

FINANCIAL AID 101



What is Financial Aid?

Financial aid is funds provided to students and families to help pay for postsecondary educational expenses.



Categories of Financial Aid

- Need-based – determined by federal needs analysis from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
 - Cost of Education minus Expected Family Contribution = Need
- Non-need-based



Types of Financial Aid

- Scholarships

- Institutional
- External

- Grants

- Federal
- State

- Loans

- Federally Sponsored Student Loans
- Private or Alternative Student Loans

- Employment

- College Work-Study
- Off-Campus Employment



Primary Sources of Student Financial Aid

- Institutional
- Private
- State
- Federal

Federal Government

- Largest source of financial aid
- Aid awarded primarily on the basis of financial need
- Must apply every year using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)



Common Federal Aid Programs

- Federal Pell Grant – awards range from \$555 to \$5,550 based on EFC - \$5,273 EFC cutoff
- Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education Grant - \$4,000 annual maximum – must agree to teach in a high-need field, at a low-income elementary or secondary school as a highly qualified teacher for at least 4 years within 8 years of completing the program
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant - Campus Based - \$4,000 maximum award
- Federal Perkins Loan - Campus Based – 5% interest – can borrow up to \$5,500 as 1st year undergraduate - repayment begins 9 months after graduation or leaving institution
- Federal Work-Study – Campus Based
- Direct Stafford Loans – 3.4% interest rate – can borrow \$3,500 as 1st year undergraduate (\$5,500 if parent does not qualify for PLUS) – payments begin 6 months after graduating or leaving the school
- Direct PLUS Loans – borrowed by parents – credit check – 1st payment begins within 60 days after loan fully disbursed – 3.4% interest rate



State Financial Aid

WV Residency Requirement – student and parents must be permanent WV residents at least one year prior to applying for state assistance.

College Foundation of WV

www.cfwv.com



State Financial Aid Programs 2011-2012 Funding Levels

Program	2011-2012 Funding
PROMISE Scholarship	\$47,500,000
Higher Education Grant	\$39,019,864
Higher Education Adult Part-Time Students Grant	\$5,005,425
Engineering, Science, and Technology Scholarship	\$470,473
Underwood-Smith Teacher Scholarship	\$141,142
Total	\$92,136,904



PROMISE Scholarship Program

2012 High School Graduates

- Senate Bill 373 adopted during the 2009 legislative session created an award floor of \$4,750. This will be the maximum award for the 2012 graduating class.
- Academic eligibility standards for the 2012 graduating class
 - 3.0 Cumulative HS GPA and 3.0 Core GPA
 - 22 ACT Composite with a minimum 20 in each subject area
 - 1020 SAT Combined Score with a minimum score of 490 in Critical Reading and 480 in Mathematics. Final test dates to establish scholarship eligibility are the June tests.
 - 2012-2013 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) must be filed by March 1, 2012 at www.fafsa.ed.gov
- PROMISE Scholarship Application must be completed on-line by March 1, 2012. Students apply through the College Foundation of West Virginia website, www.cfwv.com.



Higher Education Grant Program 2012-2013 Filers

- Submission of the FAFSA by April 16, 2012
- A 2.00 High School Grade Point Average (confirmed by post-secondary institutions) is required
- Continuing college filers must have a 2.00 cumulative Grade Point Average and renewal filers must also show progression.
- Maximum award for 2011-2012 award year is \$2,400



Higher Education Adult Part-Time Student (HEAPS) Grant

- Need-based grant
- Decentralized administration – Contact Institutional Aid Office for more details
- Two programs components
 - Traditional part-time enrollment
 - Workforce Development
- FAFSA required for determination of traditional part-time enrollment, but application deadlines will vary among institutions
- Maximum award cannot exceed part-time tuition and fee charges



Engineering, Science and Technology Scholarship

- Merit-based scholarship/forgivable loan
- March 1 application deadline
- 3.0 overall GPA
- Enrolled or accepted for enrollment full-time in an engineering, science or technology program (4-yr, 2-yr or certificate)
- Maximum annual award amount is \$3,000



Underwood-Smith Teacher Scholarship

- Merit-based scholarship/forgivable loan
- March 1 application deadline
- Must be enrolled as a full-time student in a course leading to a certification as a teacher at the pre-k, elementary, middle or secondary level
- Must have a 3.25 GPA after completing 2 years of course work (due to limited funding, high school applicants are not eligible)
- Maximum annual award amount is \$5,000



THINGS TO REMEMBER

- College Scholarship Searches
 - www.cfwv.com
 - www.fastweb.com
- College Goal Sunday – February 12, 2012
- FAFSA 4-Caster
 - www.fafsa.gov
- College Cost Calculators
- Academic Common Market



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