



# **Understanding the Financial Aid Process**

#### **Assessing Cost**

Calculating Cost of Attendance (COA) <u>https://fafsa.ed.gov/help/costatt.htm</u> or <u>https://www.collegedata.com/cs/content/content\_payarticle\_tmpl.jhtml?articleId=10065</u>

Calculating Expected Family Contribution (EFC) https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/resources#efc

Net Price Calculator Center https://collegecost.ed.gov/netpricecenter.aspx

In-state tuition rates for Members of the Armed Forces and their Families addressed in the Higher Education Opportunity Act, Section 114 <u>https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-110publ315.pdf</u> and <u>www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/20/1015d</u>. See also <u>https://www.military.com/paycheck-chronicles/2015/11/12/in-state-tuition-rules-for-military-families</u>

Military friendly schools <u>http://militaryfriendly.com/schools</u> and <u>https://militarybenefits.info/military-friendly-colleges/</u>

Transferring the Post-9/11 GI Bill <u>https://dod.defense.gov/News/Article/Article/1573240/dod-announces-policy-change-on-transfer-of-post-911-gi-bill-benefits/</u> and <u>https://milconnect.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect/</u>

Using Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits <u>https://benefits.va.gov/gibill/</u>. Yellow Ribbon Program <u>https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/yellow\_ribbon.asp</u>

#### Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) https://FAFSA.ed.gov

- Use the FAFSA4caster before senior year
- Determines eligibility for financial aid and Expected Family Contribution (EFC)
- Fill out FAFSA during senior year after October 1 and afterwards once per year per student





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### Types of Financial Aid

- 1. Work-study programs <a href="https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/work-study">https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/work-study</a>
- 2. Federal loans <u>https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/loans</u>
- 3. Federal grants <u>https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/grants-scholarships</u>
- 4. State grants & scholarships <u>https://www2.ed.gov/about/contacts/state/index.html</u> or <u>http://www.collegescholarships.org/scholarships/states.htm</u>
- 5. Grants and scholarships from schools. The College Scholarship Service (CSS) Profile is used by about 400 schools in addition to the FAFSA to determine institutional aid <u>https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/</u>
- 6. Private grants and scholarships <u>http://www.collegescholarships.org/grants/101-grants.htm</u>, <u>https://www.fastweb.com</u> or <u>https://www.cappex.com/</u>

## **Military-Connected Grants and Scholarships**

AMVETS National Scholarship Program <a href="http://amvets.org/scholarships">http://amvets.org/scholarships</a>

Army Emergency Relief Scholarship <u>https://www.aerhq.org/Apply-for-</u> Scholarship/Dependent-Children

Army Scholarship Foundation https://www.armyscholarshipfoundation.org/

The Fisher House Foundation administers the Scholarships for Military Children Program and the Heroes' Legacy Scholarship <u>http://www.militaryscholar.org/</u>

Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant <u>https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/grants-scholarships/iraq-afghanistan-service</u>

Military Family Member Scholarships http://www.collegescholarships.org/scholarships/family.htm

Paralyzed Veterans of America https://www.pva.org/

U.S. Department of Education (ED) Grants. If your parent or guardian died as a result of Military service in Iraq or Afghanistan after the events of 9/11, you may be eligible for ED grant funds. To determine your eligibility, visit <a href="https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/grants-scholarships/pell#iraq-afghanistan">https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/grants-scholarships/pell#iraq-afghanistan</a>

Veterans of Foreign Wars https://www.vfw.org/assistance/student-veterans-support



Army School Support Services Scholarship Database: Scholarships are listed in alphabetical order and provide information on deadlines and qualifications: <a href="https://sites.google.com/view/militaryconnectedscholarships/home">https://sites.google.com/view/militaryconnectedscholarships/home</a>

## National and New York State Scholarships

National Scholarship Database: Fastweb is a National Scholarship Database designed to simplify the scholarship search by helping students find millions of scholarships, grants, internships, and financial aid opportunities: https://www.fastweb.com/

NYS Scholarships including Excelsior and Jefferson Community College (JCC) Foundation Scholarships. The Excelsior Scholarship, in combination with other student financial aid programs, allows students to attend a SUNY or CUNY college tuition-free. The program covers tuition for eligible SUNY and CUNY students. NYS Grants, Scholarships and Loan Programs search (includes Excelsior and military specific scholarships): https://www.hesc.ny.gov/pay-for-college/financial-aid/ types-of-financial-aid.html#horizontalTab2

JCC Foundation Scholarship search: https://sunyjefferson.academicworks.com/

#### Pitfalls

Scholarship scams <u>http://www.finaid.org/scholarships/common.phtml</u> or http://www.finaid.org/scholarships/warning.phtml

