

# Understanding The College Financial Aid Process

Kelly E. Jambo

Director of Financial Assistance

Sacred Heart University

# “I am so overwhelmed. Where do I begin?”

- Research the necessary forms and deadlines for each college the student applies to.
  - Although you may believe you do NOT qualify for aid please fill out the paperwork anyway.
  - Colleges utilize various forms to make determinations on aid eligibility.
  - Make sure you know which forms pertain to which college:
  - If a deadline **passes** your student may forfeit aid eligibility.
  - Each and every college has a different deadline...you **MUST** be organized!
  - If deadline is March 1<sup>st</sup> commit to getting applications done two weeks prior.
  - **DO NOT WAIT FOR STUDENT TO BE ACCEPTED!!!!**
  - Although it is nice to listen to others who have gone through this process...speak to the colleges directly.

# Where can I access financial aid forms?

- If the college has their own forms it may be on their website.
- FAFSA= Free Application for Federal Student Aid

- [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

- All colleges administering federal aid must require students to complete the FAFSA
- CSS Profile: [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)
  - Cost to register and to list one college is \$25.00 each additional school listed is \$16.00. Fee waivers are determined by the college board only based on income levels.
- NCP Profile: Non custodial Parent Profile  
[www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)
- To see whether the colleges you apply to require this form please visit: [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

# What is the CSS Profile Application

- CSS Profile = University \$\$\$\$.
- **Application is On-Line Only**
- You will need:
  - Parent/Step-parent and Student previous years tax return...**2013 W2's and federal tax return (1040/1040A/1040 EZ)**
  - You may **estimate** off of your 2012 federal tax return and W2's
  - Asset and investment info
  - Correct Social Security numbers
  - Correct DOB years...
  - To answer ALL questions even if the answer is zero
  - Changes and updates can be made however you must print out a copy of the form, make the corrections manually and then fax the updates to the colleges.
  - Once the CSS Profile is submitted it will provide the college with a

*family contribution = EFC*

# Non-Custodial Parent Profile

- The Non-Custodial Parent Profile (NCP) is requested by some colleges in addition to the CSS Profile.
  - You can see who asks for this by visiting [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)
- Application is on-line only!
- Cost is the same as CSS Profile
- This forms is requested of families who are divorced or separated.
- It will require the NCP to input their previous years income/asset info based on their federal tax return.
- Some colleges, not all, may have waiver process with proper documentation.
- Once the NCP is submitted the college(s) will come up with a

*Family Contribution = EFC*

# This is where you apply...

## CSS / Financial Aid PROFILE®



Welcome to PROFILE. By filling out one form, you can apply online for nonfederal financial aid from almost 400 colleges and scholarship programs.

### Apply for Financial Aid

Complete your PROFILE application to apply for financial aid.

Fall 2014 or Spring  
2015

Sign In

Fall 2013 or Spring  
2014

Sign In

### Useful Resources

[2014-15 PROFILE Student Guide >>](#)

[Participating Colleges, Universities and Scholarship Programs >>](#)

# Here is the list of institutions who require the CSS Profile/Non-Custodial Profile...

*if the college is not listed do not complete the form...*



## PROFILE Online 2013-14

CLOSE WINDOW

### Participating Institutions and Programs

The following colleges, universities, and scholarship programs use PROFILE, Noncustodial PROFILE, and/or IDOC as part of their financial aid process for some or all of their financial aid applicants. Please contact the institution for more information.

CSS Code	Name	State	PROFILE	PROFILE for International Students	Noncustodial PROFILE	IDOC
0690	10,000 Degrees	CA	Yes	Yes	No	No
1001	Adrian College	MI	Yes	No	No	No
1003	Alabama A&M University	AL	No	No	No	Yes
2013	Albany College of Pharmacy	NY	Yes	No	No	No
7041	Albany Law S of Union U	NY	Yes	No	No	No
2995	Albert Einstein C of Medicine	NY	Yes	No	Yes	No
2004	Albright College	PA	Yes	No	No	No
2005	Alfred University	NY	Yes	No	No	No
1010	Alma College	MI	No	Yes	No	No
7363	Amer Assoc of C of Osteo Med	MD	Yes	No	No	No
2707	American Councils for Intl Edu	DC	Yes	No	No	No
0540	American Foreign Srvc Assoc SF	DC	Yes	No	Yes	No
5007	American University	DC	Yes	No	Yes	No
0866	American University of Paris	CO	Yes	No	No	No
3003	Amherst College	MA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
6293	Aquinas Inst of Theology	MO	Yes	No	No	No
1031	Archevorks	IL	Yes	No	No	No
0193	Armenian Student Assoc of Amer	RI	Yes	Yes	No	No
1029	Athenaeum of Ohio	OH	Yes	No	No	No
0613	Attleboro Scholarship Found	MA	Yes	No	No	No
0062	Aubrey Lee Brooks Foundation	NC	Yes	No	No	No
3075	Babson College	MA	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
2037	Bard College	NY	Yes	No	Yes	No
3795	Bard College at Simon's Rock	MA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
2038	Barnard College	NY	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
3076	Bates College	ME	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
3080	Bennington College	VT	Yes	No	Yes	No
3098	Bentley U: Mccallum Graduate	MA	Yes	No	No	No
3096	Bentley University	MA	Yes	No	No	No

# CSS Profile Webinar...



Find Colleges, Advice and More

Search

Sign up | Sign in

Get Started ▾ Find Colleges ▾ Explore Careers ▾ Pay for College ▾ Get In ▾ Make a Plan ▾

Home / Get Started / For Parents / Webinar: Completing the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE®



ShareThis



4

## Webinar: Completing the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE — What You Need to Know

Watch the presentation and download resources

More than 400 colleges use the PROFILE to award financial aid from sources other than the federal government. Watch this on-demand webinar, recorded Dec. 12, 2012, to learn how to fill the form out and what information you'll need before you begin. And find out about resources and tools to help you complete the online application.

Presenter: Julia Padgett, director of Financial Aid Services at the College Board.

[Play recorded webinar](#)

### Webinar resources

#### Completing the PROFILE PowerPoint presentation

Get this PDF version of the slide show presented in the webinar.

[Download \(.pdf/853KB\)](#)

#### Frequently Asked Questions

See answers to popular questions from webinar attendees.

[Download \(.pdf/464KB\)](#)

### UPCOMING WEBINARS

**Spring webinar series coming soon.** Topics include comparing aid awards, financial aid preparation for juniors and more.

### RELATED WEBINARS

- [Financial Aid — Tips and Info for High School Seniors](#)
- [Completing the FAFSA — What](#)



# CSS Profile cont

## PROFILE Online 2014-15

[HELP DESK](#)[CONTACT US](#)[LOG OUT OF PROFILE](#)[Register for PROFILE](#)

### Important Downloads

[Customized Pre-Application Worksheet \(.pdf\)](#)[Instructions \(.pdf\)](#)

PDFs require [Adobe Reader](#)

### My colleges and programs

None selected

Welcome to PROFILE Online!

- Start by clicking on "Click here before you begin" for general instructions, documents to gather navigation tips, and information on the cost of the service.

[Click here before you begin.](#)

- Next, click on "Register for PROFILE" to complete the PROFILE registration process. Your answers to these few registration questions will give the College Board the information needed to create an online application customized for you.

- You must register for PROFILE each year you wish to file an application. However, if you submitted a 2013-14 PROFILE Application and signed in using your user name from that year, some information may have been pre-filled from that application. Please review the information carefully.

- Once you've registered, you can begin the application or you can download or print the customized instructions and Pre-Application Worksheet that are available at the end of registration. They will also be available on this page after you register.

- If you have already registered for PROFILE for 2014-15, please exit PROFILE and sign-in with your original user name and password.

To learn more about the College Board and PROFILE click on "About PROFILE." To see if the colleges and programs you're applying to require the PROFILE, click on "Participating Institutions."

[About PROFILE](#)[Participating Institutions](#)

# The MOST Common Financial Aid application is...

## Free Application for Federal Student Aid

- FAFSA= Federal \$\$\$
- This is a FREE Application....DO NOT GO TO ~~[www.FAFSA.com](http://www.FAFSA.com)~~
- Application is on-line only and available **January 1 2014**
- Apply for a federal PIN number now!
  - [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov)
  - Parent and Student MUST have a PIN Number in order to authenticate the application.
- Only custodial parents file FAFSA
- If remarried....SORRY!!!
- You may ESTIMATE however eventually you will need student and parent(s) previous tax year 1040 and W2's (2013) to input OR depending on timing you may be able to import that IRS data directly into the FAFSA application.
- **DRT: Data Retrieval Tool**
- College may request copy of 2013 Tax Transcript/W2s
- Examples of federal aid include: **Pell Grant/Supplemental Grant/Federal Direct Stafford Loan/Work Study/State Grant (CICSG) if student attends CT College.**
- Every question MUST be answered...if left blank the FAFSA will be rejected...
  - Ex: Gender question
- Once your tax return is filed you may go back into [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov) to update your estimated or erroneous data.
- Once the FAFSA is submitted it will provide the college with a *family contribution*.

# FAFSA: www.fafsa.gov

Federal Student Aid  
An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

PROUD SPONSOR of  
the AMERICAN MIND™

FAFSA™  
Free Application for Federal Student Aid

Home About Us PIN Site StudentAid.gov Help

SEARCH

English Español

## Get help paying for college

Submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)



### New to the FAFSA?

Start A New  
FAFSA

### Returning User?

- Make a correction
- Add a school
- View your Student Aid Report (SAR), and more...

Login

### Deadlines

Information about your deadlines.

### Announcements

Information on Potential Government Shutdown



# FAFSA on Youtube

The image shows a screenshot of the Federal Student Aid YouTube channel page. At the top, the YouTube logo is on the left, and a search bar and an 'Upload' button are on the right. Below the logo is a navigation menu with categories: Popular on YouTube, Music, Sports, Gaming (highlighted), Education, Movies, TV Shows, News, Live, and Spotlight. Underneath is a 'CHANNELS FOR YOU' section with icons for Nerdist, Geek & Sundry, danisnotonfire, Machinima, and Truthloader. A 'Browse channels' button is at the bottom of this section. A dark grey box on the left contains the text 'Sign in now to see your channels and recommendations!' and a blue 'Sign In' button. The main content area features a red banner with the 'Federal Student Aid' logo and the text 'PROUD SPONSOR OF THE AMERICAN MIND®' next to a woman's profile. Below the banner is the channel name 'Federal Student Aid' and a 'Subscribe' button with '4,003' subscribers. A video titled 'FAFSA: Apply for Aid' is shown with a description: 'Are you ready to apply for financial aid for college or career school? Check out this playlist that describes the process of filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). For more information abo...'. It has '6 videos • 55,261 views' and '8 likes, 1 dislikes'. Below the video are 'Play all', 'Like', and 'Share' buttons. Three video thumbnails are listed: 1. 'Overview of the Financial Aid Process' by FederalStudentAid (158,105 views), 2. 'FAFSA Overview' by FederalStudentAid (134,654 views), and 3. 'How to Fill Out the FAFSA' by FederalStudentAid (83,779 views).

# How to Fill out the FAFSA- Youtube

The image shows a YouTube video player interface. At the top, the YouTube logo is on the left, followed by a search bar and an 'Upload' button. The video player itself has a dark header with the title 'FAFSA: Apply for Aid' and the channel name 'by FederalStudentAid'. The video content features a green and red background with the text 'FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID' and a graphic of a FAFSA application form with a mouse cursor pointing to it. The video progress bar at the bottom shows '0:03 / 2:57'. To the right of the video player is a playlist with six items:

- 1 Overview of the Financial Aid Process by FederalStudentAid
- 2 FAFSA Overview by FederalStudentAid
- ▶ How to Fill Out the FAFSA by FederalStudentAid
- 4 FAFSA: Determining Your Dependency Status by FederalStudentAid
- 5 After the FAFSA: What Happens Next by FederalStudentAid
- 6 Federal Student Aid -- Myths About Financial Aid by FederalStudentAid

# All of my forms are submitted...now what?

- Colleges will then put together aid packages to discount your overall family share.

Kelly University	Elizabeth College	Jambo Community College
Cost: \$50,000	Cost \$40,000	Cost: \$3,000
EFC: \$20,000	EFC: \$20,000	EFC: \$20,000
<b>Need: \$30,000</b>	<b>Need: \$20,000</b>	<b>Need: \$0</b>
Aid Package: ???	Aid Package:???	Aid Package: ???

# Types of Financial Assistance

- Scholarships/Merit awards
- Institutional Grants
- Work Study
- Federal/Private Loans
- Outside Scholarship
- State Grant
- Federal Grants

# Wyatt University

**Cost of Attendance: \$50,000**

**Breakdown of Award:**

Trustee Award \$10,000

Performing Arts Award: \$5,000

Wyatt U need based grant: \$2,000

Work Study Award: \$1,000

Federal Direct Subsidized Stafford  
Loan: \$3,500

Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford  
Loan \$2,000

---

**Total Awards: \$23,500**



# Family Share

Cost of Attendance – Financial Aid = Family Share

- $\$50,000 - \$23,500 = \$26,500$

# What are my options if I feel the gap is too large...

- Families and students can meet or contact the financial aid office directly to discuss the awards.
- Appealing the award may be an option.
  - Professional judgment with the collection of proper documentation
- Loans: [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov)
  - [www.chesla.org](http://www.chesla.org)
- Payment Plans
- Outside scholarships...
  - [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)
  - [www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com)
  - [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

# Net-Price Calculator (NPC)...

## The College Board's Net Price Calculator

[Are you an institution? Click here.](#)

Welcome! We're glad you're exploring how to plan and pay for your college education. Colleges that you may think are out of your price range may be affordable.



### Using the NPC

- ✓ You will be asked questions about your family's finances, but, don't worry, your privacy will be protected.
- ✓ It is not necessary but will be helpful to have your parent's financial records in hand when you complete the calculator, and to know your GPA and test scores.
- ✓ If you are unsure of an answer, it's okay to ~~give your best guess~~

### Financial Aid 101

With the help of financial aid dollars, millions of students achieve their dreams of going to college. No matter what your family's situation, financial aid can help you pay for the college or university of your choice. The following resources developed by the College Board will motivate you and help you understand the financial aid process and guide you down the path towards affording the

### Announcements

The following colleges and universities are recent additions to the list of participating schools:

- [University of Wyoming](#)
- [Pittsburgh Technical Institute](#)
- [University of Kentucky](#)

# Result page based on info...

## Congratulations on completing the University of Arkansas Net Price Calculator!

Below you will find a summary of the estimated costs for the 2011-2012 academic year and your estimated eligibility for student aid. To learn more about our financial aid programs at the University of Arkansas, please visit [Financial Aid TV](#) to view informational video clips.

### Estimates for the 2011-2012 Academic Year

#### Your published cost of attendance:

Tuition & Fees	+ \$17,606
Room & Board	+ \$8,330
Books & Supplies	+ \$1,214
Other Expenses	+ \$3,746

---

<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$30,896</b> ⓘ
-------------------	-------------------

#### Your estimated need:

Total Cost	\$30,896
Expected Family Contribution (EFC)	- \$1,027 ⓘ

---

<b>Total Need</b>	<b>\$29,869</b>
-------------------	-----------------

#### Your estimated grants and scholarships:

##### Federal Aid

Pell Grant	- \$4,500
------------	-----------

##### College Grants and Scholarships

University of Arkansas Merit Scholarship	- \$2,000 ⓘ
--	-------------

---

<b>Your Estimated Net Price</b>	<b>\$24,396</b> ⓘ
---------------------------------	-------------------



# Final Notes...

- If possible it is important to visit all colleges your student is interested in.
- Deadlines
- Forms
- Understanding costs and award letters
- Speaking with the aid office
- Family Share
- Importance of Outside Scholarships

Questions