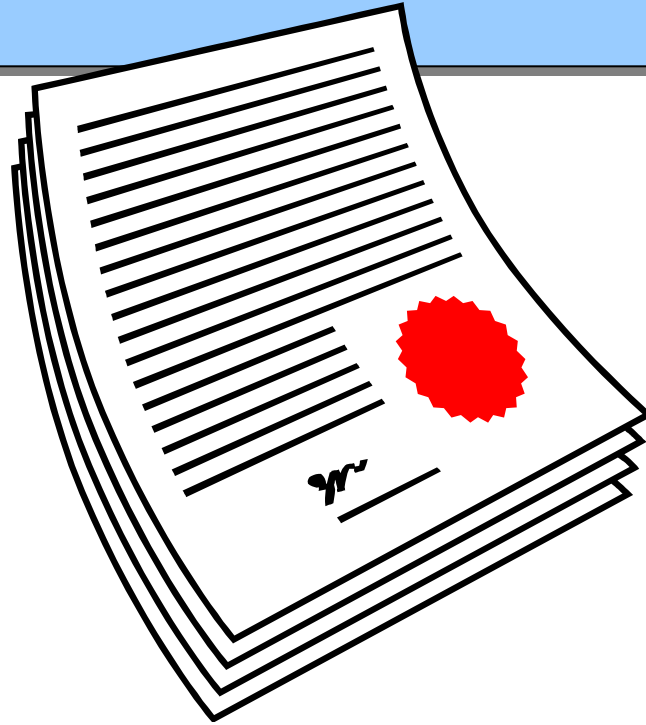
Public 4-year

COA \$26,334
- EFC \$ 1,000
= Need \$ 25,334

Public 2-year

COA \$15,568
- EFC \$1,000
= Need \$ 14,568

Awards



Types of Financial Aid

► Sources

- Federal government
- State agency/government
- Colleges and universities
- Private agencies, companies, foundations and parents' employers



Types of Financial Aid

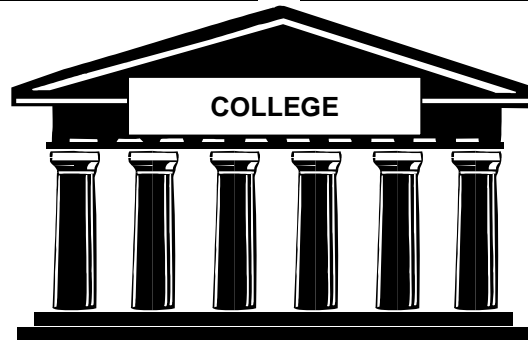
► Categories

Gift Aid

- Grants
- Scholarships

Self-Help Aid

- Work-study
- Loans



Financial Aid is any money given, paid or loaned to help pay for education.

Types of Financial Aid

► Need-Based Aid

- Federal grants (Pell, FSEOG, ACG, SMART)
- Cal Grants (A, B & C)
- Federal Subsidized Stafford/Direct loan
- Federal Perkins loan
- Federal Work-Study
- Some institutional scholarships and work-study programs

Major Types of Financial Aid

▶ Grants

- Pell Grants *(for the neediest students)*
 - 2009-10 maximum = \$5,350
- Fed Supplemental Educational Oppty. Grants
 - 2009-10 range = \$100-\$4,000
- Academic Competitiveness and SMART Grants
 - \$750-\$4,000

Types of Financial Aid – Cal Grant

Cal Grants A, B and C

- Student must meet
 - All federal and state eligibility criteria
 - Income and asset limits
 - GPA requirement
- Amount determined by
 - Grant program and school segment
- Renewal is based on program participation

Types of Financial Aid – Gift Aid (cont.)

- **Cal Grant A Entitlement Awards** – up to **\$7,788** at a U.C., **\$4,026** at a CSU, and **\$9,708** at an independent or private college. If attending a Community College, award will be held in reserve for up to 3 years until you transfer to a four-year college. GPA of at least 3.0.
- **Cal Grant B Entitlement Awards** – additional living allowance of \$1,551 and up to the same award amounts of Cal Grant A for the second year. GPA of at least 2.0.
- **Cal Grant C Awards** – for students from low income families pursuing vocational programs of study. Awards up to **\$576** for books, tools, etc. and up to **\$2,592** for tuition and fees at a private college.

When to Apply for a Cal Grant?

File a **FAFSA** and **GPA** Verification

1/1/09 – 3/2/09

Entitlement and Competitive

~~~~~

1/1/09 – 9/2/09

Competitive at Community College only

# California Chafee Grant



- The California Chafee Grant program provides up to \$5,000 annually to current and former foster youth (16-24 yrs of age) for college or vocational training at any accredited college in the U.S based on available funding.
- To apply, the foster youth must complete:
  - 2010-11 FAFSA
  - California Chafee Grant Program Application
- To learn more about the Chafee Grant, go to  
[www.chafee.csac.ca.gov](http://www.chafee.csac.ca.gov)



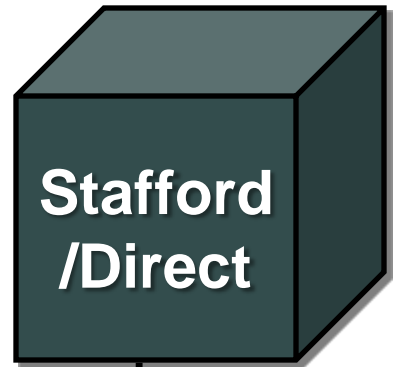
# Types of Financial Aid – Gift Aid

- Community College - Board of Governor's Fee Waiver (BOG)
  - Waives enrollment fees, FAFSA may be required
  - [www.icanaffordcollege.com](http://www.icanaffordcollege.com)
- CSU State University Grant (SUG)
  - Amounts vary, FAFSA is required
  - [www.calstate.edu](http://www.calstate.edu) or [csumentor.edu](http://csumentor.edu)
- UC Grant
  - Amounts and application process vary
  - [www.universityofcalifornia.edu](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu)
- Independent College Grants
  - Amounts and application process vary
  - [www.aiccu.edu](http://www.aiccu.edu) or [www.aiccumentor.org](http://www.aiccumentor.org)

# Types of Financial Aid

## ▶ Federal Stafford/Direct Loan

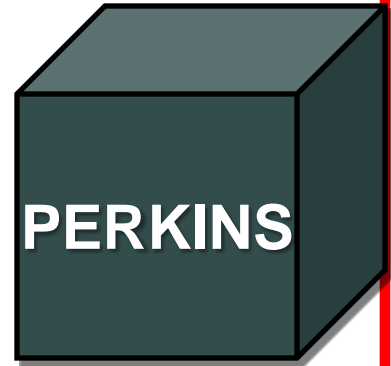
- Subsidized (Need-based)
- Unsubsidized (Not need-based)
- Annual and aggregate loan limits
- 6-month grace period, 10 year repayment
- Origination & default fees
- Current interest rate- Undergrad Sub fixed at 5.6%/ Unsub fixed at 6.8%
  - 2010-11 Sub fixed at 4.5%
  - 2011-12 Sub fixed at 3.4%



# Types of Financial Aid

## ▶ Federal Perkins Loan

- Fixed interest rate of 5%
- 9-month grace period
- Repayment 10-year maximum
- Deferment and cancellation provisions for teaching, nursing, law enforcement, etc.
- Priority given to those with exceptional need
  - Eligibility for Federal Pell Grant is determined first



# Types of Financial Aid

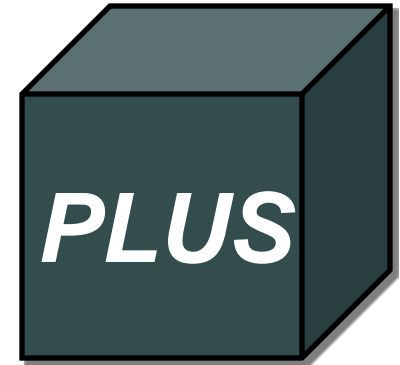
## ▶ Non-Need-Based Aid

- Some institutional scholarships, including athletic and merit-based scholarships
- Some private-sector scholarships
- Federal Unsubsidized Stafford loan (student)
- TEACH Grant
- Federal PLUS loan (parent)
- Some institutional work-study programs

# Types of Financial Aid

## ▶ Federal PLUS Loan Program

- Parents of undergraduates
- Approval subject to credit status check
- Int rates-8.5 % for FFEL & 7.9% for DL
- Origination & Default fees
- No grace period unless requested
- Loan Limits
  - Annual: COA less all other aid
  - Aggregate: None



# TEACH Grant- Gift Aid or Self-Help?

- Will pursue a teaching career
- Agree to serve four years
  - Full time **and**
  - Highly qualified in high need field **and**
  - School serving low income students
- Must sign agreement yearly
- If requirements not met, funds converted to a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford loan
- \$4,000 a year

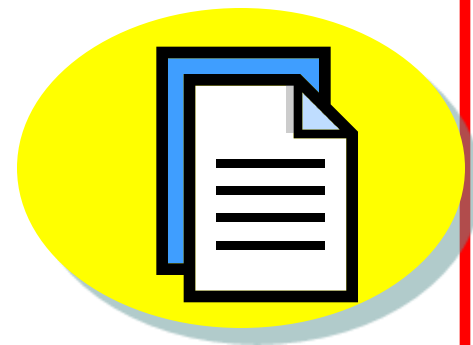
# Types of Financial Aid

## ▶ Private Loans

- Not Title IV (federal) aid
- Also known as “alternative” loans
- Credit- and income-based loan
  - May require a co-signer
- Loan fees and interest rate usually higher than Stafford or PLUS loan
  - Lender assumes the risk of default

# Awarding & Packaging

- Award letters may vary in composition
  - Listing of awards and amounts
  - COA, EFC, need and unmet need
  - Period of enrollment covered
  - Terms and conditions of awards
- Response may or may not be required





# Special Circumstances

- Adjustments may be made to information on a case-by-case basis
- Special circumstances may include
  - Dependency status
  - Income and assets
  - Child support
  - Number in household or college
  - Private elementary/secondary tuition
  - Medical or dental expenses (not covered by insurance)

# Special Circumstances (cont.)

- Presenting the case
  - Contact individual Financial Aid Offices (FAO) for further guidance and additional forms
  - A detailed explanation should include
    - Student's name and SSN (or ID#)
    - Specific financial details
    - Time period involved
    - Supporting documentation

## Special Circumstances (cont.)

- Student should follow up with each FAO
- FAO's makes their own decision, results may vary from school to school
- Adjustments made by school may not necessarily affect student's eligibility for certain types of aid

# Questions? Thoughts?

Luanne Buchman [lbuchman@edfund.org](mailto:lbuchman@edfund.org)

