



UNDERSTANDING FINANCIAL AID

WHAT IS FINANCIAL AID?

Money that helps you pay for college. This money can come from the federal government, state government, university, or a private organization.

WHAT TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID EXIST?

From grants, loans, scholarships, and work study, there are many different opportunities to help you pay for college.

WHO GETS FINANCIAL AID?

Different types of aid have different criteria to be eligible to receive money. You will need to check the criteria specific to the type of aid you are applying for. You will also need to determine how to stay eligible throughout your time at school.

HOW CAN I APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID?

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is a great place to start. It determines your eligibility to receive federal aid as well as aid from your school. If you receive federal aid, you do not have to repay the money you receive. You must complete your FAFSA application every year. File your FAFSA online by no later than October 1 every year.

QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR FINANCIAL AID ADVISOR

- What is a financial aid package, how will this change over 4 years, and how can I increase my eligibility?
- What types of financial aid are available, how can I apply, and when are the critical deadlines?
- How and when will I receive my financial aid payments, and what documents are needed to finalize my award?
- How can I pay the rest of my bill and how do I decrease my need for loans?
- What academic requirements do I need to maintain to receive financial aid?