

# Financial Aid Terminology Chart

An Extension to Debunking the Myths of Financial Aid

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Financial Aid Program	Type of Aid	Program Details	Annual Award Limits
Federal Pell Grant	Grant: Does not have to be repaid	Available almost exclusively to undergraduates; all eligible students will receive the Federal Pell grant amount they qualify for according to their FAFSA application	\$400 to \$4,050 for 2006-07
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)	Grant: Does not have to be repaid	For undergraduates with exceptional financial need; priority is given to Federal Pell Grant recipients; funds depend on availability at school	\$100 to \$4,000
Federal Work-Study	Money is earned while attending school; does not have to be repaid	For undergraduate and graduate students; jobs can be on campus or off campus; students are paid at least federal minimum wage	No annual minimum or maximum award amounts
Federal Perkins Loan	Loan: Must be repaid	Interest charged on this loan is 5 percent for both undergraduate and graduate students; payment is owed to the school that made the loan	\$4,000 maximum for undergraduate students; \$6,000 maximum for graduate and professional students; no minimum award amount
Subsidized Direct or Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Stafford Loan	Loan: Must be repaid	Subsidized: U.S. Department of Education pays interest while borrower is in school and during grace and deferment periods; student must be at least a half-time student	\$2,625 to \$8,500, depending on grade level
Unsubsidized Direct or FFEL Stafford Loan	Loan: Must be repaid	Unsubsidized: Borrower is responsible for interest during life of the loan; student must be at least a half-time; financial need is not a requirement	\$2,625 to \$18,500, depending on grade level (includes any subsidized amounts received for the same period)
Direct or FFEL PLUS Loan	Loan: Must be repaid	Available to parents of dependent undergraduate students who are enrolled at least half-time	Maximum amount is cost of attendance minus any other financial aid the student receives; no minimum award amount
Scholarship	Does not have to be repaid	Students can apply and/or qualify for many different scholarships, both private and public	Amount of award varies; depends on each individual scholarship

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Financial Aid Term	Definition
Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)	The application for financial aid which is required by most institutions of higher education in order to obtain financial assistance. The priority filling period is usually January 1 - June 30, however, many schools have a deadline as early as February 1st so make sure to fill out the form as close to January 1st as possible.
Expected Family Contribution (EFC)	The amount that the federal government determines a family is able to contribute towards the education of the student applying for the financial aid during one school year. This amount is based on the information provided by the family on the FAFSA. Schools use this number to decide how much financial aid a student is eligible to receive based on the school's cost of attendance.
Student Aid Report (SAR)	A document a student receives after the FAFSA has been processed listing all of the answers provided on the FAFSA. Students should review these answers carefully to make sure they are correct. Any needed changes are made on the SAR and mailed back to the address provided, or changes can be made at <a href="http://www.fafsa.ed.gov">www.fafsa.ed.gov</a> in the FAFSA Follow-up section under "Make Corrections to a Processed FAFSA."
Cost Of Attendance (COA)	The amount a school costs in its entirety. This includes tuition, fees, books, transportation, living expenses, etc.
PROFILE	The financial aid application service of the College Board -- a national, 100-year-old, not-for-profit membership association. Many of the member colleges, universities, graduate and professional schools, and scholarship programs use the information collected on PROFILE to help them award nonfederal student aid funds. For a list of schools that require the PROFILE, go to <a href="https://profileonline.collegeboard.com/">https://profileonline.collegeboard.com/</a>