



MEFA's Guide to

College Financing

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2009-2010

Welcome

MEFA Counselor Emails

MEFA provides step-by-step guidance as families prepare for college. Sign up for our free MEFA Counselor emails today.

WHO? Parents of high school students

WHAT? Emails with helpful hints about college admissions and financing and important deadline reminders

HOW? Fill out the [MEFA Counselor Email Enrollment Card](#) in this booklet and drop it in the mail or give it to your seminar presenter. Please include your email address. Or register online at www.mefacounselor.org

MEFA Counselor emails are also available in Spanish. MEFA believes in protecting your privacy and will never sell or share your information with a third party.

Dear Students and Parents:

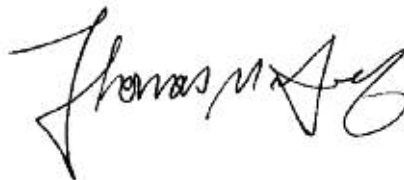
Thank you for attending MEFA's College Financing Seminar. This seminar is intended to help families across the Commonwealth navigate the sometimes confusing college financing process and make smart decisions about paying for a college education. Every year, MEFA proudly assists families just like yours in making college a reality.

As a not-for-profit public authority, MEFA is dedicated to making higher education more accessible and affordable for students and families through education and outreach initiatives, such as this free seminar, and MEFA's programs including the Commonwealth's college savings plans and affordable college financing options. We encourage you to take advantage of the many programs and services available.

Be sure to sign up for MEFA Counselor emails at www.mefacounselor.org to receive regular updates throughout your college financing process. And, please do not hesitate to contact MEFA at 800.449.MEFA (6332) to talk with a trained education payment counselor. We look forward to hearing from you.

MEFA's College Financing Seminar would not be possible without the support of your school counselor. Enjoy the seminar, and best wishes in your college search!

Sincerely,



Thomas M. Graf
Executive Director, MEFA

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About MEFA

About MEFA

- MEFA is a not-for-profit state authority that works to make higher education more accessible and affordable through community education programs, college savings plans and low-cost financing options.
- Founded in 1982 by the Massachusetts State Legislature
- MEFA has assisted hundreds of thousands of families in financing a college education.

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MEFA is a not-for-profit state authority, established in 1982 by the Massachusetts Legislature in response to concerns about the affordability of higher education. MEFA seeks to make a college education more accessible and affordable for Massachusetts students and families, as well as students and families from outside Massachusetts interested in pursuing the advantages of higher education in Massachusetts.

For nearly thirty years, MEFA has worked to create industry-leading education financing programs and has established a reputation for providing cost-saving programs combined with quality service.

MEFA helps families at every step of the way, with innovative college savings plans for parents of young children preparing for future education expenses, low-cost loan programs for those with more immediate funding needs and college planning information to assist families of students at all stages of their educational pursuit.

Helpful Resources from MEFA

MEFA offers numerous free resources for families and students:

The MEFA hotline: [800.449.MEFA \(6332\)](tel:800.449.MEFA)

The MEFA Web site: www.mefacounselor.org

Monthly college admissions and financing emails

College planning and financing seminars

Available in Spanish

About the Seminar

Seminar Topics

- How do you apply for financial aid?
- How are financial aid decisions made?
- What do financial aid awards look like?
- How can families pay their share of college costs?
- What free resources are available to help families?

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This booklet is a resource designed to help you navigate the college financing process throughout the senior year of high school. The worksheets and charts allow you to customize this book and help you keep track of your colleges' application deadlines, compare financial aid award letters, calculate the approximate college bill at each college and determine financing options appropriate for your family. Helpful tips and links to additional resources are included throughout the booklet to provide assistance along the way.

Seminar Booklet as a Resource

Included in the College Financing Seminar Booklet:

- PowerPoint Presentation
- Award Letter Comparison Tool
- Loan Comparison Chart
- FAFSA and CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE® Information
- Personal Resource Page

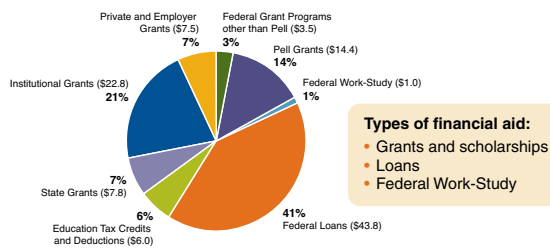
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Types of Financial Aid

Overview of Financial Aid

Undergraduate Student Aid 07-08 (\$106.7 Billion)



*Source: The College Board, 2008 Trends in Student Aid
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Sources of Financial Aid

- Federal
 - Grants, loans, Work-Study
- Massachusetts
 - Grants, scholarships, tuition waivers
- College/University (institutional aid)
 - Grants, scholarships, loans
- Outside Scholarships

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Tax Credits and Deductions

In addition to grants, loans and Federal Work-Study, the federal government offers education tax credits and deductions to help make college more affordable for families.

For up-to-date information, please visit www.mefacounselor.org

MEFA encourages families to apply for financial aid from a variety of sources in order to get as much assistance as they are eligible to receive.

Grants and Scholarships

Grants and scholarships are gift aid that does not have to be repaid. Grants are available through colleges and universities, and federal, state and private agencies. Public colleges in Massachusetts offer tuition and fee vouchers to Massachusetts residents that waive costs based on need, similar to grants. Scholarships are based on a number of factors that may include special interests, abilities and financial need.

Loans

Loans are available for both parents and students interested in borrowing to cover educational expenses. **See pages 20-23 of this booklet** for information about options for borrowing. Visit www.mefacounselor.org for more current information on MEFA's education loan programs.

Federal Work-Study

Federal Work-Study programs allow students to work part-time on or near campus while in college. Federal Work-Study awards are not deducted from the semester bill. Instead, students are paid directly for the hours that they work, and their earnings may be used for living expenses, books and supplies or other indirect educational related expenses.

Outside Scholarships

Outside scholarships from private, local and national sources can also be important in assisting you with paying for college. They may be awarded on the basis of need, merit or a combination. Check with your school counselor regularly to find out which scholarships are available. Parents and students should also check with their own employers, civic groups and community organizations. Students usually must complete an application directly with the organization offering the scholarship.

Need- and Merit-based Financial Aid

What is need-based aid?

- Awarded based on family's financial need determined by standardized formula.
- Includes grants, loans and/or Work-Study.
- All federal and most state and college/institutional aid awarded based on need.

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Many colleges offer a combination of need- and merit-based financial aid and students might receive both.

Need-based Aid

Need-based aid is based entirely on financial need and may include grants, loans and/or work-study. Recipients may receive aid to cover some or all of their costs beyond what their family can afford. Colleges use a standardized formula to calculate how much each family can afford to contribute.

Merit-based Aid

Merit-based aid is generally awarded in recognition of student achievements (academic, athletic, extracurricular, etc.) and is usually given in the form of scholarships, as opposed to loans.

Applications for merit-based aid are usually compared with those of other students to determine the recipient(s).

What is merit-based aid?

- Often distributed in recognition of student achievements
- Applications are often compared against other students who apply
- May or may not be renewable

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Beware of Scholarship Scams

While navigating the college financial aid process, families should be aware that applying for private and public sources of scholarship assistance is usually free. Be cautious if someone promises to assist you for a fee. If you have any doubts about a service, contact your school counselor and the Better Business Bureau in your area.

For a link to a free national scholarship database, please visit www.mefacounselor.org

Financial Aid Applications

Financial Aid Applications

- **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**

- Required by all colleges for federal and state aid
- Free form
- Must be completed each year
- Online application recommended

- **CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE®**

- Some colleges require this form for institutional aid
- Cost associated
- Online application required

- **College Financial Aid Application**

- Required by some colleges
- Usually part of the admissions packet

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To qualify for financial aid, it is very important to complete all necessary applications and meet each college's application deadline. Three of the most commonly used forms are the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE®, and the college's own financial aid application.

Visit www.mefacounselor.org
to complete the FAFSA
and CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE.®

Type of Application

	FAFSA	CSS/Financial Aid Profile®	College's Financial Aid Form
Who requires it?	All colleges	Some private colleges	Some colleges
Cost?	Free	\$9 application fee plus \$16 for each school	Free
Available online or paper?	Online is recommended	Online only	Depends on college
When is the form available?	January 1st	October 1st	Depends on college
How do you make corrections after form is submitted?	Online	Send directly to colleges	Send directly to colleges
How do I get started?	Register for Federal Student Aid PIN and start FAFSA on the Web Worksheet.	Create a collegeboard.com account and complete the online Profile registration.	Get the application form directly from the college.
Who signs the form?	Student and Parent	Student or Parent	Depends on college
How is it used?	Calculate eligibility for federal, state and some institutional aid.	Calculate eligibility for institutional aid.	Calculate eligibility for institutional aid.

Tips for Completing Financial Aid Applications

- 1 Do not miss deadlines.** Keep track of financial aid application requirements and deadlines with the **Personal Resource Page on the inside back cover** of this booklet.
- 2 If your taxes are not complete, you may estimate your income in order to meet the deadlines.** Be as accurate as possible since your estimates will impact the initial award package you receive. You will be required to provide updated information later.
- 3 Apply online** if possible, to reduce errors and speed up the process.
- 4 Write clearly and legibly** if applying via the paper application.
- 5 Remember, when the form asks for “your name” and “your Social Security Number”** it is referring to the student, not the parent.
- 6 When completing the FAFSA online, save your information as you go.** This also allows you to start your FAFSA application and complete it at another time if necessary.
- 7 If your family has multiple children in college,** separate applications must be completed for each of them.
- 8 Apply for your Federal PIN.** Dependent students and a parent both need their own PIN to sign the FAFSA electronically. You can apply when completing the online application or apply now by visiting www.mefacounselor.org
- 9 Keep copies of everything you are asked to submit** to the financial aid office, including tax forms, income and bank statements. See page 11 for suggestions of what else to keep in your financial aid file.
- 10 Ask questions if you need help.** Contact the college's financial aid office for assistance in completing your forms.

Why file the FAFSA online instead of filing the paper application?

- **It's faster.** Completing the FAFSA online and using your PIN can speed up the application process by as many as 14 days.*
- **It's easier.** FAFSA on the Web may simplify your application based on your responses to certain questions.
- **It reduces errors.** The information you report is automatically reviewed for obvious and common errors before you submit your application.

*Source: www.fafsa.gov, 2009

College Goal Sunday

Get **FREE** assistance in completing the FAFSA.

**Sunday, January 31, 2010
at 2:00 pm**

**Over 25 Locations across
Massachusetts**

**For more information and
locations near you, visit**

www.masscollegegoalsunday.org



After You Apply

What Happens After You Apply?

- Colleges and state receive data electronically
- You will receive (electronically or by mail):
 - Student Aid Report (SAR)
 - CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE® acknowledgement report
- Review both for accuracy and keep for records
- Colleges may request verification

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MEFA Counselor Emails

Semi-monthly email assistance relating to deadlines, helpful hints, recommendations

- Sample Topics
 - **January:** FAFSA and deadline reminders
 - **March, April:** Understanding and comparing award letters
 - **May:** College financing options
- Your information will only be used only by MEFA and you can opt out at any time.

Sign up tonight by completing the postage-paid card for free financial aid information from MEFA Counselor Emails.

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What happens now?

The colleges you've applied to will review your applications to determine your eligibility for financial aid. Sometimes the financial aid office needs additional information before they can calculate an award. If this is the case, they will contact the student, usually by mail. The financial aid award letters themselves will also be addressed to the student. The student is the primary and sometimes only point of contact for important correspondence such as housing applications, tuition bills, loan promissory notes, course registration and grade reports.

While waiting to receive award letters, students may wish to research and apply for outside scholarships from community, regional and national sources. You are required to report information about outside awards to the colleges.

Financial Aid Timetable

	Activity
November – December	CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE® or institutional applications are due for Early Action/Early Decision.
January 1	FAFSA is available.
February – April	Most financial aid applications are due at colleges.
March – April	Award letters are sent to accepted students.
May 1	Deadline to select college and submit tuition deposit
July – August	First semester tuition bills are due.
December – January	Second semester tuition bills are due.
January – April (following year)	Students must reapply for financial aid for next academic year.

Important Questions and Documents

Questions to Ask the Financial Aid Office

The following are some important questions to ask the financial aid office at each college you apply to. Some of this information may be available in the *Financial Aid* sections of college Web sites.

- 1 What is the total cost of attendance?**
- 2 What financial aid forms are required and when are they due?**
- 3 What is the college's policy on need-based aid?**
- 4 Are there merit-based scholarships? How do students apply?**
- 5 Assuming cost and family responsibility remain constant, how will grant and loan amounts change from year to year? What if my situation changes?**
- 6 Are the scholarships/grants renewable each year? If so, are there conditions such as grade point average, enrollment status or major?**
- 7 Are students required to apply for financial aid even if they receive a scholarship?**
- 8 How do outside scholarships affect the rest of the package?**
- 9 What is the college's policy on divorced or separated parents?**
- 10 What does the college estimate the total student debt will be upon graduation?**

What to Put in Your Financial Aid File

To ensure that you always have the information you need when researching and applying for financial aid, we suggest keeping the following documents together in one place:

- Personal Resource Page from MEFA's Guide to College Financing
- Year-end bank statements and account summaries
- Year-end pay stubs, W2s and 1099s
- Most recent completed tax returns
- FAFSA on the Web Worksheet
- Student Aid Report (SAR)
- Verification forms, if required
- Copy of any correspondence with financial aid office
- Financial aid award letters
- Outside scholarship information

Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

- Family has the primary responsibility for contributing to the student's education
- Measure of what a family is expected to contribute toward student's education for one year
- Calculated using standard methodology formula

Visit www.mefacounselor.org to link to an EFC calculator.

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Federal EFC Formula

- Includes parent and student income and assets
- Includes income and asset protection allowances
- Parent and student information treated differently
- Does not include personal debt such as credit cards, auto or personal loans

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Calculating eligibility for financial aid starts with the Expected Family Contribution (EFC). It is the primary responsibility of the family to pay for college, and the EFC is an estimate of how much the family is able to contribute toward educational expenses. The EFC is based on the parents' and student's income and assets reported on the FAFSA, and is computed using a standard formula or methodology that assesses your family's financial strength.

Whose information is included in the forms?

On the FAFSA, most high school seniors are considered dependent students, and are therefore required to provide parental information along with their own. **Parents may be biological or adoptive, and further instructions differ depending on the family situation:**

Married: both parents provide information.

Single or widowed: that parent provides information. If remarried, include step-parent's information.

Divorced/Separated: the parent that the student lived with more during the prior 12 months provides information. If that parent is remarried, include step-parent's information. Non-custodial information is not required for the FAFSA, but may be requested by some colleges that require the CSS/Financial Aid Profile.

Court-appointed legal guardian or foster parent: no parental information is required. Student is considered independent.

Calculating the EFC

Federal EFC Formula

- Includes parent and student income and assets
- Includes income and asset protection allowances
- Parent and student information treated differently
- Does not include personal debt such as credit cards, auto or personal loans

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The Federal EFC Formula

The Federal EFC formula is used to help distribute limited financial aid dollars as fairly as possible relative to students' need, with the goal of increasing access to higher education. The formula contains income and asset protection allowances to account for your family's basic living and other expenses. Family size, federal tax liability, the state you live in and employment expenses are some of the factors that protect income. Additionally, some parent assets are protected based on a sliding scale that increases with the age of the older parent.

Defining Income and Assets

Income for parents and students includes Adjusted Gross Income (AGI), plus many types of untaxed income. For the FAFSA only, certain federal benefits programs are not included in income, such as Earned Income Credit, welfare benefits and untaxed Social Security benefits.

Assets for parents and students include cash, checking and savings accounts, liquid and illiquid investments, and net value of business, if applicable. For the FAFSA only, the following assets are not included: value of primary residence, value of life insurance, value of retirement plans and certain small family businesses.

Special Circumstances

Need-based aid is generally calculated with standardized formulas, but the financial aid office may sometimes take unique family circumstances into consideration. If your family is facing nondiscretionary expenses or income fluctuations that will make it difficult for you to absorb college costs, contact the Financial Aid Office first to see if your situation warrants an appeal and if so, what information or documentation they might need.

Possible examples include:

- A recent job loss or reduction in income
- Unusual medical, dental or disability expenses
- Nursing home or unusually high childcare costs

Impact of Assets and Income on EFC

Asset Impact—Family Size: 4

Example 1: Income remains level, assets increase

	Family A	Family B	Family C
Income	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000
Assets	\$0	\$75,000	\$150,000
EFC	\$4,420	\$5,230	\$8,802
Difference	\$0	\$810	\$4,382

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Parent and student financial information are treated differently in the federal EFC formula. The chart below details the percentage of parent and student income and assets that go into the EFC after all allowances are subtracted.

While assets are considered in the EFC formula, for most families income is the biggest factor in calculating the parents' contribution to the EFC. The higher the parents' income, the higher the percentage that is expected to be available to pay for college. Likewise, the lower the parents' income, the lower the percentage that goes into the EFC—in some cases the EFC might be as low as zero.

Income Impact — Family Size: 4

Example 1: Assets remain level, income increases

	Family A	Family B	Family C
Income	\$60,000	\$100,000	\$150,000
Assets	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
EFC	\$4,420	\$14,559	\$30,660
Difference	\$0	\$10,139	\$26,240

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Percentage of Income and Assets

	Income	Assets
Parent	22-47% of available income after federal tax, income after federal tax, income protection and other allowances	no more than 6% after asset protection allowance
Student	50% after taxes and income protection allowance of \$3,750	20%

All charts based on 2009-2010 Federal Methodology.

You may calculate your own estimated EFC by clicking on the “Calculate your EFC” link at www.mefacounselor.org

Financial Aid Eligibility

Financial Aid Formula

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Cost of Attendance (COA)} \\ - & \text{Expected Family Contribution (EFC)} \\ \hline = & \text{Financial Aid Eligibility/Financial Need} \end{aligned}$$

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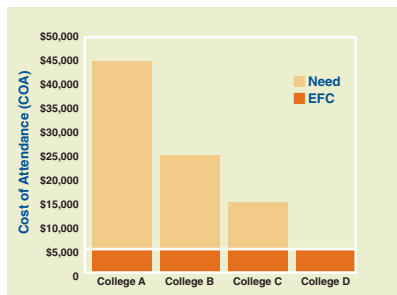
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Each college determines your eligibility for financial aid by subtracting your EFC from their Cost of Attendance (COA). If your EFC is not sufficient to pay the full cost of attendance, you have financial need, or eligibility for financial aid.

Don't rule out applying to a college that is a good academic and educational fit just because of its cost of attendance. While the costs vary between colleges, each financial aid office will typically use the same EFC from your FAFSA as the basis for calculating eligibility for financial aid. Therefore, students may be eligible for more financial aid at colleges with a higher cost of attendance.

Keep in mind that different financial aid awarding policies make it difficult to predict which college will be the most affordable for your family. MEFA encourages families to consider applying to at least one college that will be affordable regardless of financial aid.

How the Formula Works



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The Cost of Attendance

The Cost of Attendance (COA) varies at each college or university and includes that school's tuition and fees, room and board, and estimates for books and supplies, travel and personal expenses.

The Financial Aid Package

Financial Aid Awarding

Cost of Attendance (COA)

Unmet Need	\$3,000	COA	\$30,000
Work-Study	\$1,500	– EFC	\$5,000
Student Loan	\$5,500	= Financial Need	\$25,000
Grant	\$7,500	– Scholarships/Grants	\$15,000
Scholarship	\$7,500	– Student Loan	\$5,500
EFC	\$5,000	– Federal Work-Study	\$1,500
		= Unmet Need	\$3,000

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After you have completed your financial aid applications, the colleges where you have been accepted will determine your eligibility for financial assistance. Your federal EFC will be used to determine your eligibility for federal aid, but schools may use other criteria to award their own institutional funds, such as the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE® or other supplementary applications. You will probably receive award letters from colleges in March or April.

Award Letters

Financial aid awards from colleges may vary greatly. Carefully review each award letter and make sure you understand all aspects of your award, including the types and sources of aid. Contact the financial aid office if you need more information or clarification about their offer. Be sure to communicate with the college if your family situation changes. Financial aid administrators can be a great resource for families and are able to assist you throughout the process.

Comparing Award Letters — Award Totals Are Equal

COA: \$30,000 EFC: \$5,000 Total Need: \$25,000

	College A	College B	College C
Grants/Scholarships	\$15,000	\$5,000	\$0
Student Loans	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$5,500
Parent Loan	\$0	\$10,000	\$16,500
Work-study	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0
Total	\$22,000	\$22,000	\$22,000
Unmet Need	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000

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Actual Family Contribution and the EFC

The EFC may be the minimum contribution toward the cost of education that the family is responsible to pay. If the financial aid office is unable to meet the family's full need, the actual contribution may be higher than the EFC.

Comparing Award Letters — Award Totals Vary

COA: \$30,000 EFC: \$5,000 Total Need: \$25,000

	College A	College B	College C
Grants/Scholarships	\$18,000	\$15,000	\$10,000
Student Loans	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$5,500
Work-study	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
Total	\$25,000	\$22,000	\$17,000
Unmet Need	\$0	\$3,000	\$8,000

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Comparing Award Letters Worksheet

Additional copies of this worksheet can be downloaded at www.mefacounselor.org

College Name

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Step 1: Direct Costs for One Year (items the student will be billed for)

This information can be found on the college's Web site or by contacting the financial aid office.

Tuition			
Fees			
Room and Board			
Health Insurance (if applicable)			
Other			
Total Direct Costs (A)			

Step 2: Grants and Scholarships (full year amounts)

Federal Pell Grant			
Federal SEOG			
State Grant/Scholarship(s)			
Institutional Grants/Scholarships			
Outside/Private Scholarships			
Total Grants and Scholarships (B)			

Step 3: Loans (full year amounts)

Federal Subsidized Stafford			
Federal Unsubsidized Stafford			
Perkins Loan			
Other			
Other			
Total Loans (C)			

Step 4: Total Financial Aid

Total Grants and Scholarships (B) + Total Loans (C)			
--	--	--	--

Step 5: The amount your family will be expected to pay after subtracting financial aid

Total Direct Costs (A)			
- Total Financial Aid (B + C)*			
= Family Responsibility			

*Do not subtract Federal Work-Study from the direct costs, as it will not be applied to the student's bill. Instead, work-study is used to help students with their indirect expenses like books and supplies, travel and miscellaneous or personal expenses.

Paying the Bill

Options for Paying the College Bill

- Past Income
 - Savings
 - Other Assets
- Present Income
 - Salary
 - Payment Plans
- Future Income
 - Parent Loans
 - Student Loans

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Combination Payment Examples

Example \$6,000 balance due

- 1 **Payment plan** = \$600/month for 10 months
- 2 **MEFA loan** (fixed interest rate)*
= \$59.79/month for 15 years
- 3 **Customized combination plan**
 - \$150/month for 10 months (\$1,500 monthly payment plan)
 - \$44.84/month for 15 years (\$4,500 MEFA loan, after fees)*

* Example monthly payment based on MEFA loan with fixed interest rate of 7.75% and 4% fees

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Planning to meet college costs is an investment in the future. If your family is like many, chances are you'll need to finance at least some of the costs of higher education. Before you take out a loan, explore financing options like savings, part-time work, scholarships and grants, and interest-free monthly payment plans. Making a plan before you borrow may help reduce the amount you'll repay with interest. As you think about your options, consider making a plan for all the years the student and any additional children will be in college.

After financial aid is deducted from the direct cost of the college bill, most families pay the balance due by using past, present and/or future income. It is common to use some combination of two or three resources. For example, a family may pay some of the balance with cash from savings, some of the balance using a monthly payment plan and the remainder of the balance with a parent loan. MEFA can assist you in deciding which option or combination of options best meets your needs.

MEFA encourages families to borrow responsibly.

Every family's financial circumstances are different. Call MEFA at **800.449.MEFA (6332)** to speak with one of our experienced customer service representatives and discuss a college financing strategy that works for your situation.

Or visit www.mefa.org/loans Easy-to-use calculators will help you find the best combination of interest-free payment plans and low-cost educational loans for your family, allowing you to stay within your budget while minimizing borrowing.

Making a Plan to Pay for College

- 1 Start early.** Begin your financing plan as soon as possible by reviewing the materials sent by your college, exploring the college's Web site and talking to your financial aid administrator if you have questions. Although bills are typically not sent until the summer, once you know your financial aid award you may use the **Comparing Award Letters Worksheet on page 17** to calculate your family responsibility.
- 2 Make a financing plan based on annual costs.** Bills are usually sent on a semester basis; however, MEFA recommends creating your financing plan based on annual costs. Try to take out one loan and/or set up one payment plan for the entire year.
- 3 Determine what you've saved for college.** If you are going to pay for any of the college bill with savings, investments or college savings plans, remember to account for all years the student will be in college and all children who may attend college.
- 4 Enroll in an interest-free monthly payment plan.** Consider how much of your current income you can use to pay the bill and set up an interest-free monthly payment plan with your college. Most colleges offer interest-free payment plans that split the bill into more manageable monthly payments over 10 or 12 months.
- 5 If you borrow, shop around for the best education loan.** Look at the annual percentage rate (APR), not just the interest rate. See the **Choosing a Loan section on pages 20-23** for more factors to consider when selecting an education loan. You can minimize the amount you borrow by combining a payment plan and a loan. Use the chart below to determine some options for your family.

		Example	Option 1	Option 2
Family Responsibility (from Comparing Award Letters Worksheet on page 17)		\$10,000		
Past Income (the amount you plan to withdraw from savings or other assets)	Student Assets	\$0		
	Parent Assets	-\$2,000		
Present Income (the amount you can contribute from your family's cash flow during the academic year)	Student Income	-\$1,000		
	Parent Income	-\$3,000		
Future Income (the amount you are willing to borrow and repay, with interest, beyond what's already included in the financial aid award)	Student Loan	-\$1,500		
	Parent Loan	-\$2,500		
		\$10,000		

* Don't forget to also budget for out-of-pocket expenses like books and supplies.

Choosing a Loan

Factors to Consider When Choosing a Loan

- Is the loan a federal or private alternative loan?
- What is the interest rate and APR?
- Is the interest rate fixed or variable?
- Who is the primary borrower (student or parent)?
- When does the loan repayment begin?
- How much will the monthly payment be?
- How many years will you be making payments?

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The following are some important factors to consider in evaluating your financing options:

- 1 Compare Interest Rates.** Interest is money paid to the lender for the use of borrowed funds. Comparing interest rates is a helpful indicator of the relative cost when comparing loans.

Fixed vs. Variable Interest Rate

Fixed interest rate loans have the benefits of a constant interest rate and a payment amount that never changes. Most private education loans feature variable interest rates, which are subject to change. In evaluating a variable interest rate loan, you should understand how frequently the interest rate (and your payment) may change and whether there is a cap on how high the interest rate may go.

Annual Percentage Rate (APR)

The APR reflects the total cost of borrowing money over the life of the loan, considering not only the interest rate but also the effect of other fees on the total cost of repaying the amount financed.

- 2 Pay attention to the terms.** The interest rate of your loan may vary depending on whether you repay the loan immediately or wait until after graduation to start repaying. **See page 23** for more information on immediate and deferred repayment options. Having a co-borrower may also have an impact on the interest rate of a loan. Education loans often have more advantageous terms—called *borrower benefits*—than standard consumer loans.
- 3 Watch out for extra fees.** The hidden costs buried in the fine print may have a big impact on your overall cost of borrowing. Read carefully terms like Application Fee, Origination Fee, Default Fee (Guarantee Fee) and Tiered Pricing.
- 4 Examine the conditions of the loan.** Are there penalties for early repayment? What's the penalty for a missed or late payment?
- 5 Get the advice and support you need.** Education loans aren't one size fits all. Look for a lender that will help you choose the right loan products for your financial situation and provide helpful answers when you need them.

Education Loan Comparison Chart

	Stafford*	Perkins	MEFA	PLUS	Loan #1	Loan #2
Primary Borrower	<input type="checkbox"/> Parent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Student	<input type="checkbox"/> Parent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Student	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parent <input type="checkbox"/> Student	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Student	<input type="checkbox"/> Parent <input type="checkbox"/> Student	<input type="checkbox"/> Parent <input type="checkbox"/> Student
Interest Rate	5.60% Subsidized Undergrad 6.80% Unsubsidized Undergrad	5.00%	7.75% (APR 8.43%**)	8.50% FFELP 7.90% Direct Lending		
Fees	Up to 1.5% Origination Fee	No Fees	4.00% Origination Fee	3.00% Origination Fee 1.00% Guarantee Fee		
Fixed/Variable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fixed <input type="checkbox"/> Variable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fixed <input type="checkbox"/> Variable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fixed <input type="checkbox"/> Variable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fixed <input type="checkbox"/> Variable	<input type="checkbox"/> Fixed <input type="checkbox"/> Variable	<input type="checkbox"/> Fixed <input type="checkbox"/> Variable
Repayment	<input type="checkbox"/> Immediate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deferred	<input type="checkbox"/> Immediate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deferred	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Immediate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deferred†	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Immediate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deferred	<input type="checkbox"/> Immediate <input type="checkbox"/> Interest Only (while in school)	<input type="checkbox"/> Immediate <input type="checkbox"/> Interest Only (while in school)
Length to Repay	Up to 10 years	Up to 10 years	15 years	Up to 10 years		
Grace Period	6 months after student graduates or ceases to be enrolled at least half-time	9 months after student graduates or ceases to be enrolled at least half-time	The Undergraduate MEFA Loan with immediate repayment enters repayment 45 days after the loan is fully disbursed.	For deferred PLUS, 6 months after student graduates or ceases to be enrolled at least half-time		
Min/Max Amounts	Min: none Max:†† \$5,500 1st year \$6,500 2nd year \$7,500 3rd-5th years Aggregate Max: \$31,000 (no more than \$23,000 in subsidized)	Min: \$200 Max: Up to \$5,500 for each year of undergraduate study based on financial need Aggregate Max: \$27,500 for undergraduate programs	Min: \$1,500 for public colleges and universities; \$2,000 for private colleges and universities Max: Up to cost of attendance minus other financial aid received Aggregate Max: none	Min: none Max: Up to cost of attendance minus other financial aid received Aggregate Max: none		
Other	For subsidized Stafford loans, the federal government will pay interest while the student is in school and during grace periods.	Interest does not accrue during enrollment and grace periods.	MEFA loans are available to students attending a Massachusetts college or university or to Massachusetts residents attending college anywhere in the U.S.	If a borrower chooses to defer PLUS, interest may be paid monthly or quarterly or capitalized quarterly.		
How to Borrow	Visit the financial aid Web site for your college or university.	Visit the financial aid Web site for your college or university.	Visit www.mefa.org/mefaloans or call 800.449.MEFA (6332)	Visit the financial aid Web site for your college or university.		

* Interest rates and fees based on Federal Stafford Loans disbursed between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010.

** Annual Percentage Rate (APR) reflects both the accruing interest and the effect of borrowing the origination fee and paying the expected monthly payment over the term of the loan.

†† The deferred repayment option is subject to fund availability, is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis and is subject to significant eligibility guidelines. Interest rates for deferred loans may be higher than other interest rates. Deferred loans result in an increased cost of borrowing.

Estimated Loan Repayment Chart

Paying for college is a commitment over many years—including the years you’ll repay your loans. It makes sense to plan ahead, not only for the current semester or academic year, but for all years of education. If you take out loans, be sure you know when you’ll be expected to start making payments. Many loans are deferred until after graduation, but some loans begin repayment while the student is still in school.

The Federal Stafford Loan Repayment chart demonstrates expected monthly payment amounts and the total interest paid.

These charts are estimates. Actual figures will vary according to the terms of the loan.

Federal Stafford Loan Repayment

Based on student borrowing for their maximum eligibility from 2010–2014

Year	Subsidized	Unsubsidized				
Freshman	\$3,500	\$2,000				
Sophomore	\$4,500	\$2,000				
Junior	\$5,500	\$2,000				
Senior	\$5,500	\$2,000				
Total (4 Years)	\$19,000	\$8,000	Total (4 Years)	Monthly Payment	Cumulative Payments	Total Interest Paid
			\$27,000	\$320.47	\$38,456.11	\$11,456.11

Based on the current Unsubsidized Stafford Loan fixed interest rate of 6.8% and the current Subsidized Stafford Loan fixed interest rates from academic year 2010-2011 to academic year 2013-2014 of 4.5%, 3.4%, 6.8%, 6.8%.

Visit www.mefa.org/loans for an easy-to-use loan repayment calculator.

Repayment Options

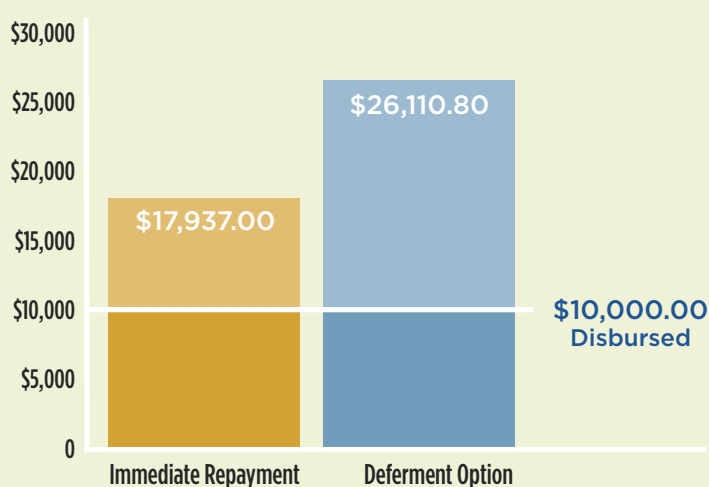
Some education loans offer two different repayment options:

- Immediate
- Deferred

Families may want to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each before deciding what type of loan to pursue. Although immediate repayment has an impact on the family's cash flow sooner, borrowers save money in the long run by applying payments earlier. Some families prefer the deferred option because of short-term constraints on their current cash flow, however the total cost of the loan is higher as a result. Many education loans allow families to repay early without repayment penalties.

Repayment Example Based on a \$10,000 MEFA Loan

Assumes immediate repayment at a fixed interest rate of 7.75% (APR 8.43%)* and a deferment option with a fixed interest rate of 8.89% (APR 8.66%-9.52%)* with an origination fee of 4.00%. For the deferment option,** interest will accrue during a 48-month deferment period and 6-month grace period will be capitalized once at repayment.



Total Disbursed	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Estimated Cost of Borrowing	\$7,937.00	\$16,110.80
Estimated Total Repayment Amount	\$17,937.00	\$26,110.80
Monthly Payment	\$99.65	\$145.06

* The Annual Percentage Rate (APR) reflects both the accruing interest and the effect of borrowing the origination fee and paying the expected monthly payment over the term of the loan.

** MEFA cannot ensure that interest paid on individual loan(s) will be tax-deductible. We recommend that you consult a tax advisor to determine how the applicable tax laws apply to your situation, or that you review the tax laws to determine whether the interest paid on your education loan is tax-deductible.

MEFA Counselor Services

MEFA Counselor Services

- Web site
- Emails
- Seminars
- Spanish Services
- Hotlines
- Customer Service Center

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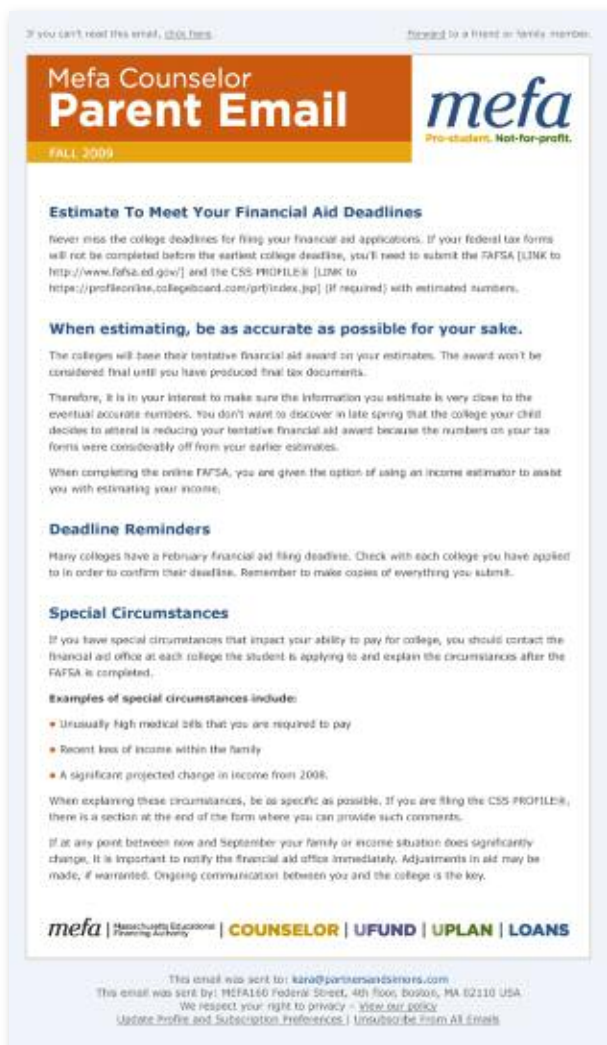
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MEFA Counselor was developed to meet an expressed need of Massachusetts families for credible, safe and dependable resources for obtaining accurate information about applying for and paying for college. MEFA offers free seminars, hotlines and publications for students and families in Massachusetts.

Visit www.mefacounselor.org to learn more about MEFA's services for families with students in grades seven through twelve.

The screenshot shows the MEFA Counselor website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Login | Home | About MEFA | Investors | Contact Us' and a search box. Below this is the MEFA logo and tagline 'Pro-Student, Non-profit.' A secondary navigation bar includes 'Guidance Counselors' and 'College and University Administrators', along with a button for 'Apply for MEFA Loans & Savings Plans'. The main content area is titled 'MEFA Counselor' and is designed for high school students, parents, and school counselors. It features a sidebar with navigation options: 'Plan by Age Group' (with sub-options for Pre-K-8th, 9th-12th, Undergraduate, and Graduate students), 'Planning Essentials', 'Save for College', 'Financial Aid', 'Get a Loan', and 'Calculators + Tools'. The main text describes the service and provides links for 'Grades 7-10', 'Grade 11: Juniors', and 'Grade 12: Seniors'. A sidebar on the right promotes signing up for free information and offers video tips on financial aid topics like 'Do I make too much money to apply for financial aid?', 'Need-based financial aid and merit-based scholarships', and 'Personal debt and financial aid'. The footer contains copyright information for 2009 and lists various service marks.

MEFA Counselor Emails



MEFA Counselor Emails are available to parents of high school students throughout Massachusetts. The service is free and designed to provide ongoing college admissions and college financing information to parents in the years prior to college enrollment.

What can you expect with your membership?

- Advice regarding applying for financial aid and paying for college
- Reminders about important deadlines and requirements
- Tips and strategies for:
 - Estimating income to meet deadlines
 - Applying for outside scholarships
 - Understanding and comparing award letters

Sign up for MEFA Counselor emails now.

Complete the postage-paid registration card located in this booklet and hand it to your seminar presenter or drop it in a mailbox. MEFA Counselor emails are also available in Spanish.

You can also sign up for MEFA Counselor emails at www.mefacounselor.org

What You Can Do Now

What You Can Do Now

- Sign up for MEFA Counselor emails
- Complete the seminar evaluation
- Mark College Goal Sunday on your calendar: January 31, 2010
- Visit www.mefacounselor.org to register for your Federal Student Aid PINs

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MEFA and Your School Counselors: A Partnership

- MEFA would like to thank Massachusetts school counselors for their help and support in bringing our vital services to families.
- Your school counselor is committed to enhancing college access in your community and across the state.
- School counselors are a critical member of the partnership supporting your success.

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10 Action Items to Get You Started

- 1 Sign up for MEFA Counselor emails.
- 2 Complete the seminar evaluation.
- 3 Mark College Goal Sunday on your calendar: January 31, 2010 at 2:00 p.m.
- 4 Visit www.mefacounselor.org and add it to your bookmarks.
- 5 Register for Student and Parent PINs for Federal Student Aid.
- 6 Research application deadlines, requirements and school codes, and record them on the Personal Resource Page.
- 7 Start your financial aid file.
- 8 Check with your school's Web site or school counselor's office about local outside scholarships.
- 9 Identify at least one financial safety school.
- 10 Assess your individual and family thresholds for cumulative borrowing and savings withdrawals, factoring 4-5 years of college per child.

College Goal Sunday

Get **FREE** assistance in completing the FAFSA.

Sunday, January 31, 2010 at 2:00 pm

Over 25 Locations across Massachusetts

For more information and locations near you,
visit www.masscollegegoalsunday.org



MEFA College Financing Seminar Evaluation Form

Evaluation Form

High School: _____

Presenter: _____

Seminar Content	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
-----------------	-----------	------	------	------

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. The Seminar Materials Provided by MEFA | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. The Helpfulness of the Presentation's Content | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Seminar Presenter

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 3. Presentation Skills and Ability to Deliver Information | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Knowledge of the Subject Matter | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Effectiveness at Responding to Questions | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

How Did You Hear About This Seminar? (Check All That Apply).

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> MEFA's Flyers | <input type="checkbox"/> Email to Parents | <input type="checkbox"/> School Web Site |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MEFA's Posters | <input type="checkbox"/> Phone Call to Parents | <input type="checkbox"/> School Announcements |
| <input type="checkbox"/> www.mefacounselor.org | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Newspaper | <input type="checkbox"/> School Newspaper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please Explain) _____ | | |

Was this Seminar Worth Attending? Yes No

What Did You Find Most Valuable About This Seminar? _____

How Can MEFA Play a More Helpful Role in Assisting Families With College Planning and Advising?

Thank You for Your Feedback.

I Would Like to Receive MEFA Counselor Emails

Parent Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Student Current Grade: 9 10 11 12 Additional Student(s) Current Grade(s): 9 10 11 12

DO NOT MAIL THIS WORKSHEET.

You must complete and submit a *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA) to apply for federal student aid and to apply for most state and college aid. Applying online with *FAFSA on the Web* at www.fafsa.ed.gov is faster and easier than using a paper FAFSA.

For state or college aid, the deadline may be as early as January 2009. See the table to the right for state deadlines. Check with your high school counselor or your college's financial aid administrator about other deadlines.

- **This Worksheet is optional and should only be completed if you plan to use *FAFSA on the Web*.**
- **Sections in purple are for parent information.**
- In parentheses after each question is the number that is used on *FAFSA on the Web* and the paper FAFSA. However, not all of the questions appear on this worksheet.
- **Submit your FAFSA early, but not before January 1, 2009.**

Apply Faster—Sign your FAFSA with a Federal Student Aid PIN. If you do not have a PIN, you can apply for one at www.pined.gov. Your PIN allows you to electronically sign when you submit your FAFSA. **If you are providing parent information, one parent must also sign your FAFSA. To sign electronically, your parent should also apply for a PIN.**

You will need the following information to complete this Worksheet:

- Your Social Security Number and your parents' Social Security Numbers if you are providing parental information.
- Your driver's license number if you have one.
- Your Alien Registration Number if you are not a U.S. citizen.
- 2008 federal tax information or tax returns (including IRS W-2 information) for yourself (and spouse if you are married) and for your parents if you are providing parental information. If you have not yet filed a 2008 income tax return, you can still submit your FAFSA but you must provide income and tax information.
- Information on savings, investments, and business and farm assets for yourself and your parents if you are providing parental information.

WARNING!

Be wary of organizations that charge a fee to submit your application or to find you money for college. In general, the help you pay for can be obtained for free from your college or from Federal Student Aid.

NOTE:

If you or your family have unusual circumstances (such as loss of employment), complete *FAFSA on the Web* to the extent you can, then submit the application and consult the financial aid office at the college you plan to attend.

STATE AID DEADLINES

Check with your financial aid administrator for these states and territories:

AL, *AS, CO, *FM, GA, *GU, *HI, *MH, *MP, NC, NE, *NM, *NV, OR, PR, *PW, *SD, *TX, UT, *VA, *VI, *VT, WA, WI and *WY.

AK	April 15, 2009 (date received)
AR	Academic Challenge - June 1, 2009 Workforce Grant - Contact your financial aid administrator Higher Education Opportunity Grant - June 1, 2009 (fall term) - November 1, 2009 (spring term) (date received)
AZ	March 1, 2009 (date received)
*CA	Initial awards - March 2, 2009 Additional community college awards - September 2, 2008 (date postmarked) February 15, 2009 (date received)
#CT	February 15, 2009 (date received)
*DC	June 30, 2009 (date received by state)
DE	April 15, 2009 (date received)
FL	May 15, 2009 (date processed)
IA	July 1, 2009 (date received)
#ID	Opportunity Grant - March 1, 2009 (date received)
#IL	First-time applicants - September 30, 2009 Continuing applicants - August 15, 2009 (date received)
IN	March 10, 2009 (date received)
#KS	April 1, 2009 (date received)
#KY	March 15, 2009 (date received)
LA	July 1, 2009 (date received)
#MA	May 1, 2009 (date received)
MD	March 1, 2009 (date received)
ME	May 1, 2009 (date received)
MI	March 1, 2009 (date received)
MN	30 days after term starts (date received)
MO	April 1, 2009 (date received)
#MS	MTAG and MESH Grants - September 15, 2009 HELP Scholarship - March 31, 2009 (date processed)
#MT	March 1, 2009 (date received)
ND	March 15, 2009 (date received)
NH	May 1, 2009 (date received)
NJ	June 1, 2009, if you received a Tuition Aid Grant in 2008-2009 All other applicants - October 1, 2009, fall & spring terms - March 1, 2010, spring term only (date received)
*NY	May 1, 2010 (date received)
OH	October 1, 2009 (date received)
#OK	April 15, 2009 (date received) for best consideration
*PA	All 2008 - 2009 State Grant recipients & all non-2008 - 2009 State Grant recipients in degree programs - May 1, 2009 All other applicants - August 1, 2009 (date received)
#RI	March 1, 2009 (date received)
SC	Tuition Grants - June 30, 2009 (date received)
#TN	State Grant - March 1, 2009 State Lottery - September 1, 2009 (date received)
#WV	March 1, 2009 (date received)

For priority consideration, submit application by date specified.

* Additional form may be required.

SECTION 1 – STUDENT INFORMATION

Questions are ordered as they appear on *FAFSA on the Web*, but after you are online you may be able to skip some questions based on your answers to earlier questions.

Your last name (Q1)

Your Social Security Number (Q8)

				-							
--	--	--	--	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Your driver's license number (optional) (Q11)

Are you a U.S. citizen? (Q14)

If you are neither a citizen nor an eligible noncitizen, you are not eligible for federal student aid. However, you should still complete the application, because you may be eligible for state or college aid.

If you are in the U.S. on an F1 or F2 student visa, or a J1 or J2 exchange visitor visa, or a G series visa (pertaining to international organizations), you must answer "Neither citizen nor eligible noncitizen."

U.S. citizen (U.S. national)

Eligible noncitizen Generally, you are an eligible noncitizen if you are:

- A permanent U.S. resident with a Permanent Resident Card (I-551);
- A conditional permanent resident (I-551C); or
- The holder of an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from the Department of Homeland Security showing any of the following designations: "Refugee," "Asylum Granted," "Parolee" (I-94 confirms paroled for a minimum of one year and status has not expired), "Victim of human trafficking," T-Visa holder (T-1, T-2, T-3, etc.) or "Cuban-Haitian Entrant."

Neither citizen nor eligible noncitizen

Your Alien Registration Number (Q15)

If you are an eligible noncitizen, enter your eight- or nine-digit Alien Registration Number.

A									
---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

What is your marital status as of today? (Q16)

"As of today" refers to the day that you sign your FAFSA.

- Single, divorced or widowed
 Married or remarried Separated

Month and year you were married, separated, divorced or widowed (Q17)

(Example: Month and year: 05/1998)

M	M	Y	Y	Y	Y
---	---	---	---	---	---

What is your state of legal residence? (Q18)

Enter the date you became a legal resident of your state if it was not before January 1, 2004. (Q20) (Example: Month and year: 05/2005)

M	M	Y	Y	Y	Y
---	---	---	---	---	---

Most male students must register with Selective Service to get federal aid. If you are male, age 18-25 and NOT registered, select "Register me." (Q22)

Register me

Have you ever received federal student aid?

Answer "No" if you have never received federal student grants, federal student loans or federal work-study. You should also answer "No" if you have never attended college. If you answer "No" to this question, skip question 23.

- Yes
 No

Have you been convicted for the possession or sale of illegal drugs for an offense that occurred while you were receiving federal student aid (grants, loans or work-study)? (Q23)

Do not count convictions that have been removed from your record or that occurred before you turned age 18, unless you were tried as an adult. If you answer "Yes," you can use an interactive worksheet when completing the FAFSA online. Based on your answers to the worksheet questions, you can determine if the conviction affects your eligibility for federal student aid. If the conviction does affect your eligibility for federal aid, you should still submit your application because you may qualify for state or college aid.

- Yes
 No

Highest school your father completed (Q24)

Some states and colleges offer aid based on the level of schooling your parents completed.

- Middle school/Jr. high College or beyond
 High school Other/unknown

Highest school your mother completed (Q25)

Some states and colleges offer aid based on the level of schooling your parents completed.

- Middle school/Jr. high College or beyond
 High school Other/unknown

When you begin the 2009-2010 school year, what degree or certificate will you be working on? (Q29)

- 1st bachelor's degree
 2nd bachelor's degree
 Associate degree (occupational or technical program)
 Associate degree (general education or transfer program)
 Certificate or diploma (occupational, technical or educational program of less than two years)
- Certificate or diploma (occupational, technical or educational program of two or more years)
 Teaching credential (nondegree program)
 Graduate or professional degree
 Other/undecided

SECTION 1 (CONTINUED) – STUDENT INFORMATION

When you begin the 2009-2010 school year, what do you expect your enrollment status to be? (Q30)
(Enrollment definitions refer to undergraduate study.)

- Full-time (at least 12 credit hours in a term or 24 clock hours per week)
 3/4-time (at least 9 credit hours in a term or 18 clock hours per week)
 Half-time (at least 6 credit hours in a term or 12 clock hours per week)
 Less than half-time (fewer than 6 credit hours in a term or less than 12 clock hours per week)
 Don't know

In addition to grants, are you interested in being considered for work-study or student loans? (Q31)

- Work-study (aid earned through work) Neither
 Student loans (which you must pay back) Don't know
 Both work-study and student loans

SECTION 2 – STUDENT DEPENDENCY STATUS

Were you born before January 1, 1986? (Q48)

Yes No

As of today, are you married? (Q49)

Yes No

(Answer "Yes" if you are separated but not divorced.) "As of today" refers to the day that you sign your FAFSA.

At the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year, will you be working on a master's or doctorate program (such as an MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, EdD, graduate certificate, etc.)? (Q50)

Yes No

Are you currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training? (Q51)

Yes No

Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces? (Q52)

Answer "Yes" (you are a veteran) if you (1) have engaged in active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard) or are a National Guard or Reserve enlistee who was called to active duty for other than state or training purposes, or were a cadet or midshipman at one of the service academies, and (2) were released under a condition other than dishonorable. Also answer "Yes" if you were a veteran now but will be by June 30, 2010.

Yes No

Answer "No" (you are not a veteran) if you (1) have never engaged in active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, (2) are currently a ROTC student or a cadet or midshipman at a service academy, (3) are a National Guard or Reserve member activated only for state or training purposes, or (4) were engaged in active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces but released under dishonorable conditions.

Do you have children who will receive more than half of their support from you between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010? (Q53)

Yes No

Do you have dependents (other than your children or spouse) who live with you and who receive more than half of their support from you, now and through June 30, 2010? (Q54)

Yes No

At any time since you turned age 13, were both your parents deceased, were you in foster care or were you a dependent or ward of the court? (Q55)

Yes No

Answer "Yes" if you had no living parent (biological or adoptive) at any time since you turned age 13, even if you are now adopted. Answer "Yes" if you were in foster care at any time since you turned age 13, even if you are no longer in foster care as of today. Answer "Yes" if you were a dependent or ward of the court at any time since you turned age 13, even if you are no longer a dependent or ward of the court as of today. Note that the financial aid administrator at your school may require you to provide proof that you were in foster care or a dependent or ward of the court.

Use these instructions to answer questions 56-57

Answer "Yes" if you have a copy of a court's decision that as of today you are an emancipated minor or are in legal guardianship. Also answer "Yes" if you can provide a copy of a court's decision that you were an emancipated minor or were in legal guardianship immediately before you reached the age of being an adult in your state. The court must be located in your state of legal residence at the time the court's decision was issued.

Are you or were you an emancipated minor as determined by a court in your state of legal residence? (Q56)

Yes No

Are you or were you in legal guardianship as determined by a court in your state of legal residence? (Q57)

Yes No

Use these instructions to answer questions 58-60

Answer "Yes" if you received a determination at any time on or after July 1, 2008, that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or, for question 60, at risk of being homeless.

- "Homeless" means lacking fixed, regular and adequate housing, which includes living in shelters, motels or cars, or temporarily living with other people because you had nowhere else to go.
- "Unaccompanied" means you are not living in the physical custody of your parent or guardian.
- "Youth" means you are 21 years of age or younger or you are still enrolled in high school as of the day you sign this application.

At any time on or after July 1, 2008, did your high school or school district homeless liaison determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless? (Q58)

Yes No

At any time on or after July 1, 2008, did the director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless? (Q59)

Yes No

At any time on or after July 1, 2008, did the director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless? (Q60)

Yes No

If you answered "YES" to ANY of the previous questions, you do not have to provide parental information. Skip to Section 4 on page 6. If you answered "NO" to ALL of the previous questions, then you must provide parental information. Complete Section 3 on the next page.

SECTION 3 – PARENTAL INFORMATION

If you answered “No” to all of the questions in Section 2, you must provide parental information. Refer to your parents’ IRS tax return when necessary. Answer the questions as of the date you will complete and sign your FAFSA.

- Grandparents, foster parents and legal guardians are not considered parents on this form unless they have legally adopted you.
- If your parent is widowed or single, answer the questions about that parent. If your widowed parent is remarried, answer the questions about that parent and your stepparent.
- If your parents are divorced or separated, answer the questions about the parent you lived with more during the past 12 months. If you did not live with one parent more than the other, give answers about the parent who provided more financial support during the past 12 months. If this parent is remarried, answer the questions about that parent and your stepparent.

Federal law provides that, under very limited special circumstances, you may submit your FAFSA without parental information. If you have a special circumstance and are unable to provide parental information, *FAFSA on the Web* will instruct you on how to proceed. The following **are examples** of special circumstances.

- Your parents are incarcerated; or
- You have left home due to an abusive family environment; or
- You do not know where your parents are and are unable to contact them (and you have not been adopted).

What is your parents’ marital status as of today? (Q61)

“As of today” refers to the day that you sign your FAFSA.

- Married or remarried Divorced or separated
 Single Widowed

Month and year your parents were married, separated, divorced or widowed.

(Q62) (Example: Month and year: 05/1998)

M	M			Y	Y
---	---	--	--	---	---

What is your parents’ e-mail address? (Q71)

If you provide your parents’ e-mail address, we will let them know your FAFSA has been processed.

What is your father’s (or stepfather’s) Social Security Number? (Q63)

			-			-			
--	--	--	---	--	--	---	--	--	--

What is your father’s (or stepfather’s) last name? (Q64)

What is your father’s (or stepfather’s) date of birth? (Q65)

(Example: Month, day and year: 05/07/1962)

M	M	D	D	Y	Y	Y	Y
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

What is your mother’s (or stepmother’s) Social Security Number? (Q67)

			-			-			
--	--	--	---	--	--	---	--	--	--

What is your mother’s (or stepmother’s) last name? (Q68)

What is your mother’s (or stepmother’s) date of birth? (Q70)

(Example: Month, day and year: 05/07/1962)

M	M	D	D	Y	Y	Y	Y
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

What is your parents’ state of legal residence? (Q72)

Enter the date of legal residency for the parent who has lived in the state the longest, if it was not before January 1, 2004. (Q74)

(Example: Month and year: 05/2011)

M	M	Y	Y	Y	Y
---	---	---	---	---	---

What income tax return did your parents file or will they file for 2008? (Q83)

- IRS 1040
 IRS 1040A, 1040EZ

- A foreign tax return
 A tax return with Puerto Rico, another U.S. territory or a Freely Associated State

If your parents have filed or will file a 1040, were they eligible to file a 1040A or 1040EZ? (Q84)

A person is not eligible to file a 1040A or 1040EZ if he or she makes \$100,000 or more, itemizes deductions, receives income from his or her own business or farm, is self-employed, receives alimony or is required to file Schedule D for capital gains. If your parents were not required to file a tax return or they filed a 1040 only to claim Hope or Lifetime Learning tax credits, and would have otherwise been eligible for a 1040A or 1040EZ, answer “Yes.”

- Yes
 No
 Don’t know

In 2007 or 2008, did you, your parents or anyone in your parents’ household receive benefits from any of the federal benefits programs listed? (Q77-81)

Mark all the programs that apply.

Select benefits received for all of your parents’ household members. Include in your parents’ household: (1) your parents and yourself, even if you don’t live with your parents; (2) your parents’ other children if (a) your parents will provide more than half of their support between July 1, 2009, and June 30, 2010, or (b) the children could answer “No” to every question in Section 2 of this worksheet; and (3) other people only if they live with your parents, your parents provide more than half of their support and your parents will continue to provide more than half of their support between July 1, 2009, and June 30, 2010. TANF may have a different name in your parents’ state. Call 1-800-4-FED-AID to find out the name of the state’s program.

- Supplemental Security Income
 Food Stamps
 Free or Reduced Price School Lunch
 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
 Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

SECTION 3 (CONTINUED) – PARENTAL INFORMATION

As of today, is either of your parents a dislocated worker? (Q85)

In general, a person may be considered a dislocated worker if he or she is receiving unemployment benefits due to being laid off or losing a job and is unlikely to return to a previous occupation; has been laid off or received a lay-off notice from a job; was self-employed but is now unemployed due to economic conditions or natural disaster; or is a displaced homemaker. A displaced homemaker is generally a person who previously provided unpaid services to the family (e.g., a stay-at-home mom or dad), is no longer supported by the husband or wife, is unemployed or underemployed and is having trouble finding or upgrading employment.

- Yes
 No
 Don't know

What was your parents' adjusted gross income for 2008? (Q86)

Adjusted gross income is on IRS form 1040—line 37; 1040A—line 21; or 1040EZ—line 4.

\$

Questions 89 and 90 ask about earnings (wages, salaries, tips, etc.) in 2008.

Answer the questions whether or not a tax return was filed. This information may be on the W-2 forms, or on IRS Form 1040—lines 7 + 12 + 18 + Box 14 of IRS Schedule K-1 (Form 1065); 1040A—line 7; or 1040EZ—line 1.

How much did your father/stepfather earn from working in 2008? (Q89)

\$

How much did your mother/stepmother earn from working in 2008? (Q90)

\$

Enter the amount of your parents' income tax for 2008. (Q87)

Income tax amount is on IRS Form 1040—line 56; 1040A—line 35; or 1040EZ—line 11.

\$

Enter your parents' exemptions for 2008. (Q88)

Exemptions are on IRS Form 1040—line 6d or 1040A—line 6d. On the 1040EZ, if a person checked either the "you" or "spouse" box on line 5, use 1040EZ worksheet line F to determine the number of exemptions (\$3,500 per exemption). If a person didn't check either box on line 5, enter 01 if he or she is single, or 02 if he or she is married.

Your parents' number of family members in 2009-2010. (Q75)

Include in your parents' household: (1) your parents and yourself, even if you don't live with your parents, (2) your parents' other children if (a) your parents will provide more than half of their support between July 1, 2009, and June 30, 2010, or (b) the children could answer "No" to every question in Section 2 of this worksheet, and (3) other people only if they live with your parents, your parents provide more than half of their support and your parents will continue to provide more than half of their support between July 1, 2009, and June 30, 2010.

How many people in your parents' household will be college students between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010? (Q76)

Always count yourself. Do not include your parents. Include others only if they will attend, at least half-time in 2009-2010, a program that leads to a college degree or certificate.

Your parents' 2008 Additional Financial Information (Q94) Complete the left column of the table on page 8.

Your parents' 2008 Unearned Income (Q95) Complete the left column of the table on page 8.

Parent Asset Information

As of today, what is your parents' total current balance of cash, savings and checking accounts? (Q91)

\$

- Investments include real estate (do not include the family home), trust funds, UGMA and UTMA accounts, money market funds, mutual funds, certificates of deposit, stocks, stock options, bonds, other securities, Coverdell savings accounts, 529 college savings plans, the refund value of 529 prepaid tuition plans, installment and land sale contracts (including mortgages held), commodities, etc. For more information about reporting educational savings plans call 1-800-4-FED-AID. Investment value means the current balance or market value of these investments as of today. Investment debt means only those debts that are related to the investments.
- Do not include the value of life insurance, retirement plans (401[k] plans, pension funds, annuities, noneducation IRAs, Keogh plans, etc.) or cash, savings and checking accounts already reported in questions 41 and 91.
- Business and/or investment farm value includes the market value of land, buildings, machinery, equipment, inventory, etc. Business and/or investment farm debt means only those debts for which the business or investment farm was used as collateral.

As of today, what is the net worth of your parents' investments, including real estate (not your parents' home)? (Q92)

Net worth means current value minus debt.

\$

As of today, what is the net worth of your parents' current businesses and/or investment farms? (Q93)

Do not include the value of a family farm that your parents live on and operate.

Do not include the value of a small business if your family owns and controls more than 50 percent of the business and the business has 100 or fewer full-time or full-time equivalent employees. For small business value, your family includes (1) persons directly related to you, such as a parent, sister or cousin, or (2) persons who are or were related to you by marriage, such as a spouse, stepparent or sister-in-law.

\$

SECTION 4 – STUDENT FINANCES

- Answer the questions as of the date you will complete and sign your FAFSA. Refer to the IRS tax return as needed.
- If you filed a foreign tax return, use the exchange rate at www.federalreserve.gov/releases/h10/update to convert monetary units to U.S. dollars.
- If you are married as of today, report your and your spouse's income, even if you were not married in 2008. Ignore references to spouse if you are single, divorced, separated or widowed.

<p>What income tax return did you file or will you file for 2008? (Q34)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> IRS 1040 <input type="checkbox"/> IRS 1040A, 1040EZ <input type="checkbox"/> A foreign tax return</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A tax return with Puerto Rico, another U.S. territory or a Freely Associated State</p>
<p>If you have filed or will file a 1040, were you eligible to file a 1040A or 1040EZ? (Q35)</p> <p>A person is not eligible to file a 1040A or 1040EZ if he or she makes \$100,000 or more, itemizes deductions, receives income from his or her own business or farm, is self-employed, receives alimony or is required to file Schedule D for capital gains. If you were not required to file a tax return or you filed a 1040 only to claim Hope or Lifetime Learning tax credits, and you would otherwise have been eligible for a 1040A or 1040EZ, answer "Yes."</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p>
<p>What was your (and your spouse's) adjusted gross income for 2008? (Q36)</p> <p>Adjusted gross income is on IRS Form 1040—line 37; 1040A—line 21; or 1040EZ—line 4.</p>	<p>\$ <input type="text"/></p>
<p>Questions 39 and 40 ask about earnings (wages, salaries, tips, etc.) in 2008. Answer the questions whether or not a tax return was filed. This information may be on the W-2 forms, or on IRS Form 1040—lines 7 + 12 + 18 + Box 14 of IRS Schedule K-1 (Form 1065); 1040A—line 7; or 1040EZ—line 1.</p> <p>How much did you earn from working in 2008? (Q39)</p> <p>How much did your spouse earn from working in 2008? (Q40)</p>	<p>\$ <input type="text"/></p> <p>\$ <input type="text"/></p>
<p>What type of veterans' education benefits will you receive? (Q45)</p> <p>Answer this question only if you will receive these benefits between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Montgomery GI Bill - Active Duty (Chapter 30) <input type="checkbox"/> Post-9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33) <input type="checkbox"/> Montgomery GI Bill - Selected Reserve (Chapter 1606) <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 1607) <input type="checkbox"/> Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (Chapter 31) <input type="checkbox"/> Dependents' Educational Assistance (Chapter 35) <input type="checkbox"/> Any other type of veterans education benefits</p>
<p>If you answered "YES" to ANY question in Section 2, answer the following questions. If you answered "NO" to all the questions in Section 2, skip to page 7.</p>	
<p>Your number of family members in 2009-2010. (Q96)</p> <p>Include in your household: (1) yourself (and your spouse), (2) your children, if you will provide more than half of their support between July 1, 2009, and June 30, 2010, and (3) other people if they now live with you, you provide more than half of their support and you will continue to provide more than half of their support between July 1, 2009, and June 30, 2010.</p> <p>How many people in your (and your spouse's) household will be college students between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010? (Q97)</p> <p>Always count yourself. Include others only if they will attend, at least half-time in 2009-2010, a program that leads to a college degree or certificate.</p>	<p><input type="text"/></p> <p><input type="text"/></p>
<p>In 2007 or 2008, did you (or your spouse) or anyone in your household (from question 96) receive benefits from any of the federal benefits programs listed? (Q98-102) Mark all the programs that apply.</p> <p>Select benefits received for all of your household members. Use the instructions in question 96 to identify who is included in your household. Answering these questions will not reduce your eligibility for student aid or these other federal benefits. TANF may have a different name in your state. Call 1-800-4-FED-AID to find out the name of your state's program.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Supplemental Security Income <input type="checkbox"/> Food Stamps <input type="checkbox"/> Free or Reduced Price School Lunch <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) <input type="checkbox"/> Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)</p>
<p>As of today, are you (or your spouse) a dislocated worker? (Q103)</p> <p>In general, a person may be considered a dislocated worker if he or she is receiving unemployment benefits due to being laid off or losing a job and is unlikely to return to a previous occupation; has been laid off or received a lay-off notice from a job; was self-employed but is now unemployed due to economic conditions or natural disaster; or is a displaced homemaker. A displaced homemaker is generally a person who previously provided unpaid services to the family (e.g., a stay-at-home mom or dad), is no longer supported by the husband or wife, is unemployed or underemployed, and is having trouble finding or upgrading employment.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p>

SECTION 4 (CONTINUED) – STUDENT FINANCES

Enter the amount of your (and your spouse’s) income tax for 2008. (Q37)

Income tax amount is on IRS Form 1040—line 56; 1040A—line 35; or 1040EZ—line 11.

\$

Enter your (and your spouse’s) exemptions for 2008. (Q38)

Exemptions are on IRS Form 1040—line 6d or 1040A—line 6d. On the 1040EZ, if a person checked either the “you” or “spouse” box on line 5, use 1040EZ worksheet line F to determine the number of exemptions (\$3,500 equals one exemption). If a person didn’t check either box on line 5, enter 01 if he or she is single, or 02 if he or she is married.

Your 2008 Additional Financial Information amount (Q46) Complete the right column of the table on page 8.

Your 2008 Untaxed Income amount (Q47) Complete the right column of the table on page 8.

Student Asset Information (See “Parent Asset Information” on page 5 for instructions on reporting assets.)

As of today, what is your (and your spouse’s) total current balance of cash, savings and checking accounts? (Q41) Do not include student financial aid.

As of today, what is the net worth of your (and your spouse’s) investments, including real estate (not your home)? (Q42) Net worth means current value minus debt.

As of today, what is the net worth of your (and your spouse’s) current businesses and/or investment farms? (Q43)

Do not include the value of a family farm that you (and your spouse) live on and operate.

Do not include the value of a small business if your family owns and controls more than 50 percent of the business and the business has 100 or fewer full-time or full-time equivalent employees. For small business value, your family includes (1) persons directly related to you, such as a parent, sister or cousin, or (2) persons who are or were related to you by marriage, such as a spouse, stepparent or sister-in-law.

SECTION 5 – COLLEGES TO RECEIVE INFORMATION

- If you do not know the school code, write the college’s name. You will have a chance online to search for the school code.
- For each college, indicate the corresponding housing plan.

	1 st college	2 nd college	3 rd college	4 th college	5 th college
Federal School Code	_____ (Q104.a)	_____ (Q104.c)	_____ (Q104.e)	_____ (Q104.g)	_____ (Q104.i)
Housing Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> on campus <input type="checkbox"/> with parent <input type="checkbox"/> off campus (Q104.b)	<input type="checkbox"/> on campus <input type="checkbox"/> with parent <input type="checkbox"/> off campus (Q104.d)	<input type="checkbox"/> on campus <input type="checkbox"/> with parent <input type="checkbox"/> off campus (Q104.f)	<input type="checkbox"/> on campus <input type="checkbox"/> with parent <input type="checkbox"/> off campus (Q104.h)	<input type="checkbox"/> on campus <input type="checkbox"/> with parent <input type="checkbox"/> off campus (Q104.j)

	6 th college	7 th college	8 th college	9 th college	10 th college
Federal School Code	_____ (Q104.k)	_____ (Q104.m)	_____ (Q104.o)	_____ (Q104.q)	_____ (Q104.s)
Housing Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> on campus <input type="checkbox"/> with parent <input type="checkbox"/> off campus (Q104.l)	<input type="checkbox"/> on campus <input type="checkbox"/> with parent <input type="checkbox"/> off campus (Q104.n)	<input type="checkbox"/> on campus <input type="checkbox"/> with parent <input type="checkbox"/> off campus (Q104.p)	<input type="checkbox"/> on campus <input type="checkbox"/> with parent <input type="checkbox"/> off campus (Q104.r)	<input type="checkbox"/> on campus <input type="checkbox"/> with parent <input type="checkbox"/> off campus (Q104.t)

Go to www.fafsa.ed.gov and enter the information from this worksheet.

Additional help is available online, or you can call 1-800-4-FED-AID. TTY users (hearing impaired) may call 1-800-730-8913. For more information on federal student aid, visit www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov.

You can also talk with your college’s financial aid office about other types of student aid that may be available.

DO NOT MAIL THIS WORKSHEET.

Use the tables below to report annual amounts.

For the Parents' column, enter the amount for the student's parent(s). For the Student's column, enter the amount for the student (and his or her spouse).

Parents' (Q94)	2008 Additional Financial Information	Student's (Q46)
\$ <input type="text"/>	a. Education credits (Hope and Lifetime Learning tax credits) from IRS Form 1040—line 50 or 1040A—line 31.	\$ <input type="text"/>
\$ <input type="text"/>	b. Child support paid because of divorce or separation or as a result of a legal requirement. <small>Don't include support for children in your (or your parents') household, as reported in question 96 (or question 75 for your parents).</small>	\$ <input type="text"/>
\$ <input type="text"/>	c. Taxable earnings from need-based employment programs, such as Federal Work-Study and need-based employment portions of fellowships and assistantships.	\$ <input type="text"/>
\$ <input type="text"/>	d. Grant and scholarship aid reported to the IRS in the adjusted gross income. <small>Includes AmeriCorps benefits (awards, living allowances and interest accrual payments), as well as grant and scholarship portions of fellowships and assistantships.</small>	\$ <input type="text"/>
\$ <input type="text"/>	e. Combat pay or special combat pay. <small>Only enter the amount that was taxable and included in the adjusted gross income. Do not enter untaxed combat pay reported on the W-2 (Box 12, Code Q).</small>	\$ <input type="text"/>

Parents' (Q95)	2008 Untaxed Income	Student's (Q47)
\$ <input type="text"/>	a. Payments to tax-deferred pension and savings plans (paid directly or withheld from earnings), including, but not limited to, amounts reported on the W-2 forms in Boxes 12a through 12d, codes D, E, F, G, H and S.	\$ <input type="text"/>
\$ <input type="text"/>	b. IRA deductions and payments to self-employed SEP, SIMPLE, Keogh and other qualified plans from IRS Form 1040—line 28 + line 32 or 1040A—line 17.	\$ <input type="text"/>
\$ <input type="text"/>	c. Child support received for all children. <small>Don't include foster care or adoption payments.</small>	\$ <input type="text"/>
\$ <input type="text"/>	d. Tax-exempt interest income from IRS Form 1040—line 8b or 1040A—line 8u.	\$ <input type="text"/>
\$ <input type="text"/>	e. Untaxed portions of IRA distributions from IRS Form 1040—lines (15a minus 15b) or 1040A—lines (11a minus 11b). <small>Exclude rollovers. If negative, enter a zero here.</small>	\$ <input type="text"/>
\$ <input type="text"/>	f. Untaxed portions of pensions from IRS Form 1040—lines (16a minus 16b) or 1040A—lines (12a minus 12b). Exclude rollovers. If negative, enter a zero here.	\$ <input type="text"/>
\$ <input type="text"/>	g. Housing, food and other living allowances paid to members of the military, clergy and others (including cash payments and cash value of benefits).	\$ <input type="text"/>
\$ <input type="text"/>	h. Veterans noneducation benefits such as Disability, Death Pension, or Dependency & Indemnity Compensation (DIC) and/or VA Educational Work-Study allowances.	\$ <input type="text"/>
\$ <input type="text"/>	i. Other untaxed income not reported, such as workers' compensation, disability, etc. <small>Don't include student aid, earned income credit, additional child tax credit, welfare payments, untaxed Social Security benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Workforce Investment Act educational benefits, combat pay, benefits from flexible spending arrangements (e.g., cafeteria plans), foreign income exclusion or credit for federal tax on special fuels.</small>	\$ <input type="text"/>
XXXXXXXXXX <input type="text"/>	j. Money received, or paid on your behalf (e.g., bills), not reported elsewhere on this form.	\$ <input type="text"/>

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 colleges or programs.

WHO must file the PROFILE? Check your colleges'/programs' information to determine whether they require the PROFILE. A list of colleges that require PROFILE from 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 report is **\$25**. Additional reports are **\$16**. Payment may be made via credit card, debit card (Visa or MC) 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 parent(s) will file for the current year (e.g., 1040, 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 business(es) and/or farm(s)
- 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 colleges/programs you select. After registering, you can securely save your application and return to complete it at any time, 24/7, 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 process, so be sure to print a copy for your records.

At any time, you may **add** a college/program by going to the PROFILE home page and clicking "Add Colleges to Submitted 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 recipients once you have submitted your application.

Questions? Contact customer support at **305-829-9793** (Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Eastern Time, with extended hours from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., January through April) or e-mail help@css.profile.org.

The colleges below all accept the PROFILE application. Instructions distributed by their financial aid offices will describe their application requirements in detail. A college with an asterisk (*) next to its name uses PROFILE for Early Decision or Early Action applicants only. For the most up-to-date and comprehensive list, please see the list at <https://profileonline.collegeboard.com>.

CSS CODE	INSTITUTION	STATE	CSS CODE	INSTITUTION	STATE	CSS CODE	INSTITUTION	STATE	CSS CODE	INSTITUTION	STATE
2003	Adelphi University	NY	2193	Drew University	NJ	1236	Lyme Academy College Fine Arts	CT	2805	St. Lawrence University	NY
1001	Adrian College	MI	5156	Duke University	NC	5437	Lynn University	FL	3757	St. Michael's College	VT
2013	Albany College of Pharmacy*	NY	2704	Eastern Baptist Theo Sem	PA	6390	Macalester College	MN	6638	St. Olaf College	MN
7041	Albany Law S of Union U	NY	1202	Edgewood College	WI	1753	Madonna U: St. Mary's College	MI	4704	Stanford University	CA
2995	Albert Einstein Cof Medicine	NY	0042	Eliot School Fine Applied Arts	MA	2396	Manhattan School of Music	NY	0265	Stanford U: Grad Sch of Bus	CA
2005	Alfred University	NY	2226	Elmira College	NY	1452	Marygrove College	MI	2819	Stevens Institute Technology	NJ
7363	Amer Assoc of C of Osteo Med	MD	5183	Elon University	NC	3514	Massachusetts Inst of Tech	MA	3770	Stonehill College	MA
5007	American University	DC	3367	Emerson College	MA	0935	McGill University	PA	2820	Susquehanna University	PA
0866	American University of Paris	CO	5187	Emory University	GA	7549	Meharry Medical College	TN	2821	Swarthmore College	PA
3003	Amherst College	MA	0140	Emory U: Sch of Medicine	GA	3526	Middlebury College	VT	2823	Syracuse University	NY
6293	Aquinas Inst of Theology	MO	1192	ETSU: Quillen C of Medicine	TN	5327	MIUAD: Fine Arts College	FL	1817	Tiffin University	OH
1031	Archeworks	IL	3390	Fairfield University	CT	1484	Monmouth College	IL	1808	Transylvania University	KY
1029	Athenaeum of Ohio	OH	2259	Fordham University	NY	1486	Moody Bible Institute	IL	1809	Trevecca Nazarene University	TN
3075	Babson College	MA	3031	Fordham University Lincoln Ctr	NY	2418	Moravian College	PA	3899	Trinity College (CT)	CT
2037	Bard College	NY	2261	Franklin & Marshall College	PA	5417	Morris Brown College	GA	8865	Tufts U: Sch of Dental Med	MA
3795	Bard College at Simon's Rock	MA	0922	Franklin College: Switzerland	NY	3529	Mount Holyoke College	MA	3901	Tufts University	MA
2038	Barnard College	NY	5222	Furman University	SC	1490	Mount Mary College	WI	6832	Tulane University	LA
3076	Bates College	ME	5246	George Washington University	DC	2424	Muhlenberg College	PA	3936	U Mass: Medical School	MA
1707	Benedictine University	IL	5244	Georgetown University	DC	2511	Nazareth College of Rochester*	NY	7152	U of California: San Francisco	CA
3080	Bennington College	VT	7306	Georgetown U: Law Ctr	DC	2504	New York C of Podiatric Med	NY	7158	UCLA: School of Medicine	CA
3096	Bentley University	MA	2275	Gettysburg College	PA	5003	North Carolina A&T SU	NC	2920	Union College (NY)	NY
3098	Bentley U: Mccallum Graduate	MA	3417	Gordon College (MA)	MA	3667	Northeastern University	MA	1832	Univ of Chicago	IL
3083	Boston College	MA	5257	Goucher College	MD	1565	Northwestern University	IL	4842	Univ of Denver	CO
3087	Boston University	MA	0275	Great Lakes Teacher Training	WI	3669	Norwich University	VT	6869	Univ of Dubuque	IA
8928	Boston U: Goldman Sch Dental	MA	3418	Green Mountain College	VT	4063	Notre Dame de Namur University	CA	1839	Univ of Michigan	MI
3116	Boston U: Sch of Medicine	MA	6253	Gustavus Adolphus College	MN	2060	NY State College Ceramics- AU	NY	5816	Univ of North Carolina Chapel	NC
8930	Boston U: Sch of Public Health	MA	2662	Gutenberg College	OR	1587	Oberlin College	OH	1841	Univ of Notre Dame	IN
3089	Bowdoin College	ME	2286	Hamilton College (NY)	NY	4581	Occidental College	CA	2933	Univ of Pennsylvania	PA
1070	Bradley University	IL	5291	Hampden-Sydney College	VA	4581	Olivet College	MI	4067	Univ of Puget Sound*	WA
3092	Brandeis University	MA	3447	Hampshire College	MA	1595	Oxford College of Emory Univ	GA	2928	Univ of Rochester	NY
3269	Bridgton Academy	ME	3434	Harvard College	MA	5186	Patrick Henry College	VA	4852	Univ of Southern California	CA
3189	Brown University	RI	3454	Harvard Kennedy Sch	MA	2804	Patten University	CA	0982	University of Toronto	PA
2049	Bryn Mawr College	PA	3441	Harvard U: Dental Sch	MA	4620	Pitzer College	CA	2931	Ursinus College	PA
2050	Bucknell University	PA	3455	Harvard U: Grad Sch of Design	MA	4619	Pomona College	CA	1874	Valparaiso University	IN
1073	Butler University	IN	3431	Harvey Mudd College	CA	4607	Princeton University	NJ	1871	Vanderbilt University	TN
4034	California Institute of Tech	CA	4341	Haverford College	PA	2672	Principia College	IL	2956	Vassar College	NY
1100	Cardinal Stritch University	WI	2289	Hebrew Union College-CA	NY	1630	Providence College	RI	1895	Wake Forest University	NC
6081	Carleton College	MN	1344	Hebrew Union College-NY	NY	3693	Queen's University at Kingston	OR	5885	Washington and Lee University	VA
4105	Chaminade Univ of Honolulu*	HI	2290	Hebrew Union College-OH*	NY	0949	Rensselaer Polytechnic Inst	NY	6929	Washington Univ St. Louis	MO
8301	Charles R Drew U Med/Science	CA	1305	Henrico Cnty-St Mary's Hosp S	VA	4654	Rhode Island School of Design	RI	3957	Wellesley College	MA
4054	Claremont McKenna College	CA	9814	Hillsdale College	MI	2757	Rhodes College	TN	2971	Wells College*	NY
3279	Clark University	MA	1295	Hobart and William Smith Coll	NY	3726	Rice University	TX	3959	Wesleyan University	CT
2894	Cochran School of Nursing	NY	2294	Holy Cross College	IN	1730	Roger Williams University	RI	3963	Wheaton College (MA)	MA
3280	Colby College	ME	1309	Illinois Institute Technology	IL	6609	Sacred Heart University	CT	4951	Whitman College	WA
2086	Colgate University	NY	1654	Illinois Wesleyan University	IL	3729	Saint Mary's College	IN	4952	Whittier College	CA
3282	College of the Holy Cross	MA	1320	Ithaca College	NY	3780	Salve Regina University	RI	4954	Willamette University	OR
1134	College of Wooster	OH	2325	Jacobs University Bremen	NY	1702	Santa Clara University	CA	3965	Williams College	MA
4072	Colorado College	CO	3665	Jewish Theo Sem: Rabbinical S	NY	3759	Sarah Lawrence College	NY	5912	Wofford College	SC
5117	Columbia College (SC)	SC	2470	Jewish Theol Sem of America	NY	4851	Scripps College	CA	3969	Worcester Polytechnic Inst	MA
2116	Columbia University	NY	2339	Jewish Theol Sem: Cantorial S	NY	2810	Seabury-Western Theo Sem	IL	6975	Xavier University of Louisiana	LA
2148	Columbia U Physicians/SurgeonsNY	NY	2618	Johns Hopkins University	MD	4693	Shimer College	IL	3987	Yale University	CT
2111	Columbia U: Fu Foundation	NY	2679	Kalamazoo College	MI	0097	Siena Heights University	MI			
2101	Columbia U: Sch Dent/Oral Surg	NY	5332	Kenyon College	OH	2812	Skidmore College	NY			
3284	Connecticut College	CT	1365	Kuyper College	MI	1717	Smith College	MA			
2097	Cooper Union Science and Art	NY	1370	Lafayette College	PA	1719	Smith College: Sch Social Work	MA			
2098	Cornell University	NY	1672	Lehigh University	PA	2815	Southern Calif C of Optometry	CA			
2822	Cornell U: C of Vet Med	NY	2361	Lewis & Clark College	OR	3762	Southern Methodist University	TX			
3351	Dartmouth College	NH	2365	Linfield College*	OR	3775	Springfield College (MA)	MA			
3355	Dartmouth College: Thayer Sch	NH	4384	Long Island Univ: Brooklyn	NY	4392	St. Anselm College	NH			
5150	Davidson College	NC	4387	Long Island Univ: C.W. Post	NY	6660	St. John's College (MD)	MD			
5151	Davis and Elkins College	WV	2369	Loyola College in Maryland	MD	3763	St. John's College (NM)	NM			
0266	Delaware State Dental Society	DE	2070	Loyola Marymount University	CA	3748					
1166	DePauw University	IN	5370			5598					
2186	Dickinson College	PA	4403			4737					

Personal Resource Page

Passwords

FAFSA

Student PIN _____

Parent PIN _____

CSS/PROFILE®

User Name _____

Password _____

Fastweb

User Name _____

Password _____

Financial Aid Deadlines

School Name	Deadline	Federal School Code	Required
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> FAFSA <input type="checkbox"/> CSS/PROFILE® <input type="checkbox"/> College Form
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> FAFSA <input type="checkbox"/> CSS/PROFILE® <input type="checkbox"/> College Form
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> FAFSA <input type="checkbox"/> CSS/PROFILE® <input type="checkbox"/> College Form
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> FAFSA <input type="checkbox"/> CSS/PROFILE® <input type="checkbox"/> College Form
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_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> FAFSA <input type="checkbox"/> CSS/PROFILE® <input type="checkbox"/> College Form

Additional Passwords

Organization	User Name	Password
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

MEFA is here to help.

mefa is a not-for-profit organization that works to make higher education more accessible and affordable for students and families in Massachusetts. MEFA offers community education programs, college savings plans and low-cost financing options. In our nearly 30-year history, we have issued more than \$3.5 billion in bonds and have assisted hundreds of thousands of families in financing a college education.

mefa **COUNSELOR**

We offer free, comprehensive college planning and college financing seminars for parents and students at over 300 Massachusetts high schools. Check with your guidance counselor for dates and information.

mefa **UPLAN** Prepaid Tuition Program

With the U.Plan, families can lock in tomorrow's tuition at today's rates at 80 public and private colleges and universities in Massachusetts.

mefa **LOANS**

Our low-cost loans assist families of undergraduate and graduate students from all states attending college in Massachusetts, as well as Massachusetts residents attending college outside of Massachusetts.

mefa **UFUND** Massachusetts 529 Plan

Our College Investing Plan lets families invest for qualified higher education expenses through professionally managed mutual funds, in partnership with Fidelity Investments.

For more information on how MEFA can help you through the college financing process, visit us online at www.mefa.org or call 800.449.MEFA (6332).

The information in this booklet is current as of August 1, 2009, unless otherwise noted. Please call 800.449.MEFA (6332) or visit www.mefa.org for updates.

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