



What's Next: FAFSA Verification and Award Letters

Housekeeping

- Please text **313-451-4544** with any questions you may have during the presentation I will do my best to answer them at the end of the presentation

After Completing the FAFSA

- ☐ Complete FAFSA verification (if required)
- ☐ Receive award letters
- ☐ Call FAFSA adviser with questions
- ☐ Compare out of pocket costs
- ☐ Continue applying for scholarships

FAFSA Verification

- Colleges may require additional documents to confirm the information reported on your financial aid forms.
- For example, you may be asked to provide a tax return transcript or proof of citizenship (if applicable).
- Request a free tax transcript at www.irs.gov/individuals/get-transcript.
- Your financial aid will be pending until you submit all requested documents by each college's deadline.
- Complete verification ASAP!

FAFSA Verification

- Why is FAFSA Verification important?
 - If you do not complete your verification you will not receive an official award letter
 - Confirms the information submitted on your FAFSA
 - Corrects any misinformation on your FAFSA
 - Helps the college understand your financial need
 - Opportunity to show financial changes (job loss, pay decrease, etc.)

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Award Letters

- Look for award letters around April or May
- You will receive an award letter from every school you've been accepted to added to your FAFSA
- Check your student portal
- Don't throw away mail from colleges before reading

Common Terms

- **Estimated Family Contribution (EFC):** Estimates how much of a college's price tag you can, in theory at least, afford to pay
- **Cost of Attendance (COA):** The total price of going to a college. It includes tuition, fees, room, board, books, supplies, meal plan, and other living expenses, such as transportation
- **Direct Costs:** Expenses that will directly be charged to your student account (i.e. tuition, room and board, and fees)
- **Indirect Costs:** Estimated expenses added to your COA that you might pay while in college (i.e. books, transportation, and supplies)
- **Out of Pocket Costs:** How much money still needed to be paid after scholarships, grants, and loans have been removed from your direct cost

Types of Financial Aid

- **Grants:** FREE MONEY (Usually need-based)
- **Scholarships:** ALSO FREE MONEY (Need and/or merit-based)
- **Work Study:** Earned money, you need to get an on-campus job to receive this money
- **Loans:** Not free money, but very helpful when used correctly

3 TYPES OF FEDERAL STUDENT AID



Common Items You'll Find on Your Award Letter

Free Money

Federal Pell Grant:
\$6,345; need-based

**Federal Supplemental
Educational Opportunity
Grant(SEOG):** \$4,000;
need-based, availability
by school

Earned Money

Work-Study: on-campus jobs,
at least minimum wage and
20 hours/week; availability
by school

Borrowed Money

Direct Subsidized [Stafford]
Loan: Government pays
interest during school

Direct Unsubsidized [Stafford]
Loan: You pay interest
during school

Direct Parent PLUS Loan: COA
minus EFC; parent's name
always

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Sample Award Letters

ESTIMATED COST OF ATTENDANCE \$38,400

Tuition and fees:	\$24,500
Room and board:	\$9,400
Books, materials, and supplies:	\$1,000
Personal, travel, misc:	\$2,000
Computer	\$1,500

Aid Description	Fall	Spring	Total
Federal Perkins Loan	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000
Federal Stafford Loan - Subsidized	\$1,750	\$1,750	\$3,500
Federal Stafford Loan - Unsubsidized	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,000
School Scholarship	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$15,000
Federal Pell Grant	\$500	\$500	\$1,000
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)	\$500	\$500	\$1,000
State Scholarship	\$450	\$450	\$900
Federal Work-Study (FWS)	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$3,000
Total			\$28,400

Things to look at:

Cost of Attendance: \$38,400

Direct Cost: \$33,900

Indirect Cost: \$4,500

Free Money (Scholarships and Grants): \$17,900

Earned Money: \$3,000

Borrowed Money: \$7,500

Total Financial Aid Received: \$28,400

Out of Pocket Cost: Direct Cost-Financial Aid=\$8,500

Tips to Help Financial Aid Move Smoothly

- Look for institutional scholarships on your school's website (this will help close the gap)
- If you've reached out to a financial aid adviser and have not received an answer in 48-72 hours do not be afraid to email or call again
- Tune in our webinar Thursday at 1:30 p.m. to receive help navigating through your student portal
- Some schools have updated information on their verification process and allow virtual meetings please check <https://www.detroitcan.org/admissions> for school specific updates

Questions?

Schedule an adviser for a one-on-one Zoom session

<https://calendly.com/detroitcan/studentadvising>

This presentation will be available to you online at:

<https://www.detroitcan.org/seniors>