

# Paying for College

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# Applying for Financial aid

- File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- FAFSA is FREE
- FAFSA Determines eligibility for
  - Federal grants
  - Loans -Subsidized Loans or Unsubsidized loan.
  - State grants

# Applying for Financial aid

- Institutions use the FAFSA to determine eligibility for their need-based Scholarships
- Schools may require additional forms to determine eligibility for financial aid
  - CSS profile <https://student.collegeboard.org/css-financial-aid-profile>
  - Institutional application

Yale University uses the CSS profile to determine eligibility. Example: Yale School code is 3987

# What is the CSS Profile

- The College Scholarship Service (CSS) Profile collects information used by some colleges and scholarship programs to award institutional aid. Institutional aid is a substantial part of the financial aid package for most Yale College students. The CSS Profile along with the FAFSA for U.S. citizens and permanent residents, is used to determine eligibility for Yale scholarships.
- The CSS Profile provides Student Financial Services with more detailed information than the FAFSA and is required for all students applying for a Yale scholarship.
- The Profile is processed by the College Board, which charges a fee for the Profile application. For U.S. citizens and permanent residents, the fee is automatically waived for applicants whose families have low income and assets.

# Completing the FAFSA

- FAFSA on the Web [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)
  - File 2016-2017 FAFSA if entering College Fall 2016
    - Schools website may have 2 years listed 15/16 - 16/17  
(Forms for 2years on website –use correct year)
    - Have to complete FAFSA Each Year
    - Available January 1<sup>st</sup>
    - Two ways to Sign
      - FSA ID electronically
      - Both student and Parent need a FSA ID
- Or
- Paper Signature Page

# FSA ID

- An FSA ID is a username and password that you must use to log in to certain U.S. Department of Education (ED) websites. Your FSA ID identifies you as someone who has the right to access your own personal information on ED websites such as the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)* at [fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov).
- If you are a parent of a dependent student, you will need your own FSA ID if you want to sign your child's FAFSA electronically. If you have more than one child attending college, **you can use the same FSA ID to sign all applications**. Please note: Each FSA ID user must have a unique e-mail address.
- Your FSA ID is used to sign legally binding documents electronically. It has the same legal status as a written signature. Don't give your FSA ID to anyone—not even to someone helping you fill out the FAFSA. Sharing your FSA ID could put you at risk of identity theft!

Source: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/filling-out/fsaid#fsaid-intro>

# FSA ID Steps

- The FSA ID serves as a legal signature and should not be shared with anyone, including family, school personnel, loan servicers, or contact center agents.
- You are much more likely to lose access to your FSA ID if someone else creates it for you. To use your FSA ID, you need to know the username, password and answers to challenge questions. Plus, you need access to the e-mail account associated with the FSA ID. Without these, you can easily lose access to your FSA ID and be unable to log in to Federal Student Aid websites.
- An e-mail address cannot be used with more than one FSA ID. You can use e-mail to unlock an FSA ID, retrieve a forgotten username or reset a password. For security reasons, only the FSA ID owner should have these capabilities.

**Contact:** If families have questions they can be referred to the Federal Student Aid Information Center (FSAIC): 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243).

*Source: <https://www.nsls.ed.gov/npas/pub/faq.htm>*

**How to create an FSA ID**

The FSA ID -- a username and password -- has replaced the Federal Student Aid PIN and must be used to log in to certain U.S. Department of Education websites. Your FSA ID confirms your identity when you access your financial aid information and electronically sign Federal Student Aid documents. If you do not already have an FSA ID, you can create one when logging in to [finaid.gov](http://finaid.gov), the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) at [www.nsls.ed.gov](http://www.nsls.ed.gov), [StudentLoans.gov](http://StudentLoans.gov), [StudentAid.gov](http://StudentAid.gov), and Agreement to Serve (ATS) at [www.teachats.ed.gov](http://www.teachats.ed.gov).

**Step 1** When logging in to one of the websites listed above, click the link to create an FSA ID.

**Step 2** Create a username and password, and enter your e-mail address.

**Step 3** Enter your name, date of birth, Social Security number, contact information, and challenge questions and answers.

**Step 4** If you have a Federal Student Aid PIN, you will be able to enter it and link it to your FSA ID. You can still create an FSA ID if you have forgotten or do not have a PIN.

**Step 5** Review your information, and read and accept the terms and conditions.

**Step 6** Confirm your e-mail address using the secure code, which will be sent to the e-mail address you entered when you created your FSA ID. Once you verify your e-mail address, you can use it instead of your username to log in to the websites.

**Tip: Important:** Only the owner of the FSA ID should create and use the account. Never share your FSA ID.

You can use your FSA ID to sign a FAFSA right away. Once the Social Security Administration verifies your information in one to three days, or if you have linked your PIN to your FSA ID, you will be able to use your FSA ID to access the websites listed above. For help, visit [StudentAid.gov/faq](http://StudentAid.gov/faq).

Federal Student Aid | PART OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



# COLLEGE GOAL SUNDAY CONNECTICUT

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- Home
- Students and Parents
- Educators and Community
- Volunteers
- Sponsors and Partners
- Locations
- Contact Us



## GET FREE HELP FILLING OUT THE FAFSA!

We are here to help you get to college!  
 The last event took place:  
**Sunday, January 25, 2015**  
**1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m**  
 at many sites throughout the state.

At College Goal Sunday<sup>SM</sup>, students and parents can talk to experts and get in-depth help filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). In addition to receiving assistance in filling out the FAFSA, participants will receive general information regarding state and federal financial aid programs.

We cannot do it alone! Join us!

“ I was amazed how Michael welcomed me to his office and explained how I could get aid for my education. ”

“ My friends who do not know about this program will definitely be here next year. Thank you College Goal Sunday. See you next year! ”



**STUDENTS REGISTER HERE!**



**VOLUNTEERS REGISTER HERE!**



**FIND A LOCATION NEAR YOU**



# College Goal Sunday Sites

## **Gateway Community College**

20 Church St New Haven  
New Haven, CT 06510

## **Naugatuck Valley Community College**

750 Chase Parkway  
Waterbury, CT 06708

## **Middlesex Community College**

Meriden Center  
55 West Main Street  
Meriden, CT 06451

<http://www.collegegoalsundayct.org/locations>

# Completing the FAFSA

- Can add up to 10 Schools on the web application
- List the school name & code
  - Yale University School code = 001426
  - University of New Haven Code = 001397
- Should Complete and submit the FAFSA when you are applying for Admissions providing you are applying for Admission after January 1<sup>st</sup>
- Have to be offered Admission before Financial aid is determined.

# Completing the FAFSA

- Be Aware of Priority Filing Dates
  - ✓ Submit FAFSA by School & State Priority Filing Date-
  - ✓ CT has had filing dates as early as Feb 15
  - ✓ School & State funding is limited so File ON TIME
- Can enter estimated income information to meet priority date; then make corrections after you file your tax return

# Completing the FAFSA Federal Verification

- IRS Data Retrieval Tool <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KoiBrTvqgJU>
  - ✓ Populates your income information onto the FAFSA, directly from the Internal Revenues Service (IRS)
- Complete & File your taxes
  - ✓ File Electronically – Wait 2 weeks to correct FAFSA
  - ✓ File Paper –Wait approximately 8 weeks to correct
- Students Selected for Verification
  - ✓ If don't use IRS Data Retrieval , Tax Transcript is Required (NOT account transcript)
  - ✓ Verification form & other Documentation Required

**Note:** Schools may have their own Verification process where they may request tax return transcript and other documentation beyond the federal requirements.

# Completing the FAFSA

- Parents and Students Information on FAFSA
  - ✓ Student's Application
  - ✓ If 2 students in family, each complete an application
  - ✓ Parent sign each
- Parent with whom the student lives with most during the past 12 months
  - ✓ If lived with equally , the parent who provided more financial support
- If Parent Remarried
  - ✓ Step- Parent information must also be included

# Completing the FAFSA

- If a dependent student's parents are living together in the same house hold regardless of the parent's marital status or gender; income and other information about both legal parents must be included on the FAFSA
- Parent marital status option on the FAFSA
  - ✓ Unmarried and both parents living together
  - ✓ Rather than "mother" and "father", FAFSA indicates "Parent 1" and "Parent 2"

# Completing the FAFSA

- Legal Guardians don't complete FAFSA with the student
  - ✓ Student completes FAFSA on their own
  - ✓ Must provide court documentation to school
  - ✓ If no court documentation , parent must complete FAFSA with student

# Processed FAFSA

- Student Aid Report (SAR)
  - ✓ Indicates your FAFSA has been processed
  - ✓ Indicates how family answered every questions on the FAFSA
- Review your SAR
  - ✓ Indicates the next step
  - ✓ If there are issues that need to be resolved
  - ✓ Data Base matches- Social Security Number, Citizenship, Selective Service
- Will indicate if a student is selected for Verification
- Can use to add schools or make corrections



## EFC & the School

- Results of the FAFSA is the Expected Family Contribution (EFC)
  - ✓ Amount you as a family can contribute toward the student's education
- Schools use the EFC to determine what type of financial aid and how much they can offer to a student

# Types of Financial aid

- Scholarships
  - ✓ Free Money- don't have to repay
- Grants
  - ✓ Free money-don't have to repay
- Loans
  - ✓ Have to repay
- Student Employment
  - ✓ Have to work to earn the money

# Sources of Financial Aid

- Federal
  - ✓ Money from the federal government
- State
  - ✓ Money from the State in which you live
- Institutional
  - ✓ Money from the College /University ( merit , need-based, athletic)
- Private
  - ✓ Money from private agencies, organizations, civic groups, high schools, churches, etc.

# Loans Options

- **Federal Direct Subsidized Loans-**
- Interest Rate: 4.29%
  - Loan Fee 1.068 % origination fee for loans
- **Interest accrual:** No interest is charged while a student is in school at least half-time and during deferment periods.
- **Repayment:** Six-month grace period; maximum 10 years.
  
- **Federal Direct Unsubsidized loans-**
- Interest Rate: 4.29 %
  - Loan Fee 1.068% Origination fee for loans
- **Interest accrual:** Students are responsible for interest payments on the loan while in school. A student may pay the interest monthly while still in school or may capitalize the interest by allowing it to accrue and adding it to the principal when the loan goes into repayment.
- **Repayment:** Six month grace period; maximum 10 years.

**Loan limits:** The federal government sets limits on the amount in Direct Unsubsidized loans that a student may be eligible to receive in each academic year and in total. Limits vary based on whether the student is pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree, among other factors.

**Federal Direct Student Loan Request Form**

**(This is an abbreviated form for students who receive Yale Scholarship)**

**Section 1: Student Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Yale I.D. Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section II: Requested Loan Amount**

To be eligible, you must first complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). Once your loan has been processed, we will send you instructions for completing the online master promissory note (MPN). New borrowers also will receive instructions for completing the online entrance interview that is required.

Grade Level	Base Amount (Limit of Subsidized Loan Eligibility)	Additional Unsubsidized Loan Amounts for All Undergraduate Students	Total Maximum Loan Amount
Freshman	\$3,500	\$2,000	\$5,500
Sophomore	\$4,500	\$2,000	\$6,500
Junior/Senior	\$5,500	\$2,000	\$7,500

*Please note: Dependent students whose parents were denied a Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS) and also independent students are eligible for the following additional unsubsidized loan amounts: \$4,000 for freshmen and sophomores and \$5,000 for juniors and seniors.*

- Process my loan for the maximum amount that my grade level allows
- I would like to borrow an amount other than the maximum. Process my loan for \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- If I am not eligible for subsidized loan funds, I do not authorize Yale University to award me **unsubsidized** loan funds (for which I must either pay interest while in school or capitalize at repayment).

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Parent Federal Direct Loan

Loans for the parents of dependent undergraduate students, as well as for graduate- and professional-school students.

**Eligibility for parents:** You and your child must each be a U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen.

- You must be a biological or adoptive parent (or, in some cases, the stepparent) of the student for whom you are borrowing.
- Your child must be a dependent student who is enrolled at least half-time. Generally, a child is considered dependent for federal purposes if he or she is under 24 years of age, has no dependents, and is not married, a veteran, a graduate/professional degree student, or a ward of the court.
- You and your child must not be in default on any federal education loans or owe an overpayment on a federal education grant, and must meet other general eligibility requirements for federal student aid.
- A credit check that will be performed and will exclude anyone with an adverse credit history.
- **Loan fees: 4.272%**
- **Interest rate: 6.84%** for loans disbursed from July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016

# Cost of Attendance

- School determines the Cost of Attendance (Budget)
  - ✓ Different at each school
- Cost of Attendance not only includes, Tuition, Room, Meals(direct costs)
- Indirect costs will be books , supplies ,personal expense, travel expense, misc. expense

## EFC & School

- The School will take Cost of Attendance and subtracts your EFC (results of your FAFSA) to determine a student's "financial need"

Cost of Attendance

- Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

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Financial Need



## EFC & School

- If the EFC is less than the Cost of Attendance the student may be eligible for subsidized financial aid such as grants , scholarships, subsidized student loans and the Parent PLUS loan
- If the EFC is greater than the Cost of Attendance, the student may be eligible for unsubsidized financial aid such as unsubsidized student loans and the Parent PLUS loan
- Merit scholarships are based on a students academic performance and can be awarded regardless of EFC

# Financial Aid Award Letters

- The school communicates **with the student** via a Financial Aid Award
- Awards may be electronic or paper
  - ✓ If electronic , student would receive notice or email to view their award information online
- Your Financial aid package makes up your award letter

# Financial Aid Award Letters

- Families should determine Direct costs of the school
  - Tuition, Room, Board (Meals), and any other expense charged on the bill
  - May also want to factor in an amount for books – An average amount per semester for students enrolled full –time is \$500 however the science, engineering and some other classes may be more expensive.

# Financial Aid Award Letters

- Families should understand each award listed
  - Is the fund a loan? = Money you will have to repay
  - Is the fund a Scholarship or grant= Money you won't have to repay
  - Are the scholarships offered by the school renewable and if yes , what are the requirements

# Financial aid Award letters

- Families should subtract the awards you want to accept from the amount you will be billed by the school to determine how much if anything, you will need to pay for the student to attend that school
  - ✓ Some options for paying the balance:
    - Federal Parent loan- Loan borrowed by the parent
    - Private loan – Loan borrowed by the student with a credit worthy co-signer
    - Tuition payment plan – Usually a 10month plan to pay your balance due

# Special Circumstances

- FAFSA is based on “Prior year income”
  - ✓ Use 2015 income information for 2016-2017
- Notify the Financial aid office of any Financial changes for 2016 if decreased from 2015
  - ✓ Loss of job –Reduction in income
  - ✓ Divorce or separation
  - ✓ Illness with out of pocket Medical expenses

# Scholarship Searching – Outside of the College /University

- Search on your Own on the Internet
  - Watch out for Scholarship Scams
    - Should not have to pay money to get Free money
    - Don't give bank account or credit card information
    - [www.zinch.com](http://www.zinch.com)
    - [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
    - [www.collegeboard.com/paying](http://www.collegeboard.com/paying)
    - [www.freschinfo.com](http://www.freschinfo.com)
    - [www.eCampusTours.com](http://www.eCampusTours.com)
    - [www.collegeanswer.com](http://www.collegeanswer.com)
    - [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org)

Finaid.org has scholarship listings categorized by unusual scholarship, average students scholarships, community services scholarship, prestigious scholarship

# Scholarship Searching –Outside of the college/university

- Watch for scholarship scams!
  - ✓ You should NOT have to pay money to get free money
- **6 things to Look for in detecting a scholarship scam:**
  - “a scholarship guarantee”- No service can guarantee it will get you money
  - “the service will do all the work” = No service can provide all of the personal information required, fill out essays, or supply the references a scholarship may require
  - “a scholarship cost money”- Though some legitimate scholarships charge fees; be wary of charges. applying for scholarship should NOT cost you money.
  - “you can only find this inform here”- Scholarship , grants and awards for school are available in directories and all over the web. No one organization ahs a monopoly on the information
  - “being a finalist in a contest you never entered or randomly being selected by a National foundation to received an award”- Most organizations only contact you after you have made an inquiry
  - “a service needs your credit care or checking account information” –NEVER



# Other Resources

- U.S. Department of Education, Student aid on the Web  
[www.studentaid.edu.gov](http://www.studentaid.edu.gov)
  - ✓ Select “Type of Aid”
  - ✓ Select “Lear More” in the “Scholarship Search” box
- State of Connecticut Dept. of Higher Education
  - ✓ [www.ctdhe.org](http://www.ctdhe.org) and select “Financial Aid” at top of the screen on right

# Net Price Calculator

- Every school has to Have a Net Price Calculator on their website.
  - ✓ Select “Net Price Calculator
  - ✓ Provide an ESTIMATE of the Financial aid you may receive – This is NOT an award
  - ✓ Some funds are limited – may see in NPC results but not on your Financial aid award
- Try to provide accurate estimated information
  - ✓ Results will not be an accurate estimate if incorrect information is provided

# Paying for College

## Questions?

