



OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID

Free Application for Federal Student Aid
(FAFSA) available online at:

[FAFSA.ED.GOV](https://fafsa.ed.gov)

VERIFICATION PROCESS

- Students are selected for verification by the Federal Processor.
- If you make changes to your FAFSA or estimate your tax figures, you might be selected for verification.
- Send any requested documentation as soon as possible.

NET PRICE CALCULATOR

OSFA.ILLINOIS.EDU/AID/NPC/NPC.ASP

- Based on **2016-2017** cost
- Select your anticipated program of study
- If you have filed your FAFSA, you may enter the “EFC” from your Student Aid Report
- If you have not filed your FAFSA, leave “EFC” blank and answer a few questions about your household
- Provides cost and aid estimates based upon information provided

FINANCIAL AID AWARD LETTER

- Shows your total Cost of Attendance and the Expected Family Contribution
- Displays your Financial Aid Awards
- Asks you to accept or decline awards that have been offered
- Asks you to complete additional requirements for loans

TYPES OF AID

GRANTS (FEDERAL, STATE OR INSTITUTIONAL)

- Do not have to be repaid
- Eligibility is determined by financial need

SCHOLARSHIPS

- Do not have to be repaid
- Awarded by colleges and departments (merit-based)
- Awarded by private outside donors (merit & need-based)

PRIVATE SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH WEBSITES

FASTWEB.COM

SCHOLARSHIPS.COM

Over \$12 million in outside scholarships received by
nearly 3,000 undergraduates.

TYPES OF AID

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

- Over 10,000 active student employees
- Most jobs do not require Federal Work Study
- Virtual Job Board hosted on our website

LOANS

- Expected to be repaid post graduation
- Awarded by federal government and OSFA

FINANCIAL AID TIPS

- The FAFSA becomes available October 1 each year.
- File the FAFSA annually.
- Parents and students should create an FSA ID to electronically sign federal student aid documents
- The best time to start searching for private scholarships is the fall of the previous academic year.

FINANCIAL AID TIPS

- Promptly respond to any requests for additional documentation.
- Review and respond to your Financial Aid Award Letter.
- Maintain a folder to keep all financial aid information.

CONTACT US

OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

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OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Friday
9am-5pm