

Focus on Financial Aid 2009–2010



# Your Guide to Paying for College

**How will I pay for college?**

**College is costly. But the lifetime benefits of being a college graduate are worth the investment. Financial aid has helped millions of students pay for their education beyond high school. Many students are surprised to find they qualify for some assistance.**

## Where Do I Start?

Right here. Applying for financial aid is not difficult, but it is important to plan ahead and understand your options. This guide is intended to help answer your questions about paying for college. You will find information about:

- grants
- loans
- scholarships
- tuition reciprocity and reduced tuition
- tax credits
- saving for college
- how to contact each institution

Assistance is also available from postsecondary institutions, your high school or the Minnesota Office of Higher Education.

## What Is Financial Aid?

Financial aid comes in three basic forms:

- *Grants or scholarships*: awards that you do not have to repay;
- *Loans*: borrowed funds that must be repaid with interest, usually after your education is complete;
- *Work Study*: money earned through on- or off-campus employment while attending college.

Your eligibility for various types of aid is determined by the cost of attendance and your financial needs.

In addition to financial aid, reduced tuition is a possibility for students who attend public colleges and universities in certain neighboring states. Tax benefits can also help to offset the cost of attending college.

# Contents

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<b>Where Does Financial Aid Come From?</b> .....	3
<b>How Do I Apply for Financial Aid?</b> .....	4
When Do I Apply for Financial Aid?.....	4
Application Procedures.....	4
Factors That Affect Eligibility.....	6
<b>What Types of Financial Aid Are Available?</b> .....	8
Grants.....	8
Federal Pell Grant.....	8
Minnesota State Grant.....	9
Federal Academic Competitiveness Grant.....	10
SMART Grant.....	11
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant.....	11
Minnesota Postsecondary Child Care Grant.....	11
Federal and State Need-Based Grant Chart.....	13
Scholarships.....	14
Minnesota Achieve Scholarship.....	14
Loans.....	17
Federal Subsidized Stafford Loans.....	17
Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Loans.....	19
PLUS Loans.....	19
Federal Direct Student Loans.....	19
Federal Perkins Loans.....	20
SELF Loans.....	21
Repayment of Student Loans.....	22
Work-Study Programs.....	23
Community Service Benefits.....	24
Financial Assistance for Military Service.....	24
Financial Aid for Specific Populations.....	27
Financial Aid for Students in Specific Programs.....	30
Reciprocity & Reduced Tuition Programs.....	32
<b>Are There Education Tax Benefits?</b> .....	35
<b>Are There Tax-Advantaged Investment &amp; Savings Options?</b> .....	38
Does Saving for College Hurt Your Chances for Receiving Financial Aid?.....	40
<b>Who Can Provide Additional Help?</b> .....	41
<b>Summary of Financial Aid Programs</b> .....	44
<b>Financial Aid Contacts List &amp; Institution FAFSA Codes</b> .....	48

# Where Does Financial Aid Come From?

Financial aid comes from the federal and state governments, as well as colleges and private organizations.

## Aid from the Federal Government

The federal government generally awards financial aid to students from low-income families. The largest federal grant program is the Pell Grant program. The federal government also offers loans to help students pay for their education and subsidizes work-study jobs at various colleges and universities.

## Aid from State Government

The state of Minnesota awards financial aid to students from low- and moderate-income families.

- Minnesota State Grants are awarded to qualifying Minnesota residents attending Minnesota postsecondary institutions as undergraduate students.
- The state awards Postsecondary Child Care grants to eligible undergraduates with dependent children.
- The state subsidizes work-study jobs at schools across the state.
- The state provides a scholarship to eligible students who take rigorous courses in high school.
- The state also operates a student loan program called the SELF Loan program.

## Aid from Colleges

In addition to administering federal and state aid programs, many colleges and universities have their own scholarship, loan and work programs. These may include:

- alumni-sponsored awards
- privately sponsored scholarships
- athletic awards
- college funds used for financial aid

Some awards are based on financial need. Others are based on your academic achievement, religious affiliation, ethnic or racial heritage, community activities, artistic talents, athletic ability, field of study or special hobbies, experiences and interests.

## Aid from Private Sources

Financial aid is also available from many community organizations, foundations, corporations, clubs and civic and cultural groups.

## Qualifying for Aid

Need-based financial aid programs are designed with the assumption that students and parents have a responsibility to pay a share of educational costs. The amount you and your family are expected to pay will vary based upon factors including:

- income
- assets
- the number of children in the family
- the number of children attending college

***Ninety-five percent of all financial aid awarded comes from state and federal governments and the colleges.***

The process for determining your eligibility for financial aid establishes what you and your family can reasonably be expected to pay. This is called your expected family contribution and is used to identify your financial need:

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{Cost of Attending a Specific College} \\ - \text{Expected Family Contribution (EFC)} \\ \hline = \text{Financial Need} \end{array}$$

Federal and state financial aid is offered only if your expected family contribution is not enough to cover the cost of attending a particular school. Although your Expected Family Contribution will stay the same, your financial aid eligibility may increase when you apply to higher-priced colleges.

### Estimate Your Financial Aid

Use [www.getreadyforcollege.org/estimator](http://www.getreadyforcollege.org/estimator) to estimate your eligibility for a Federal Pell Grant, Minnesota State Grant and federal education tax benefits.

# How Do I Apply for Financial Aid?

In order to receive financial aid, you must apply for it. By submitting one application form, you can determine your eligibility for a range of financial assistance at many colleges, universities and career schools.

To apply for financial aid, you must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. The FAFSA is used to apply for Minnesota State Grants, federal Pell Grants, Stafford Loans and other financial aid available at specific schools. The form requires you to submit information about your family's income, assets and your status as a resident. Your completed FAFSA will be made available to all the schools you designate. Some schools have their own application to apply for institutional aid. Find

***A "Student Aid Report" (or SAR) is a report on student need based on information supplied on the FAFSA. The report is used by schools to prepare the financial aid package for the student.***

out if there is a separate application and deadline. The financial aid office at the college can help you complete the FAFSA and answer questions. Each college you are considering will use funds from all available sources to create an aid package for you based on your financial need. Applying for financial aid does not cost anything. By applying, you do not commit yourself to attend any school.

## When Do I Apply for Financial Aid?

Deadlines vary among financial aid programs. Apply as early as possible. Each institution has its own deadlines for applying for institutional scholarships. Some are in February or March for the following academic year. The earliest you can submit the FAFSA application is January 1 for the following academic year. For the Minnesota State Grant, you must apply no later than 30 days after the start of the term. For some grants and loans (including the Federal Pell Grant program), you may apply anytime during the academic year you are enrolled. You must reapply each year using a shortened renewal application form.

## Application Procedure

You may apply online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). The paper FAFSA may be obtained and printed from the Web site [www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov) or you may request a copy by calling the Federal Student Aid Information Center at (800) 433-3243.

To complete the FAFSA, you will need the following financial records:

- your tax return (if filed)
- your parents' return if you apply as a dependent student
- your spouse's return (if you are married and your spouse filed a separate return)

It helps to have other records on hand such as W-2 forms, current bank statements, social security numbers, records of untaxed income and business and farm records.

School codes needed to complete the FAFSA are available at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) or see the list of Minnesota schools at the back of this guide. Save all your records used to prepare your application in case you are asked to verify its accuracy.

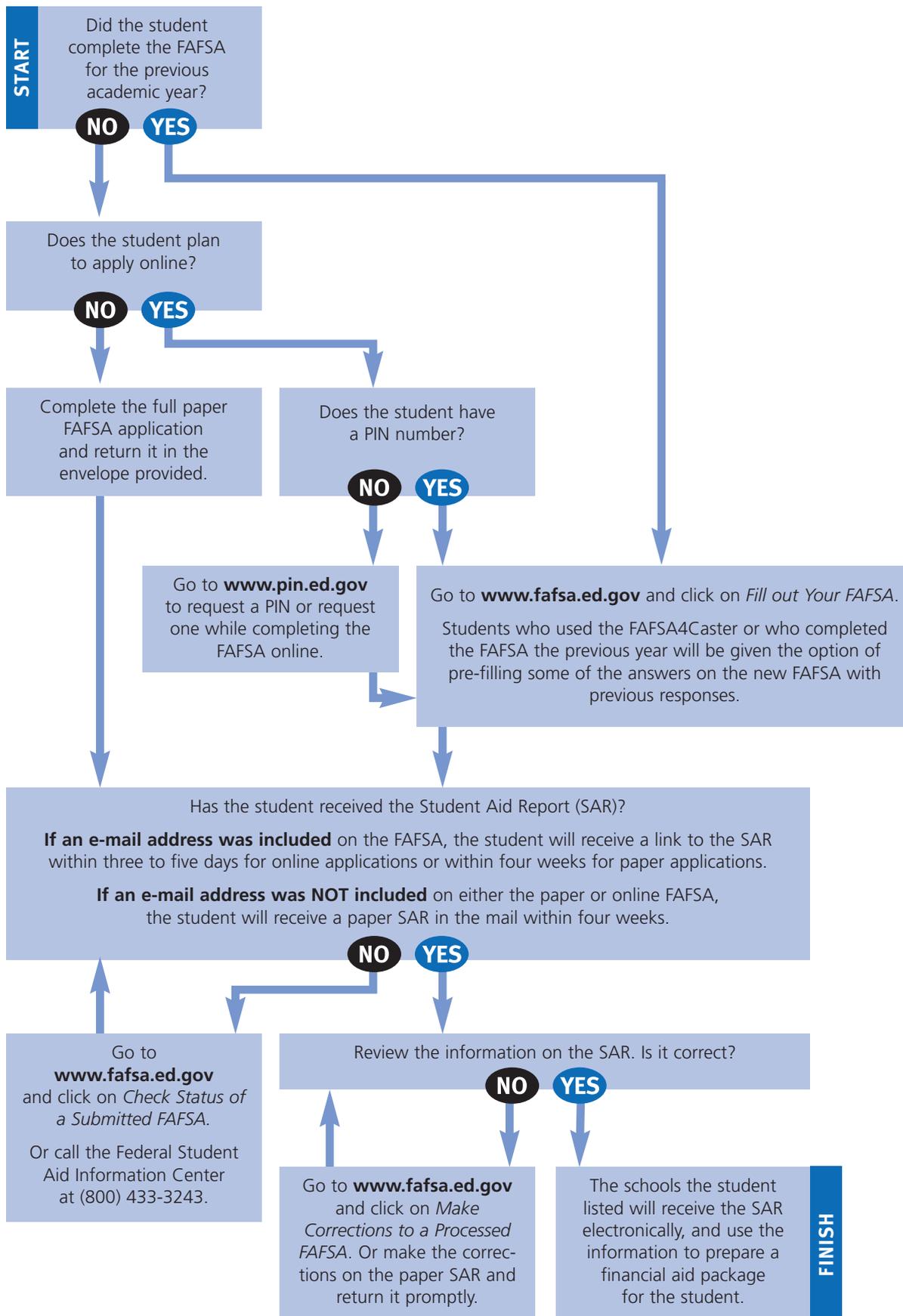
Your FAFSA will be analyzed and an electronic report will be sent to the schools you designate. This report will confirm the information you provided on the FAFSA and contains your expected family contribution. If you estimate your federal income taxes on the FAFSA, many schools will hold off awarding financial aid packages until your income is verified.

### Tips on Completing the FAFSA

To learn more about how to complete the FAFSA correctly, visit [www.studentaid.ed.gov/completfafsa](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov/completfafsa).

Check the status of your FAFSA at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) by clicking on the FAFSA follow-up.

# Completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)



# Factors That Affect Eligibility

Various factors may result in increases or decreases in your eligibility for financial aid.

## Dependent or Independent Status

All students are considered either **dependent** (on their parents) or **independent** (self-supporting). Dependent students must submit financial information about their parents on the FAFSA. This information is required even if the parents do not intend to help pay for the student's education.

You are automatically considered an independent student for the 2010-2011 school year if you are 24 or older as of December 31, 2010. If you are under 24, you will be considered independent if you are any one of the following:

- a graduate or professional student
- married
- a student with legal dependents other than a spouse
- on active duty military service
- a veteran of U.S. Armed Forces
- an orphan or ward of the court or in foster care at any time age 13 or older
- in legal guardianship or emancipated minor status as of the data of application (or 18th birthday if a Minnesota resident)
- determined to be an unaccompanied homeless youth
- classified by your financial aid administrator as independent because of unusual circumstances

**Appeals:** If you think you should be considered independent because of unusual circumstances, even though you do not meet any of the criteria listed above, talk to the financial aid administrator at your college about a "dependency override". The aid administrator may use his or her judgment to change your status to independent if he or she believes your status warrants it. The decision by the institution is final.

Beginning with the 2009-2010 academic year, colleges will be allowed to accept a dependency override judgement by another college so students need not appeal to all colleges listed on the FAFSA.

## Citizenship Requirements

Each federal and state financial aid program may have different citizenship eligibility requirements. Review the requirements for each program carefully. See page 9 for Minnesota residency requirements.

## Eligible Online Students

Students enrolled in online courses and programs may be eligible for some types of financial aid. To be eligible for federal financial aid, the student must:

- attend an institution that is eligible to participate in federal financial aid
- meet the student eligibility requirements for federal aid programs

Students also may be eligible for a loan through the SELF Loan program at participating institutions (see page 21).

Undergraduate Minnesota residents who take online courses may qualify for a Minnesota State Grant if the institution is physically located in Minnesota and participates in the program.

To learn more about financial aid eligibility as an online learner, check with the financial aid administrator at the school you are attending or plan to attend.

## Class Load

Increases or decreases in your number of credits per term may affect how much financial aid you are eligible to receive. Before making changes to your class schedule, check with your financial aid administrator for more details.

### School Transfer

Financial aid does not automatically transfer with the student to a new institution. Students must contact the financial aid administrator at the new school to determine what actions should be taken to receive aid. Students with federal aid must be sure to have an electronic version of the FAFSA results sent to the new institution. In many cases, the new institution will be able to access the federal application system electronically. Students with a Stafford, PLUS or SELF Loan will need to reapply. Students participating in work study or the Minnesota Postsecondary Child Care Grant also need to reapply. If you transfer to a more expensive school, you may be eligible to receive more aid. See your financial aid administrator for details.

### Changes in Financial Status

Students and families sometimes experience changes in their financial status due to special circumstances, such as the loss of a job, serious illness, disability, separation or divorce or a death in the family. If your family income changes, your financial aid eligibility also may change.

If the information you submitted on the FAFSA is vastly different from your current income and assets, contact the financial aid administrator at the institution you attend or plan to attend and explain your circumstances. In special instances, the aid administrator can adjust the information used to calculate your expected family contribution which may result in increased financial aid eligibility based on your revised level of financial need.

#### **Funding Education Beyond High School: The Guide to Federal Student Aid, 2009-2010**

Published by the U.S. Department of Education, this publication provides information on federal grants, loans and work study. The English and Spanish guides may be downloaded at [www.studentaid.ed.gov/guide](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov/guide).

The English, Spanish or Braille guide may also be ordered by calling (800) 433-3243.

# What Types of Financial Aid Are Available?

Financial aid comes in three main forms:

- Aid you don't repay (grants and scholarships)
- Aid you must repay (loans)
- Aid you earn (work study and military assistance)

Other ways include military service education benefits, reduced tuition programs and government tax benefits.

## Grants

Grants are awarded from the government on the basis of financial need and are the largest source of financial aid.

### Federal Pell Grant

In 2009-2010, Pell Grants range from \$609 to \$5,350. The actual award amount will depend on the price of attendance, your family's financial situation (such as income, assets and family size), whether you are a full- or part-time student and other criteria.

Students with family incomes up to \$59,000 may be eligible for a Federal Pell Grant although most awards go to students with lower family incomes.

**Eligibility Requirements:** You may receive a Pell Grant for your undergraduate study until you complete a bachelor's degree, and may use it at almost any college. In some cases, you may receive a Pell Grant for attending a post-graduate teacher certification program. Check with the financial aid administrator at your school to determine whether the college and its programs are eligible for the Federal Pell Grant Program.

In addition to meeting financial eligibility requirements, students must:

- be enrolled in a program leading to a certificate, degree or diploma at a school eligible to participate in the Federal Pell Grant program
- sign a statement of registration status indicating that you have either registered with the Selective Service ([www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov)) or that you are not required to register. You must register if you are a male born on or after January 1, 1960, are at least 18 and not currently on active duty in the armed forces.

- maintain satisfactory academic progress. If you are receiving federal student aid and are enrolled in a program that is longer than two years, you must have a "C" average by the time you are halfway through your course of study or have an academic standing consistent with your institution's graduation requirements
- sign a statement stating that you do not owe a refund on a Pell Grant, are not in default on a federal loan and that you agree to use your student aid only for educational purposes
- not be convicted for the possession or sale of illegal drugs while receiving federal financial aid
- be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen. You are an **eligible non-citizen** if you:
  - are a U.S. permanent resident with an Alien Registration Card (I-551)
  - are a conditional permanent resident with an I-551C card
  - have an Arrival Departure Record (I-94) from the Department of Homeland Security with any of the following designations: refugee, asylum granted, parolee, victim of human trafficking, T-visa holder or Cuban-Haitian entrant

**Application Process:** You apply for the Federal Pell Grant by completing the FAFSA. You may apply for aid for the 2010-2011 school year after January 1, 2010 and until June 30, 2011 to receive a Pell Grant for that school year. Students must apply each year to renew their grants.

## Minnesota State Grant

The Minnesota State Grant program is among the largest state-sponsored need-based programs in the country. This year, about 80,000 Minnesota residents will receive grants totaling about \$145 million.

The maximum combined Pell and State Grant in 2009-2010 ranges from about \$5,800 for students attending public two-year colleges to \$8,700 for students attending private four-year colleges. The average State Grant award is about \$1,800.

**Eligibility Requirements:** Minnesota residents who enroll for at least three credits as undergraduate students in programs leading to certificates, degrees or diplomas at one of more than 132 eligible schools in Minnesota may apply for a State Grant. To be considered a Minnesota resident, a student must meet the criteria listed below. Eligible students must also be U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens (see page 8).

Eligible institutions include state universities, the University of Minnesota, public community and technical colleges, schools of nursing and related health professions, private colleges and private career institutions in Minnesota. State Grants cannot be used at out-of-state schools unless the student is pursuing a degree at an eligible Minnesota school that has a consortium agreement with an out-of-state school.

**Minnesota Residency Requirements:** To be considered a Minnesota resident for the State Grant, State Work Study and the Postsecondary Child Care Grant, a student must meet one of the following criteria:

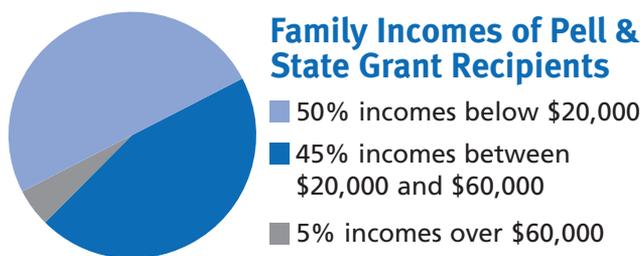
- graduated from a Minnesota high school while residing in Minnesota
- received a GED in Minnesota after living in the state for at least one year
- lived in Minnesota for at least one year for other than educational purposes (not enrolled for more than five credits in any term during that time)
- had parents residing in Minnesota when the financial aid application was submitted (dependent students only)
- met the resident definition as a dependent applicant, and has not moved from the state since that time (independent students only)

- relocated to Minnesota as a refugee and continued to reside in Minnesota
- been a spouse or dependent of a veteran, if the veteran is a Minnesota resident
- been stationed in Minnesota as a member (spouse or dependent) of the U.S. armed forces on active federal military service
- relocated to Minnesota within 12 months of a presidential disaster declaration if the disaster interrupts the student's postsecondary education

Students and their families are not penalized for leaving the state to serve in the military, for missionary service or to attend college in another state if they retain Minnesota as their state of legal residence.

**Other Eligibility Requirements:** Grant applicants must be graduates of a secondary school or its equivalent or be 17 years of age or older by the end of the academic year.

Students in default on a student loan or more than 30 days behind for child support owed to a public agency are not eligible, unless they are complying with a payment plan.



**How Does the State Grant Work?** The State Grant program is coordinated with the Federal Pell Grant program. All students are required to pay at least 46 percent of their cost of attendance from savings, earnings, loans or other financial aid using the school or private sources.

The price of attendance is pro-rated based on the student's enrollment status and consists of:

- tuition and fees
- an allowance established by the Minnesota Legislature for room and board, books and supplies and miscellaneous expenses

## What Types of Financial Aid Are Available?

**Expected Family Contribution:** State Grant eligibility is based on a formula that takes into account student and family income, assets, number of children, number of children in college, status as a dependent or independent student and the overall cost of attending the institution they choose. From this calculation is derived an amount that represents the financial expectation Minnesota places on the student's family (or the student in the case of independent students). This is called the expected family contribution. Generally, Minnesota State Grants and federal Pell Grants together help make up any difference between the cost of attendance and your Expected Family Contribution.

**Application Process:** Apply by completing the FAFSA. If you miss the deadline for one term, you may still apply for aid the following academic term within the academic year. You may apply for the 2010-2011 school year after January 1, 2010. You must apply each year to renew the grant.

You can renew your grant to receive up to nine semesters of grant awards (or 12 quarters). You are not eligible for a grant once you have earned a bachelor's degree. An additional term of eligibility is available for students who have withdrawn for active military service January 1, 2003 or later.

### How It Works

**Example:** *A student attending a Minnesota state university in 2009-2010, with a family income of \$25,000*

#### State University (\$0 expected family contribution)

##### Price of Attendance:

Actual Tuition & Fees .....	\$6,564
Living & Misc. Allowance .....	\$7,000
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$13,564</b>

##### Source of Funds:

Student Responsibility .....	\$6,239
Pell Grant.....	\$5,350
State Grant .....	\$1,975
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$13,564</b>

In this example, the student would be eligible for federal and state grants totaling \$7,325.

Students may receive additional grant assistance from private or college sources. Receipt of these additional grants does not affect the size of the State or Pell Grant.

## Federal Academic Competitiveness Grant

The federal Academic Competitiveness Grant provides up to \$750 per year to first-year college students and \$1,300 for second-year students who have successfully completed a rigorous high school program of study.

**Eligibility requirements:** Students eligible to receive an Academic Competitiveness Grant must meet all of the following criteria:

- be eligible to receive a Pell Grant
- be enrolled in a degree-granting college at least half time and pursuing a certificate or degree
- demonstrate completion of a rigorous academic curriculum in high school as defined in Minnesota
- have completed their high school curriculum after January 1, 2005
- have at least a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale in college-level coursework to receive the second year award
- be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen (see page 8)

**Application Process:** Students who indicate on the FAFSA on the Web that they meet the eligibility requirements will have their eligibility determined by the college. Students who complete a paper FAFSA should contact the financial aid office at the college to find out how to apply. To learn if your high school curriculum meets Minnesota's standard for "academically rigorous", visit the U.S. Department of Education's Web site at [www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov). Click on *Federal Student Aid Programs* and then *Grants*.

### SMART Grant

The federal SMART Grant (Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent Grant) provides up to \$4,000 per year for college juniors and seniors majoring in physical, life, or computer sciences; mathematics; technology; engineering; foreign languages determined to be critical to national security or a qualifying liberal arts curriculum determined by the U.S. Secretary of Education.

**Eligibility requirements:** Students must be admitted to a qualifying program and:

- be eligible to receive a Pell Grant
- be enrolled in college at least half time
- be in their third or fourth year
- be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen (see page 8)
- maintain a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale

**Application Process:** Students who complete the FAFSA will have their eligibility determined by their college based on their GPA and degree program. Visit the U.S. Department of Education's Web site at [www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov) to learn more about eligible programs. Click on *Federal Student Aid Programs* and then *Grants*.

### Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant

The Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant Program is awarded to exceptionally needy students, and can add \$100 to \$4,000 in grant money to the student's financial aid package. The award amount is set by the institution's financial aid office and depends on the availability of funds at your school and the amount of other aid you are receiving.

**Eligibility Requirements:** Only undergraduate students are eligible. Priority is given to students already receiving a Pell Grant. Students must be U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens (see page 8).

**Application Process:** You must apply through the financial aid office at your school, which will use your FAFSA results to determine the size of your award. Deadlines differ from school to school, so apply as early as possible.

### Minnesota Postsecondary Child Care Grant

Students who have children 12 and under (14 and under if disabled) and demonstrate financial need may receive assistance under the Minnesota Postsecondary Child Care Grant Program to help pay for child care. The financial assistance may cover up to 40 hours per week per eligible child.

The maximum available to a full-time student is \$2,600 for each eligible child per academic year. In some instances, the maximum award may be increased by 10 percent to compensate for higher market costs for infant care. The amount of the grant award is based on the income of the applicant and spouse, number in the applicant's family, number of eligible children needing child care and whether the student is enrolled full or part time.

Eligible Minnesota institutions include most public postsecondary schools and private, baccalaureate degree-granting colleges and universities, or non-profit career schools. Some schools may choose not to participate.

**Eligibility Requirements:** You are eligible to apply for a Postsecondary Child Care grant if you:

- are a resident of Minnesota (see page 9)
- have a child 12 years of age or younger (14 years of age or younger if disabled), who is receiving or will receive care on a regular basis from a licensed or legal non-licensed care giver
- meet the program's income guidelines
- are enrolled at least half time (six or more credits) in an eligible institution
- have not earned a baccalaureate degree or have enrolled full time fewer than eight semesters, 12 quarters or the equivalent (an additional term of eligibility is available for students who have withdrawn from school for active military service January 1, 2003 or later)
- are pursuing a nonsectarian program or course of study that applies to an undergraduate degree, diploma or certificate
- are in good academic standing and making satisfactory progress toward a degree, diploma or certificate
- are not receiving tuition reciprocity

## What Types of Financial Aid Are Available?

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- are not in default on any educational loan or, if in default, have made satisfactory arrangements to repay the loan with the holder of the note
- are a U.S. Citizen or eligible non-citizen (see page 8)
- are not receiving Minnesota Family Investment Program or Diversionary Work Program benefits during the same term you receive a Postsecondary Child Care grant. (A student who receives an award and then receives benefits from the MFIP program during the same quarter must inform the school within 10 days)

MFIP or Diversionary Work Program participants who want to pursue a postsecondary education and who have children age 12 and under may receive assistance through the MFIP child care assistance program to help pay child care expenses.

**Application Process:** You must apply for the Postsecondary Child Care grant through the financial aid office at your school.

Other low income families interested in child care assistance should contact the social service office in the county where they reside to inquire about Basic Sliding Fee Child Care assistance. Eligibility for Basic Sliding Fee Child Care assistance will depend on the family size, annual income of the family and the availability of funding. Other requirements and standards may vary by county.

### Estimate Your Financial Aid

Use [www.getreadyforcollege.org/estimator](http://www.getreadyforcollege.org/estimator) to estimate your eligibility for a Federal Pell Grant, Minnesota State Grant and federal education tax benefits.

## Average Federal and State Need-Based Grants by Income and Institution Type

The figures below are only estimates of eligibility for federal and state need-based grants for dependent undergraduates! You may be eligible for more or less need-based assistance based on your family size, number of students in college, eligible assets and other factors. This chart in no way guarantees the grant amounts shown. Results are based on the dependent student's expected family contribution for the 2009-2010 financial aid year for a family size of four with one attending college.

	2-Year Public Colleges	State Universities	University of Minnesota	4-Year Private Colleges	Private Career Schools
<b>Estimated Average Annual Tuition and Fees<sup>2</sup></b>	\$4,684	\$6,564	\$11,550	\$29,220	\$12,845
<b>Average Institutional Grant/Scholarship<sup>3</sup> (includes need- and merit-based scholarships)</b>	\$821	\$1,883	\$3,504	\$8,357	\$1,588
<b>Percent of First-Time, Full-Time Freshmen Receiving Institutional Grant/Scholarship</b>	12%	38%	49%	90%	55%

### Family Income \$20,000 or Less (\$0 Expected Family Contribution)

<b>Pell Grant</b>	\$5,350	\$5,350	\$5,350	\$5,350	\$5,350
<b>State Grant</b>	\$959	\$1,975	\$3,743	\$3,743	\$1,566

### Family Income \$40,000 (\$1,443 Expected Family Contribution)

<b>Pell Grant</b>	\$3,900	\$3,900	\$3,900	\$3,900	\$3,900
<b>State Grant</b>	\$1,024	\$2,040	\$3,808	\$3,808	\$1,631

### Family Income \$60,000<sup>4</sup> (\$4,973 Expected Family Contribution)

<b>Pell Grant</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>State Grant</b>	\$1,535	\$2,551	\$4,319	\$4,319	\$2,142

### Family Income \$80,000<sup>4</sup> (\$10,995 Expected Family Contribution)

<b>Pell Grant</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>State Grant</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

<sup>1</sup>Two federal grants, not shown here, may provide some Pell-eligible students with additional financial assistance. See page 10 and 11.

<sup>2</sup>Tuition and fees represent the average reported tuition and fees for a student taking 30 semester or 45 quarter credits during the 2009-2010 academic year as of June 22, 2009.

<sup>3</sup>Institutional grants and scholarships are based on the average amount of institutional funds awarded to students for fall term 2006-2007 as reported to the Office of Higher Education. Both need- and merit-based scholarships are included. Average institutional grants and scholarships could not be segregated by income level.

<sup>4</sup>Some families in these income categories who have specific circumstances qualify for significantly more need-based grants. All students and their families are encouraged to complete the FAFSA because each situation is different and many institutions use the information on the FAFSA to award institutional scholarships.

### Scholarships

Scholarships are awarded based on criteria such as academic or athletic achievement, cultural or religious background or special skills and talents.

Be sure to check with each college's financial aid office to identify scholarships. You often need to complete scholarship application forms in addition to the FAFSA, and deadlines are early!

The following are some statewide scholarship programs. For a partial list of institutional scholarships in Minnesota, visit [www.getreadyforcollege.org/mnscholarships](http://www.getreadyforcollege.org/mnscholarships).

#### Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship

The federal Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program is a renewable scholarship of \$1,500 to high school seniors who are nominated by high school principals. Recipients can attend any accredited postsecondary institution in the United States.

About 120 awards each year are distributed across the state. Awards can be renewed for three additional years of undergraduate study depending on continued eligibility and federal funding.

**Eligibility Requirements:** Nominees must demonstrate outstanding academic achievement. Up to two students are selected from each Minnesota high school.

**Application Process:** The Minnesota Department of Education distributes applications and nomination information to all Minnesota public and non-public high schools, charter schools, GED programs and Area Learning Centers in January. Students should contact their principal or counselor for application forms.

A Minnesota resident high school senior attending a high school outside Minnesota may self-nominate if he or she has the endorsement of the high school principal. The number of awards depends on the level of federal funding.

One nomination is accepted per high school, or two if the graduating class has 350 or more students. The nomination deadline is early March. Students are notified before the end of their high school senior year.

For more information, contact:

Sarah K. Smith  
Minnesota Department of Education  
Tel: (651) 582-8629  
E-mail: [Sarah.K.Smith@state.mn.us](mailto:Sarah.K.Smith@state.mn.us)  
Web: [education.state.mn.us](http://education.state.mn.us)

#### Minnesota Achieve Scholarship

The Achieve Scholarship program is designed to address two critical barriers to college attendance: lack of academic preparation and financial access. Eligible Minnesota high school graduates who complete any one of four sets of courses defined as rigorous earn a one-time scholarship to help pay for college at a public or private university or college in Minnesota.

Eligible students who graduated between January 1, 2008 and December 31, 2008 and have a family adjusted gross income of less than \$75,000 can receive a one-time scholarship of \$1,200 available for use within the four years immediately following their high school graduation. Eligible students who graduate after January 1, 2009 who qualify for either a federal Pell or Minnesota State Grant and who enroll full time in an eligible college or university in the academic year immediately following their high school graduation can receive a one-time scholarship for use in their first academic year ranging from \$1,200 to approximately \$4,000 depending on financial need.

**Eligibility Requirements:** To be eligible for the one-time scholarship, a student must:

- graduate from a Minnesota public or private high school or in a home school setting in Minnesota
- complete a rigorous program of study while in high school
- be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen
- be a Minnesota resident for state financial aid programs
- complete the FAFSA
- attend an eligible public or private postsecondary institution in Minnesota
- apply for the scholarship no later than 30 days after the term starts

Eligible students who graduated after January 1, 2009 and who have completed at least one online course while in high school may receive an additional award of \$150 to be used in conjunction with the Achieve Scholarship award.

To see course requirement options or for additional information, visit [www.getreadyforcollege.org/achieve](http://www.getreadyforcollege.org/achieve) or call the Minnesota Office of Higher Education at (651) 642-0567.

**Application Process:** Submit an online application at [www.getreadyforcollege.org/achieve](http://www.getreadyforcollege.org/achieve).

### Minnesota Academic Excellence Scholarship

Students who demonstrate outstanding ability, achievement and potential may be eligible for the Minnesota Academic Excellence Scholarship. Scholarship amounts vary and are funded by the sale of specialty college license plates.

**Eligibility Requirements:** High school graduates must be admitted full time in a nonsectarian, baccalaureate degree-granting program at participating Minnesota colleges. Students must be enrolled the same year they graduated from high school. The scholarship can be renewed annually.

**Application Process:** Contact the institutions you are considering to determine whether they participate in the program.

### Where to Find Private Scholarships

Many community organizations, foundations, corporations, clubs and civic and cultural groups provide student scholarships. Some only require that you demonstrate financial need, just as you do for state and federal aid. Others award scholarships based on academic or athletic achievement, religious affiliation, ethnic or racial heritage, community service, field of study or special hobbies and interests.

If you're looking for private sources of financial aid, you should:

- check with your or your family's employer, professional association or labor union. They often sponsor grants, scholarships or loans. Or, if you are employed, check to see if your employer has an education policy that pays for employees to enroll in job-related postsecondary courses
- inquire at community organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce
- check with churches, businesses, industries and veterans' posts
- check with your high school counselor
- review reference books in your high school guidance office or the library
- watch for announcements in your local news media
- search online

### Scholarship Resources

#### *Scholarship Handbook, 2009*

This guide helps students identify federal, state and private scholarships for which they meet eligibility criteria. More than 2,300 programs are surveyed annually. It can be purchased online for \$27.95 at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com).

### Scholarship Search Sites

#### CollegeNet

[www.collegenet.com](http://www.collegenet.com)

#### CollegeView

[www.collegeview.com](http://www.collegeview.com)

#### FastWeb

[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)

#### Minnesota Institutional Scholarships

[www.getreadyforcollege.org/mnscholarships](http://www.getreadyforcollege.org/mnscholarships)

#### Scholarship Experts

[www.scholarshipexperts.com](http://www.scholarshipexperts.com)

#### Scholarships.com

[www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com)

**See page 30 for a list of additional scholarship resources.**

### Beware of Financial Aid Search Companies

Some financial aid search companies offer to match students with sources of financial aid for a fee. Be cautious in using these services. Chances for success in obtaining more scholarship money are small. There are no guarantees the company will find any sources of financial aid that you can't find yourself, and there's no guarantee of receiving funds.

Following are some questions to consider if you use a search company or financial aid consultant:

- If the representative suggests that large amounts of aid currently are not being used, how does it document the statement?
- How many financial aid sources exist in the company's computer database? Does the company maintain its own scholarship database? Or does it use the database of some other company or service?
- Is there a minimum number of sources provided by the company? Are the listings in the form of scholarships, work, loans or contests? Do they include federal and state programs for which the student will be considered through the regular financial aid application process? Do the sources include institutional scholarships about which the student would be notified once accepted to the college?
- How often does the company update its list of aid sources? Does the company check to confirm that the source still exists?
- Can the student apply directly to the aid sources provided by the company, or must the student be recommended by a person or group? Are the application fees for the sources provided?
- How long will the student have to wait for the information? Will the list of aid sources be received before application deadlines?
- What characteristics are used to match students with aid sources?
- How successful have previous participants been in obtaining funds from aid sources identified by the company? Is there a list of references that can be contacted for verification?
- Will the company refund the program fee if aid sources are incorrectly matched with the student's qualifications, if aid sources no longer exist or fail to reply to the student or if application deadlines for aid sources already have passed when the information is received?

### Proceed with Caution

There are no certain indicators of a fraudulent or deceptive company. However, proceed with caution if you are considering working with a company that:

- lists a mail drop as a return address or operates out of a residential address
- uses excessive hype and claims of high success rates
- requires up-front money for application fees
- has typing and spelling errors on application materials
- lists no telephone number for the business
- suggests its influence with scholarship sponsors
- pressures you to respond quickly
- requests personal information (bank account, credit card, or social security numbers)

If you have been the victim of a scholarship scam, file a complaint and report the fraud.

#### Where to File Complaints About Suspicious Financial Aid Companies:

##### Federal Trade Commission

Tel: (877) FTC-HELP (877-382-4357)  
(866) 653-4261 TTY

Web: [www.ftc.gov/scholarshipscams](http://www.ftc.gov/scholarshipscams)

##### Minnesota Better Business Bureau

Tel: (651) 699-1111 or (800) 646-6222  
Web: [www.mnd.bbb.org](http://www.mnd.bbb.org)

##### Minnesota Attorney General's Office

Tel: (651) 296-3353 or (800) 657-3787  
(651) 297-7206 or (800) 366-4812 TTY

Web: [www.ag.state.mn.us/consumer/complaint.asp](http://www.ag.state.mn.us/consumer/complaint.asp)

##### State Attorney General's Office where the company is located

Web: [www.naag.org/ag/full\\_ag\\_table.php](http://www.naag.org/ag/full_ag_table.php)

##### If you learned of the program and replied via the postal service, contact:

U.S. Postal Service  
Attn: Mail Fraud  
Inspection Service Operations Support Group  
222 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 1250  
Chicago, IL 60606-6100  
Web: [www.usps.com/ncsc/locators/find-is.html](http://www.usps.com/ncsc/locators/find-is.html)

## Loans

Educational loans are available from several federal and state programs as well as from private lenders, such as banks, savings and loan associations or credit unions. The state of Minnesota also provides loans to students and parents through the SELF Loan program. Students at some schools may be able to borrow directly from the U.S. Department of Education. Loan programs are available for both students and parents.

Federal student loans fall under two categories.

### Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFEL)

These loans come from banks, credit unions or other private lenders. Students can apply through the financial aid office on campus or online.

- *Federal Subsidized Stafford Loan*
- *Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Loan*
- *Federal Parent Loan for Students*

### Federal Direct Student Loans

These loans come directly from the federal government.

- *Federal Direct Subsidized Stafford Loan*
- *Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan*
- *Federal Direct Parent Loan for Students*

## How to Evaluate a Loan

Each loan has its own characteristics and features. Compare your options side-by-side and include:

- the total cost to repay the loan (including the fees principal and interest)
- how long it takes to repay the loan
- the amount of the monthly payments
- the penalty you would pay if you were late on a payment or default
- whether it can be consolidated with other loans at the time of repayment.

Make sure you choose the loan that best meets your needs, but keep in mind that the cheapest loan is not always your best option. Because loans must be repaid, you should plan your debt financing carefully.

- Ask for information about interest rates and fees, repayment terms and options and other obligations.
- Consider your future income and don't borrow more than you can afford to pay back. The table on page 22 illustrates the wages you will need to repay different amounts of student loan debt.

## Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loan Comparison

### Subsidized Stafford Loan

- need-based
- federal government pays interest while the student is in school

### Unsubsidized Stafford Loan

- not need-based
- student pays interest while in school

## Federal Subsidized Stafford Loans

The Federal subsidized Stafford Loan is available only to students who demonstrate financial need, and the interest is paid to the lender by the government while the student attends school at least half time.

Many private lenders make the Federal Stafford Loan available to Minnesota students. If you have difficulty locating a cooperating lender, contact the Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation at (651) 290-8795 or (800) 366-0032.

The chart on page 18 illustrates how much you may be eligible to borrow. Loan amounts are higher for independent (self-supporting) students.

***Federal Subsidized Stafford Loans taken out on or after July 1, 2009 are at 5.6 percent interest. This interest rate is fixed and will not fluctuate with other interest rates tied to the economy.***

The annual borrowing amounts assume enrollment in a program that is at least one academic year long. Your annual borrowing limit will be lower if you enroll for less than a full academic year.

**Eligibility Requirements:** You must attend school at least half time, and be determined to have financial need.

**Application Process:** Because the school you are attending or plan to attend must determine your Federal Pell Grant eligibility before it can process your loan application, you must complete the FAFSA as the first step in determining if you qualify for the subsidized Stafford Loan.

Stafford Loans (both subsidized and unsubsidized) made by lenders are guaranteed by a private, non-profit guaranty agency. All loans must be approved by the guarantor before the lender will make the loan.

## What Types of Financial Aid Are Available?

In return for this guarantee, you may be required to pay an insurance premium of one percent, also known as a **guarantee fee**, which is deducted proportionately from each disbursement of your loan amount. On a typical loan of \$3,500, a one percent guarantee fee would equal \$35. This one-time fee goes into a fund at the guarantee agency which is used to reimburse lenders in the event of default, death, disability or bankruptcy of the borrower.

You also pay an additional one-time .5 percent fee to the lender. This fee, set by the federal government, is called an **origination fee**. It is deducted proportionately from each disbursement of your loan amount. For example, for a loan of \$3,500, an origination fee of \$17.50 will be deducted. The fee is kept by the lender to offset part of the federal interest subsidy that the government pays the lender for you. Subtracting the two fees (\$35 + \$17.50 = \$52.50), a Stafford loan request of \$3,500 would therefore be reduced to a net disbursement of \$3,447.50.

After you sign a **promissory note** (an agreement to repay your loan) from your lender, your loan will be sent to your school either by electronic funds transfer or by a check made payable to both you and your school. Most loans are disbursed in two or more payments, rather than a lump sum. Because of this, you should plan your personal finances accordingly.

**Repayment of Stafford Loans:** Interest rates on Federal Stafford and Direct loans taken out before July 1, 2006 vary each year, based on changes to the Federal 91-day Treasury Bill rate. Interest rates for repayment of loans prior to July 2007 vary depending on the date of the first disbursement. You will be informed of rate changes throughout the life of your loans. The interest rate on subsidized loans taken out after July 1, 2009 is 5.6 percent and 6.8 percent for unsubsidized loans. The interest rates are constant for the life of the loan.

For subsidized Stafford loans, the federal government pays the interest on (or subsidizes) the loan for you until the start of your repayment period. In most cases, you must begin repayment within six months after you leave school or drop below half-time status. You have up to 10 years to complete repayment.

The amount of your payment depends on the size of your debt, but in all cases you will pay at least \$50 per month in principal and interest. Under certain conditions you may defer (postpone) payments for up to three years. Ask your financial aid administrator, your lender or read your promissory note to learn about deferring payment.

Some borrowers may be eligible to repay their loans based on a "graduated", "income-sensitive" or

### Maximum Annual Federal Stafford Loan Limits

#### Dependent students (except students whose parents cannot obtain a PLUS loan)

Academic Level	Subsidized and Unsubsidized	Additional Unsubsidized Loan Amount	Aggregate Loan Limits
Freshman	\$3,500	\$2,000	\$31,000 (no more than \$23,000 can be in subsidized loans)
Sophomore	\$4,500	\$2,000	
Junior, senior and subsequent undergraduate levels	\$5,500	\$2,000	

#### Independent students, graduate and professional, and dependent students whose parents cannot obtain a PLUS loan

Academic Level	Subsidized and Unsubsidized	Additional Unsubsidized Loan Amount	Aggregate Loan Limits
Freshman	\$3,500	\$6,000	\$57,500 (no more than \$23,000 can be in subsidized loans)
Sophomore	\$4,500	\$6,000	
Junior, senior and subsequent undergraduate levels	\$5,500	\$7,000	
Graduate and professional students	\$8,500	\$12,000	\$138,500* (no more than \$65,500 can be in subsidized loans)

\* The aggregate limit for graduate and professional students enrolled in certain approved health professional programs is \$224,000.

“income-based” repayment. These options consider your financial situation when determining the monthly payment. For more information, ask your lender or servicer.

## Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Loans

For students without demonstrated financial need, the *unsubsidized* Stafford Loan is available.

Borrowers are required to pay interest on the loan while in school. During your grace period (the time before beginning repayment) and during periods of authorized deferment (postponement) and forbearance (authorized delay in loan principal payment), you may make monthly or quarterly interest payments to the lender or choose to have the interest added to the principal of the loan. This is called capitalization.

**Eligibility Requirements:** You must attend school at least half time. The financial aid administrator at the school you attend or plan to attend will assist you.

**Application Process:** Because the school you are attending or plan to attend must determine your Federal Pell Grant eligibility before it can process your loan application, you must complete the FAFSA. Using the FAFSA results, the school will determine your eligibility for an unsubsidized Stafford Loan. You will then need to sign a promissory note acknowledging the borrower’s responsibilities and repayment terms.

Like with the *subsidized* Stafford Loan, you may be charged a one percent guarantee fee, which will be subtracted proportionately from each disbursement of your loan. For more information, contact your financial aid administrator or your lender.

## PLUS Loans

Loans to parents of dependent undergraduate students and students in graduate and professional programs may be available from some private lenders and directly through schools participating in the Federal Direct Loan Program.

Various lenders in Minnesota (including banks, savings and loan associations and credit unions) participate in the PLUS loan program. Borrowers unable to find a PLUS lender should contact the Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation at (651) 290-8795 or (800) 366-0032.

PLUS loans taken out on or after July 1, 2006 have a fixed interest rate of 7.9 percent for Direct PLUS loans and 8.5 percent for PLUS loans through private lenders.

## 10-Year Stafford Loan Monthly Repayment

Total Balance	5%	6%	7%
\$ 4,000	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
\$ 8,000	84.85	88.82	92.89
\$15,000	159.10	166.53	174.17
\$30,000	318.20	333.06	348.33
\$50,000	530.33	555.11	580.55

**Eligibility Requirements:** PLUS borrowers do not have to show financial need, but will have their credit checked. Borrowers may borrow up to the annual cost of attendance minus any financial aid received for students enrolled at least half time. There is no cap on annual or aggregate borrowing amounts. Borrowers must be U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens (see page 8).

**Application Process:** Parents of undergraduate students or students in graduate or professional programs must complete a PLUS application, which is available from the school’s financial aid office or online. A guarantee fee of one percent of the loan principal, plus an origination fee of three percent may be charged.

**Repayment of PLUS Loans:** Repayment of both principal and interest begins within 60 days of receiving the loan and extends from five to 10 years. For loans disbursed on or after July 1, 2008, the borrower has the option to delay the principal repayment start date until after the student graduates. The amount borrowed will determine the minimum monthly payment, but no payment will be less than \$50 per month.

## Federal Direct Student Loans

The federal government makes Stafford and PLUS loans directly available to students through selected schools across the country. No banks or guarantee agencies are involved. The U.S. Department of Education is the lender. Loan amounts, deferments, monthly repayment amounts and cancellation benefits for Direct Loans are the same as those for other federal loans.

**Eligibility Requirements:** Eligibility is the same as for Stafford and PLUS loans made available through a private lender.

**Application Process:** Applications are available at participating schools or online. You or your parents may pay an origination fee of 1.5 percent of the loan deducted proportionately from each loan disbursement. Once a Direct Loan is made, it is managed and collected by the U.S. Department of Education’s Direct Loan

## What Types of Financial Aid Are Available?

Servicing Center. For more information, call (800) 848-0979 or visit [www.dlservicer.ed.gov](http://www.dlservicer.ed.gov).

**Repayment of Direct Loans:** The Direct Loan Program offers four repayment plans:

- *Standard Repayment Plan:* a fixed amount is paid each month, at least \$50, for up to 10 years
- *Income Contingent Repayment Plan:* bases monthly payment on annual income, family size and the loan amount
- *Income-Based Repayment Plan:* bases payments on total federal loan payments as a percentage of income
- *Extended Repayment Plan:* extends repayment over a period of 12 to 30 years, depending on your loan amount
- *Graduated Repayment Plan:* payments are lower at beginning of the repayment period, then increase every two years over 12 to 30 years

### Federal Perkins Loans

The Federal Perkins Loan Program provides long-term, low-interest (five percent) loans to undergraduate and graduate students who demonstrate financial need and enroll in participating colleges. Loan amounts depend on the availability of funds at your college, your financial need and the amount of other aid you receive.

Undergraduate students may borrow up to \$4,000 per year and \$20,000 in total. Students in graduate and professional programs may borrow up to \$6,000 per year and \$40,000 in total, including any Perkins Loans borrowed as an undergraduate. Students attending institutions with low default rates (7.5 percent or lower) may be able to borrow larger amounts.

**Eligibility Requirements:** You must be an undergraduate or graduate student enrolled at least half time at a participating school. Not all postsecondary institutions participate. Some schools

### Student Loan Definitions

**Co-Signer:** A credit-worthy individual, usually a parent or spouse, who has agreed to share the responsibility for repayment of a student loan with a student.

**Default:** Being delinquent in repaying a student loan more than a predetermined number of days or failure to comply with any of the other terms of the promissory note.

**Deferment:** A postponement of the loan repayment. Conditions for deferment vary by loan program.

**Delinquency:** Missing a scheduled payment on a student loan. If delinquency persists, default will occur.

**Disbursement:** This is the act of providing loan funds to the student or to their institution on the student's behalf. A student loan can be disbursed in multiple payments. Disbursements can be sent electronically to the student's school to credit his or her school account.

**Forbearance:** An arrangement to postpone or reduce a borrower's monthly payment amount for a limited and specified amount of time, or to extend the repayment period. The borrower is charged interest during the forbearance.

**Guarantee Fee:** A fee that is deducted from the proceeds of the loan and forwarded by the lender to a guarantor in return for its guaranteed coverage against default.

**Interest:** A fee charged to borrow money. Interest charges are in addition to the principal of the loan.

**Interest Subsidy:** The payment of interest on subsidized loans by the U.S. Department of Education for student borrowers while they are in school.

**Origination Fee:** A fee that is deducted from the amount of a loan.

**Principal:** The amount borrowed by the student before interest is charged.

**Promissory Note:** The legal document signed by the borrower prior to receiving a student loan. Besides containing a promise to repay the loan, it lists the conditions of the loan and terms for repayment.

may make loans available to part-time students and, in some cases, to students attending less than half time. For undergraduate students, priority is given to Federal Pell Grant recipients. You must be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen (see page 8).

**Application Process:** You apply to the financial aid office at the school you attend. Not all schools participate in the Perkins Loan program. Each school has its own application deadline, and serves as the loan's lender. Perkins Loans do not have an origination fee.

**Repayment of Perkins Loans:** You begin repaying the loan nine months after you graduate or leave school. If you return to school, you have six months before you start repaying on previous loans. You may be allowed up to 10 years to repay your loan.

The amount of the payment depends on the size of your debt and the length of your repayment period. Part or all of your loan can be deferred or canceled under certain conditions, such as if you teach children with disabilities or in a designated elementary or secondary school that serves low income students. You must seek approval for these provisions from your school.

### SELF Loans

The SELF Loan is a Minnesota program intended to help students and parents who need assistance in paying for education beyond high school. The maximum loan amount for undergraduates is \$7,500 per year.

The interest rate varies throughout the life of the loan and can change every three months. In May 2009, the SELF IV interest rate was 4.7 percent. There are no guarantee fees.

More than 400 institutions participate in the program, including 168 in Minnesota and 236 out of state. To find out if an institution participates, visit [www.selfloan.org](http://www.selfloan.org) or contact the school's financial aid office or the Office of Higher Education.

**Eligibility Requirements:** To be eligible, a student must:

- be enrolled in an eligible school in Minnesota or be a Minnesota resident enrolled in an eligible school in another state, territory or Manitoba, Canada
- be enrolled at least half time in a certificate, associate, baccalaureate or graduate degree program
- have a credit-worthy co-signer who is a U.S. citizen or permanent resident
- not be delinquent or in default on a SELF or other outstanding student loan

**Application Process:** Prior to applying, students are expected to seek certain other sources of federal, state, institutional or private aid for which they might be eligible by completing the FAFSA.

The campus financial aid administrator will determine the maximum amount a student may borrow and recommend a loan amount. The maximum cannot exceed the cost of attendance minus all other financial aid the borrower is receiving.

**Repayment of SELF Loans:** Borrowers are required to pay interest quarterly while in school. Upon graduating or leaving school, they are required to pay interest monthly for up to one year and then will begin repaying loan principal as well as interest monthly.

- *Standard Repayment Plan:* one year of interest only
- *Extended Interest Plan:* interest only for three years

Loans must enter repayment no later than seven years after the first disbursement. The repayment term is 10 to 15 years depending on the loan balance.

### Comparison of Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Loan and SELF Loan

Both the unsubsidized Stafford Loan and SELF Loan programs have advantages and disadvantages. You should learn the facts about each program and decide which one best meets your needs.

### Alternative Loans

Alternative loans are available from private lenders, such as banks, savings and loan associations or credit unions. Typically, these loans cost the student and family more in the long run, but they may have fewer eligibility restrictions. For more information, contact private lenders or the financial aid administrator at the school you attend or plan to attend.

### Repayment of Student Loans

Before using loans to pay for your college education, be reasonably sure that you can repay the loans after graduation. The smaller the loan debt, the lower the salary you'll need to repay the debt. Conversely, the greater your student loan debt, the higher the salary you'll need.

Generally, annual student loan payments should be less than eight percent of your annual income. If your average annual student loan payment is more than this,

your available cash for everyday living expenses will be limited. Opportunities for other credit, like car and home loans, also may be restricted.

**You may be eligible for the Student Loan Interest Deduction when you file your federal tax return. See page 36.**

The job placement office at your college can give you some idea about average starting salaries for

certain professions. Given your choice of profession, you should be able to determine how much you can reasonably borrow to finance your education by focusing on that profession's typical starting salary.

The following chart provides a guideline for the estimated minimum salary you would need to repay your student loan debt. The chart assumes a fixed 6.8 percent interest rate, and a minimum of 120 monthly (or 10 years) of payments.

<b>Amount Borrowed</b>	<b>Monthly Payment (10 years)</b>	<b>Estimated Income Level Needed</b>
\$10,000	\$115	\$14,400
\$15,000	\$173	\$21,600
\$20,000	\$230	\$28,800
\$23,000	\$265	\$33,100
\$30,000	\$345	\$43,200
\$40,000	\$460	\$57,500
\$50,000	\$575	\$71,900
\$65,500	\$754	\$94,200

Note: monthly payments shown are eight percent of total income.

### Loan Consolidation

If you have outstanding balances on several different federal loans, you may be able to combine them into one new consolidated loan with one monthly repayment. This reduces the size of your monthly payments by extending your repayment period for 10 to 30 years, depending on your total debt.

Both the Federal Direct Loan Program and the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFEL) offer consolidation loans. Most federal student loans or PLUS loans can be consolidated under a Federal Consolidation Loan. The interest rate is variable and is based on the weighted average of the consolidated loans, not to exceed 8.25 percent.

Loans from the SELF Loan program cannot be consolidated, but the outstanding balance on SELF Loans may be used to determine the length of the repayment term for consolidation loans. Private, alternative and institutional loans also cannot be included in a Federal Consolidation Loan. Your student loans can be consolidated only once.

Other loan consolidation programs are available from participating private or state lenders (such as banks, credit unions and savings and loan associations), guarantee agencies and other secondary markets. Some consolidation plans allow you to base your repayment on your income. The interest rate on your new consolidated loan will be the weighted average of interest rates on loans you choose to consolidate, and will be fixed for the life of the loan.

For information, visit [www.loanconsolidation.ed.gov](http://www.loanconsolidation.ed.gov) or contact the Loan Origination Center's Consolidation Department at (800) 557-7392.

### Advantages of Consolidation

Consolidation loans allow borrowers to lock in low interest rates and extend their repayment period beyond that provided by the original loan. This results in lower monthly payments for the duration of the new consolidated loan. In addition, most deferment and forbearance options are not affected by loan consolidation.

### Disadvantages of Consolidation

Consolidation loans do not have a grace period, and payments begin shortly after the consolidation is finalized. You also will make more payments and pay more interest. This means the total cost of repaying the loan will be higher after consolidation even though your payment per month may decrease. Other borrower benefits resulting from the original loan also may be lost.

### Defaulting on Your Loan

If you fail to repay your loan, you will be in **default**. Your lender and the state and federal governments can take action to recover the money.

- Your tax refunds may be withheld.
- Part of your salary may be withheld if you work for the federal government.
- You may be sued and taken to court.
- Credit bureaus will be informed, and your future credit rating may be affected, which may make it difficult to borrow money for a car or a house.
- You may be required to repay your debt under an income contingent repayment plan and thus repay more than the original principal and interest on your loans.
- You will not be able to obtain additional state or federal student aid until you make satisfactory arrangements to repay.

## Work-Study Programs

You may earn money to help pay for your education by working at part-time jobs on or off campus through either the Federal Work-Study Program or the Minnesota Work-Study Program. Schools may include a work-study job as part of the student's financial aid package.

The financial aid office at the school you attend determines the size of the work-study award. The actual amount depends on your financial need, the amount of money your school has available for the program and the number of the hours you work. All Minnesota public colleges and most private colleges participate.

Participating students work an average of 15 hours per week and may earn \$3,000 or more per year which is not counted when determining need-based financial aid for the following year. The maximum hourly wage rate depends on the job and the student's qualifications. Your financial aid administrator will consider your work-study award amount, class schedule, job skills and academic program to determine how many hours you can work.

Students work either on campus or off campus for a governmental or non-profit agency or a private, for-profit employer. Work-study programs encourage community service work and job placement in elementary and secondary schools in activities such as tutoring. The school may try to place students in positions related to their course of study.

***Work study earnings are not considered income on the FAFSA.***

**Eligibility Requirements:** Undergraduate and graduate students are eligible under both federal and state work-study programs.

To be eligible for **Federal Work Study**, the student must:

- be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen (see page 8)
- be enrolled in a program leading to a degree, certificate or diploma
- be registered with Selective Service if male
- not have defaulted on a student loan
- not have been convicted for possession or sale of illegal drugs while receiving federal financial aid

To be eligible for **Minnesota Work Study**, the student must:

- be a Minnesota resident (see page 9) and U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen (see page 8)
- be enrolled for at least six credit hours per term in a program leading to a degree, certificate or diploma

## What Types of Financial Aid Are Available?

**Application Process:** The financial aid office at the school you attend or plan to attend will use the results from your FAFSA to determine your eligibility for work study.

Under the state program, students must be enrolled for at least six credits, but priority is given to students enrolled for 12 or more credits (or the equivalent).

Eligibility criteria for the state program are in some cases less restrictive than those for the federal program. Your financial aid administrator can explain them to you.

## Community Service Benefits

### AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps is a cooperative effort by local agencies and federal and state governments to provide community service throughout the country. Areas of service include such projects as preschool education, dropout prevention, literacy, low-income housing, assisted living for the elderly and people with disabilities, violence prevention, conservation and neighborhood recycling.

Hundreds of community service opportunities are available to help finance part of the participant's education at any federally-recognized institution. AmeriCorps graduates have seven years to use their education award, and can apply it to any non-defaulted federal student loan.

**Eligibility Requirements:** To be eligible for AmeriCorps positions, you must be 17 years of age or older, have a high school diploma or a GED (or are completing a GED), and be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national or an eligible non-citizen (see page 8).

Participants may enroll in college while holding a position, and may apply to projects in the state or nationally. Students can serve up to two AmeriCorps terms.

**Application Process:** For more information on AmeriCorps, visit [www.americorps.org](http://www.americorps.org). For information on Minnesota opportunities, visit [www.serveminnesota.org](http://www.serveminnesota.org) or call Serve Minnesota at (612) 333-7740.

## Financial Assistance for Military Service

Those called to active duty while enrolled in college receive certain protections regarding financial aid eligibility, enrollment status and loan repayment. In most instances, the student will not be penalized as a result of his or her absence to perform military service. Check with the school's financial aid office for more details.

If you are currently enlisted in any branch of the military, check directly with your unit about education benefits. In addition, there are federal and state educational benefits for others who have served in the armed forces.

Several federal programs (see page 25) provide educational benefits to students who have served or are serving in the United States military.

You may use these education assistance programs for college, technical or vocational courses, correspondence courses, online courses, apprenticeships, job training, flight training licensing and certification tests, entrepreneurship training and certain entrance examinations.

### AmeriCorps Service Commitment Chart

Length of Commitment	Hours of Service	Living Allowance and Benefits	Post-Service Education Award
Full time, 9 months to 1 year	1,700	about \$10,000, plus health care coverage, child care (if eligible)	\$4,725
Part time	300 to 900	about \$5,000 (pro-rated based on number of hours)	\$2,362 (pro-rated based on number of hours)

### Federal - Post-9/11 Montgomery GI Bill

The Post-9/11 Montgomery GI Bill provides up to 36 months of educational benefits to eligible veterans. The bill became effective August 1, 2009. You may be eligible if you have at least 90 days of aggregate service on or after September 11, 2001 or if you were discharged with a service disability after 30 days.

**Application Process:** Visit [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov) for up-to-date information on these benefits, or call (888) 442-4551 to speak with a veterans benefits coordinator.

### Federal - Montgomery GI Bill for Active Duty

The Montgomery GI Bill - Active Duty, provides up to 36 months of education benefits to eligible veterans.

You may be eligible if you entered active duty for the first time after June 30, 1985 and elected to pay into your GI program, served two or more years of active duty, were honorably discharged, and you have a high school diploma or GED or, in some cases, 12 hours of college credit.

**Application Process:** Visit [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov) for up-to-date information on these benefits, or call (888) 442-4551 to speak with a veterans benefits coordinator.

### Federal - Montgomery GI Bill for Selected Reserve

The Montgomery GI Bill - Selected Reserve program may be available to you if you are a member of the Selected Reserve. The Selected Reserve includes the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Air Force Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, Coast Guard Reserve and the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard.

The Veterans' Administration makes the payments for this program directly to the soldier. You may be entitled to receive up to 36 months of education benefits. Your period of eligibility generally ends 14 years from your beginning date of eligibility, or on the day you leave the Selected Reserve. However if you are recalled to active duty, your eligibility may be extended.

**Application Process:** Visit [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov) for up-to-date information on these benefits, or call (888) 442-4551 to speak with a veterans benefits coordinator.

### Federal - Reserve Educational Assistance Program

The Reserve Educational Assistance Program is a relatively new program. It provides up to 36 months of education benefits to members of the Selected Reserves, Individual Ready Reserve and National Guard who are called or ordered to active service in response to a war or national emergency. The benefit is payable based on the number of days you were deployed to active duty. Your eligibility generally ends when you leave the service.

**Application Process:** Visit [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov) for up-to-date information on these benefits, or call (888) 442-4551 to speak with a veterans benefits coordinator.

### Federal Tuition Assistance Program

This program is available to traditional Army National Guard members while pursuing any degree up through a master's degree. The application must be submitted before the semester begins. An eligible member can receive benefits up to \$250 per semester credit or \$167 per quarter credit and \$4,500 per fiscal year. This is not a guaranteed benefit and is offered on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Application Process:** To apply or learn more, visit [www.virtualarmory.com](http://www.virtualarmory.com) or contact your unit administrator.

#### Military Education Benefits Resources

##### Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs

[www.minnesotaveteran.org](http://www.minnesotaveteran.org)  
[www.mymilitaryeducation.org](http://www.mymilitaryeducation.org)

##### Minnesota Office Of Higher Education

[www.getreadyforcollege.org/military](http://www.getreadyforcollege.org/military)

##### National Guard Virtual Armory

[www.virtualarmory.com/education/](http://www.virtualarmory.com/education/)

##### U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

[www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov)

## What Types of Financial Aid Are Available?

### Minnesota Tuition Reimbursement for Air and Army National Guard

The Minnesota Tuition Reimbursement Grant program provides financial assistance for Minnesota Air and Army National Guard members. The program reimburses members for coursework satisfactorily completed at any school, in-state or out-state, approved for veterans benefits. The rate of reimbursement is up to 100 percent of tuition only, not to exceed the undergraduate cost per credit at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities.

**Eligibility Requirements:** You must be an active member of the Minnesota Army or Air National Guard pursuing undergraduate or graduate coursework at any school approved for veterans benefits. Eligibility may be extended for two or more years for certain members of the Minnesota National Guard who completed their service contract but served honorably in federal active service or federally-funded state active service since September 11, 2001.

Qualifying students may use Federal Tuition Assistance and State Tuition Reimbursement together, up to (but not to exceed) 100 percent of tuition and fees.

**Surviving Dependent Eligibility:** If a member of the Minnesota National Guard is killed in the line of state active service or federally funded state active service, the member's surviving spouse and any surviving dependents who have not reached 24 years of age are eligible for tuition reimbursement.

**Application Process:** Request reimbursement through the guard unit at the start of the semester. Upon completing the course, turn in your grades and submit a tuition and fee statement from the school to your unit. To apply or learn more contact:

Education Services Office  
Minnesota Department Military Affairs  
Veterans Service Building, 2nd Floor  
Tel: (651) 282-4589  
E-mail: [education@mn.ngb.army.mil](mailto:education@mn.ngb.army.mil)  
Web: [minnesotanationalguard.org/education/index.php](http://minnesotanationalguard.org/education/index.php)

### Minnesota GI Bill

The Minnesota GI Bill, established in 2007, provides postsecondary financial assistance to eligible Minnesota veterans who served on or after September 11, 2001. Full-time undergraduate or graduate students may be eligible to receive up to \$1,000 per semester and part-time students can receive up to \$500 per semester.

**Eligibility Requirements:** You must be a Minnesota resident enrolled at a Minnesota institution and a:

- veteran who is serving or has served honorably in any branch of the United States armed forces at any time on or after September 11, 2001, or;
- non-veteran who has served honorably for a total of five years or more cumulatively as a member of the Minnesota National Guard or any other active or reserve component of the United States armed forces, and any part of that service occurred on or after September 11, 2001, or;
- surviving spouse or children of a person who served in the military on or after September 11, 2001, and who has died or has a total and permanent disability as a direct result of that military service.

**Application Process:** Contact your school's financial aid office or the Minnesota Office of Higher Education at (651) 642-0567. You may be required to provide documentation to your school.

### Minnesota Educational Assistance for Veterans

The state of Minnesota provides educational assistance for veterans who attend an approved postsecondary institution in Minnesota. Veterans may qualify for a one-time stipend of \$750.

**Eligibility Requirements:** To be eligible, you must provide a statement from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs indicating you have used all federal benefits available; and were a resident of Minnesota for the six months preceding your induction into the armed forces.

**Application Process:** Contact the Minnesota Department Military Affairs at (651) 296-2562 or visit [www.mdva.state.mn.us/education](http://www.mdva.state.mn.us/education).

### Financial Aid for Specific Populations

Additional aid may be available to you based on criteria in addition to your financial need, including aid for orphaned or fostered, minority or adult students. The programs described here are only a few of those available. Be sure to check the Web sites listed on page 30.

#### Survivors and Dependents of Military Veterans

Federal and state educational assistance may be available to you if you are a spouse or child of a service member who was permanently injured or died as the result of a service-connected injury. See previous section.

Visit [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov) to learn more or call (888) 442-4551. You may also want to contact your county veteran's service officer. A list of county veteran's service officers is available at [www.mdva.state.mn.us/CVSODirectory.pdf](http://www.mdva.state.mn.us/CVSODirectory.pdf). Also contact the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs call (651) 296-2562 or visit [www.mdva.state.mn.us](http://www.mdva.state.mn.us).

#### Minnesota Educational Assistance for War Orphans

Qualified war orphans may receive up to \$750 per year from the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs to be used for tuition, room and board and books and supplies. Children of deceased veterans also may qualify for free tuition at any public college or university in Minnesota to which they have been admitted until they complete a bachelor's degree.

**Eligibility requirements:** To be eligible for this program, you must have lost your veteran parent through death due to a service-caused condition and have been a resident of Minnesota for two years prior to application for educational benefits.

**Application process:** Contact the financial aid office at the college you attend or plan to attend, your county veterans service officer at the county courthouse or:

Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Service Building, 2nd Floor  
Tel: (651) 206-2562  
Web: [www.mdva.state.mn.us](http://www.mdva.state.mn.us)

#### Minnesota Educational Assistance to POW/MIA Dependents

Any dependent of a prisoner of war or a person missing in action may qualify for free tuition at any public college or university in Minnesota to which he or she has been admitted. A dependent who enrolls as an undergraduate in any private Minnesota postsecondary institution shall be entitled to up to \$250 per year from the state.

To apply or learn more, call (651) 296-1033 or visit [www.mdva.state.mn.us](http://www.mdva.state.mn.us).

#### American Indian Students

Native American students in Minnesota may be eligible for additional financial aid from the state of Minnesota, the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs and their tribe.

#### Minnesota Indian Scholarship Program

Scholarships are available to eligible American Indian students who are either undergraduate students enrolled at least 3/4 percent time or graduate students enrolled at least half time. The award amount is based on need.

**Eligibility Requirements:** In order to qualify for this scholarship, you must be:

- one-fourth or more American Indian ancestry
- a Minnesota resident for state financial aid purposes
- enrolled in an accredited college, university or vocational school in Minnesota
- qualify for either a Pell or State Grant

**Application Process:** Students should complete the FAFSA and contact their tribal education office, the school's financial aid office or complete an application at [www.getreadyforcollege.org/indianscholarship](http://www.getreadyforcollege.org/indianscholarship). The priority deadline is July 1. Information and application forms also are available from:

Minnesota Indian Scholarship Program  
Minnesota Office of Higher Education  
Tel: (651) 642-0567 or (800) 657-3866  
E-mail: [info@ohe.state.mn.us](mailto:info@ohe.state.mn.us)

## What Types of Financial Aid Are Available?

### American Indian Tuition Waiver

The American Indian Tuition Waiver at the University of Minnesota, Morris, recognizes the campus' origins as the Morris Indian Boarding School founded in the 1800s. American Indian students admitted to the University of Minnesota, Morris, may apply for this waiver by submitting the American Indian tuition waiver application and supplying acceptable documentation.

**Eligibility Requirements:** To qualify for this benefit, students must be accepted by the university's admissions office, complete the American Indian Tuition Waiver application and provide American Indian heritage documentation, which may include the following:

- tribal registration proving membership in a federally-recognized American Indian tribe
- certificate of Indian blood
- other legal documentation of American Indian heritage

**Application Process:** Complete the application at [www.morris.umn.edu/aip.html](http://www.morris.umn.edu/aip.html). Students with questions should call (800) 992-8863 or e-mail [morrisfa@morris.umn.edu](mailto:morrisfa@morris.umn.edu).

### Orphaned or Fostered Children

Orphans and those who were in foster care may be eligible for an increased level of financial aid assistance. Orphans, wards of the court and children placed in foster care any time since they turned 13, even if they are no longer a dependent, should answer "yes" to question 55 on the FAFSA.

These students are automatically considered independent students and are not required to submit financial information about their family and may qualify for a larger Federal Pell Grant and Minnesota State Grant.

If you attend a Minnesota state college or university, you may be eligible for a tuition waiver for certain courses or programs. Check with the school for more details.

### Education and Training Vouchers for Former Youth in Care

Education vouchers are federal funds made available to states through the Chafee Foster Care Independence Act. Education vouchers are intended to help students up to age 23 pay for postsecondary education.

The award amount is based on the amount of other aid the student is receiving, and an estimated living expenses budget which is a part of the application. The maximum amount per year is \$5,000 per student.

**Eligibility Requirements:** You must be under age 21 at the application due date, accepted into an accredited postsecondary program, and meet at least one of the following requirements:

- in foster care on or after your 16th birthday, and continue to be in foster care up to or beyond your 18th birthday
- adopted from foster care after your 16th birthday
- in foster care on or after your 16th birthday when a relative accepts a transfer of permanent legal and physical custody through a juvenile court order
- is or was under state guardianship

**Application Process:** Applications are available at [www.dhs.state.mn.us](http://www.dhs.state.mn.us) under *Children*. Click on *Adolescent Services* and then *Education/Training Vouchers*. The application deadline is July 1 of each year.

To apply for an initial voucher, you must attach a copy of your FAFSA, one reference and a copy of your post-secondary school acceptance letter. Students may reapply for education vouchers every year to age 23 and transcripts are required as evidence of satisfactory progress. Additional questions can be directed to:

Education and Training Voucher Program  
Minnesota Department of Human Services  
Tel: (651) 431-4663  
E-mail: [dhs.etvcoordinator@state.mn.us](mailto:dhs.etvcoordinator@state.mn.us)

### Students Who Are Deaf or Blind

Minnesota residents admitted to the University of Minnesota who are blind may be eligible for a tuition waiver from the university. Minnesota residents who are deaf and who qualify for either a Pell or State Grant may be eligible for tuition and fee assistance at the public college or university to which they have been admitted. Contact the college's financial aid office to learn more.

### Students of Farm Families

Minnesota community and technical colleges, the University of Minnesota and some private colleges may provide additional financial aid for students from farm families or for students wanting to pursue agriculture-related careers. Be sure to check with the financial aid office at the school you attend or want to attend.

A family farm is not considered an asset on the FAFSA if it is the parents' principal place of residence and they participate in its operation.

### Dependents and Spouses of Public Safety Officers

Dependent children and the surviving spouse of a public safety officer killed in the line of duty are eligible to receive educational benefits through the Public Safety Officers' Survivor Grant Program. Awards are based on the tuition and fees charged by the institution or the tuition and fee maximums established in law for the State Grant Program, whichever is less. Students are eligible for a maximum of nine semesters or the equivalent.

**Eligibility Requirements:** To qualify for this award, you must be a dependent or spouse of a public safety officer killed in the line of duty on or after January 1, 1973. Dependents must be one of the following:

- less than 23 years old
- less than 30 years old and served on active military duty for 181 consecutive days or more and was honorably discharged or released
- enrolled in an undergraduate or certificate program at one of the more than 132 public or private postsecondary institutions in Minnesota that participate in the State Grant program

Those who have received a baccalaureate degree or been enrolled full time for the equivalent of 10 semesters or 15 quarters, whichever occurs first, are no longer eligible. An additional term of eligibility is available for students who have withdrawn from active military service January 1, 2003 or later.

**Application Process:** Applicants need to take a certificate of eligibility to the financial aid office of the school they attend or plan to attend. This certificate can be obtained from:

Nancy Reissner  
Minnesota Department of Public Safety  
Tel: (651) 201-7165  
E-mail: [nancy.reissner@state.mn.us](mailto:nancy.reissner@state.mn.us)

### Adult Students

Increasingly, older students are returning to postsecondary education to brush up on their skills, prepare for a different career or finish a degree they started years ago. Don't be discouraged if you decide to go to school later in the year and have not yet applied for aid. It is best to contact the financial aid office of the school that you are planning to attend.

There is no age limit for federal and state financial aid, but some aid programs are limited to undergraduate students.

***Be sure to explore education tax credits and deductions plus employer-paid tuition assistance to help offset your education costs.***

### Alliss Opportunity Grant Program

Adults may be eligible to take a college course for free at one of Minnesota's public two-year colleges through the Alliss Opportunity Grant Program. The grant covers one course (up to five credits). The cost of books is included in the award.

**Eligibility Requirements:** To be eligible for this grant, you must have been out of high school for seven or more years, and not have a bachelor's degree.

**Application Process:** Contact the community college admissions office for more information and an application. You must apply for the grant before you register.

### Assistance for Dislocated Workers

Dislocated Worker Programs serve individuals dislocated from long-held jobs. These programs focus on upgrading current job skills, retraining and providing support services. Inquire about Dislocated Worker Programs at local WorkForce Centers. Visit [www.mnwfc.org/field/](http://www.mnwfc.org/field/) to find the center nearest you.

# What Types of Financial Aid Are Available?

## Resources for Undocumented Students

Though federal and most state financial aid is not available to undocumented students, there may be private scholarships and loans to help you pay for college. It is important to contact the schools that interest you to determine if they have assistance available. Many financial aid counselors are aware of and sensitive to your situation and will try to assist you as best they can.

### State and Federal Grants

State Grants and federal Pell Grants are awarded only to U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens. To apply for a federal or state grant, you must complete the FAFSA, which requires your social security number. To qualify, you must be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national or an eligible non-citizen. You are an eligible non-citizen if you:

- are a U.S. permanent resident with an Alien Registration Card (I-551)
- are a conditional permanent resident with an I-551C card
- have an Arrival Departure Record (I-94) from the Department of Homeland Security with any of the following designations: refugee, asylum granted, parole or Cuban-Haitian entrant.

The federal Academic Competitiveness Grants and the SMART grants are awarded to U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens (see page 8).

### Scholarships

Several organizations maintain online lists of scholarships for which undocumented students may be eligible. Visit [www.getreadyforcollege.org/undocumented](http://www.getreadyforcollege.org/undocumented).

### Tuition Policies

A growing number of public colleges and universities in Minnesota offer in-state tuition to all of their students, regardless of citizenship or state of residence. Visit [www.getreadyforcollege.org/undocumented](http://www.getreadyforcollege.org/undocumented) for a list of the schools that do not charge higher tuition to nonresidents. Check with schools that interest you to find out their tuition policies for nonresidents.

### Student Loans

Federal student loans are not available to undocumented students. Minnesota's SELF Loan program (see page 21) is available to qualified students who have a credit-worthy co-signer who is a U.S. citizen or permanent resident. A separate application is used to apply for the SELF Loan, available through the college's financial aid office. For more information on the SELF Loan program, visit [www.selfloan.org](http://www.selfloan.org).

## Scholarship Resources

### American Indian College Fund

[www.collegefund.org](http://www.collegefund.org)

### American Indian Science and Engineering Society

[www.aises.org/Programs/ScholarshipsandInternships](http://www.aises.org/Programs/ScholarshipsandInternships)

### Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities' Scholarships:

[scholarships.hacu.net](http://scholarships.hacu.net)

### Hispanic College Fund

[www.hispanicfund.org](http://www.hispanicfund.org)

### Hispanic Scholarship Fund

[www.hsf.net](http://www.hsf.net)

### Migrant Scholarship Fund

[www.migrant.net](http://www.migrant.net)

### Scholarships for Hispanics

[www.scholarshipsforhispanics.org](http://www.scholarshipsforhispanics.org)

### United Negro College Fund

[www.uncf.org/scholarship/](http://www.uncf.org/scholarship/)

## Aid for Students in Specific Programs

### Health Professions Loan Programs

Various federal scholarship and loan programs are available for students interested in health professions, such as nursing, dentistry, pharmacy, optometry or medicine. Campus-based programs include the Health Professions Student Loan Program, the Primary Care Loan Program, Loans for Disadvantaged Students Program and Nursing Student Loan Program.

Additional health loan repayment programs may be available from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

**Application Process:** Students should contact the financial aid office at the school where they are enrolled or intend to apply for admission. Visit [www.bhpr.hrsa.gov](http://www.bhpr.hrsa.gov) to learn more. Contact [flrpinfo@hrsa.gov](mailto:flrpinfo@hrsa.gov) with questions.

### State Health Professions Loan Forgiveness

The Minnesota Department of Health's Office of Rural Health and Primary Care administers loan forgiveness programs for the following health professionals:

- Rural and urban physicians: primary care residents or students (family practice, internal medicine, OB/GYN, pediatrics, psychiatry)
- Mid-level practitioners: nurse practitioner students, physician assistant students, certified nurse midwife students, nurse anesthetist students or advanced clinical nurse specialist students
- Nurses: licensed practical nurse students or registered nurse students
- Dentists: dental students or licensed dentists
- Pharmacists: students or residents in a pharmacy program or licensed pharmacists
- Allied Health Care Tech Faculty: students studying to become allied health care instructors
- Nurse Faculty: Students studying to become nursing instructors

**Application Process:** Applications are available after July 1, 2009 and due December 1, 2009, and can be requested from:

Minnesota Department of Health  
Office of Rural Health and Primary Care  
Tel: (651) 201-3870 or (800) 366-5424  
Web: [www.health.state.mn.us/divs/orhpc/funding/loans/index.html](http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/orhpc/funding/loans/index.html)

### Minnesota TEACH

Minnesota TEACH is a scholarship program for students in the early childhood and school-age care field.

**Eligibility requirements:** Students must be currently employed as child care providers and have support from their employers. A complete list of requirements is listed at [www.mnchildcare.org/TEACH/](http://www.mnchildcare.org/TEACH/).

**Application process:** Contact the Minnesota Child Care Resource and Referral Network at (651) 290-9704 ext. 109 or [christinas@mnchildcare.org](mailto:christinas@mnchildcare.org).

### Federal Grants for Aspiring Teachers

Beginning fall 2008, the federal government offers the TEACH Grant program, which provides grants of up to \$4,000 per year to students who intend to teach in an elementary or secondary school that serves students from low-income families. In exchange for receiving a TEACH Grant, students must agree to serve as a full-time teacher in a public or private school serving low-income students for at least four academic years within eight calendar years of completing the program of study for which they received a TEACH Grant.

**Eligibility Requirements:** To receive a TEACH Grant, students must meet the following criteria:

- complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (although financial need does not need to be demonstrated)
- be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen (see page 8)
- be enrolled as an undergraduate, post-baccalaureate, or graduate student at a participating institution
- be enrolled in coursework necessary to begin a career in teaching and meet certain academic achievement requirements (generally maintaining a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25)
- sign a TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve

**IMPORTANT:** Students who fail to complete the four-year service obligation will have the total amount of their TEACH Grants converted to a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan. Students must then repay this loan to the U.S. Department of Education and will be charged interest from the dates of the grant disbursement.

**Application Process:** Students apply to their college financial aid office. Each year that students receive a TEACH Grant, they must sign a TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve available from the U.S. Department of Education at [www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov).

### SMART Grants

Federal SMART grants provide up to \$4,000 per year for students majoring in physical, life, or computer sciences; mathematics; technology; engineering or certain foreign languages. See page 11.

# Reciprocity & Reduced Tuition Programs

Minnesota has tuition reciprocity agreements with neighboring states to eliminate non-resident admissions barriers and lower non-resident tuition for Minnesota students attending public colleges and universities in participating states. All public postsecondary education institutions in Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota and Manitoba are covered by statewide tuition reciprocity.

The Midwest Student Exchange Program provides a reduction to non-resident tuition in specific programs of study at participating institutions for residents of Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota and Wisconsin.

## Tuition Reciprocity

Tuition reciprocity enhances opportunities for students to attend public postsecondary education institutions in neighboring states. Reciprocity students do not have to meet higher non-resident admission standards, and do not pay non-resident tuition prices.

Minnesota has statewide tuition reciprocity agreements with Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota and Manitoba. There is also a limited state reciprocity agreement with Iowa Lakes Community College.

Students must apply for tuition reciprocity benefits, and should do so as soon as they know they will be attending an eligible institution. Applying early ensures students will be charged the reciprocity tuition rate when they register for classes. Students may apply any time during the term.

**For up-to-date information on tuition reciprocity, visit [www.getreadyforcollege.org](http://www.getreadyforcollege.org).**

Applications received after the last day of a term will only apply to subsequent terms. There is no fee to apply for reciprocity.

Reciprocity benefits are automatically renewed for Wisconsin, North Dakota and South Dakota tuition reciprocity students who earned postsecondary credits in the previous 12 months.

**Tuition reciprocity applications** for Minnesota residents planning to attend a public institution in North Dakota, South Dakota or Wisconsin are available at high schools, postsecondary institutions and:

Minnesota Office of Higher Education  
Tel: (651) 642-0567 or (800) 657-3866  
E-mail: [info@ohe.state.mn.us](mailto:info@ohe.state.mn.us)  
Apply online: [www.getreadyforcollege.org/reciprocity](http://www.getreadyforcollege.org/reciprocity)

Applications become available around March 1 for the following fall. Most students apply online.

## Minnesota/Wisconsin Reciprocity

All public postsecondary education institutions in Minnesota and Wisconsin are included in the statewide tuition reciprocity agreement. All undergraduate and graduate programs of study are available to residents of both states, except professional programs of medicine, veterinary medicine and dentistry at the University of Minnesota in the Twin Cities and Duluth and the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

### Reciprocity Tuition Rate: Minnesota resident

undergraduate students enrolled in Wisconsin public postsecondary institutions generally pay the higher of either the resident tuition rate charged by the campus the student attends or the resident tuition rate charged by a comparable Minnesota institution. An undergraduate student from Minnesota enrolled at the University of Wisconsin-Madison pays the resident tuition rate charged by the University of Minnesota Twin Cities because it is currently higher. An undergraduate student from Minnesota enrolled at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls pays the higher of either the resident tuition rate charged by the University of Wisconsin-River Falls or the average resident rate charged by Minnesota state universities. The same policy is followed for community colleges. The agreement is different for a Minnesotan enrolled in a Wisconsin technical college. The Minnesota resident pays the Wisconsin technical college resident tuition rate.

**Wisconsin resident** undergraduate students enrolled at Minnesota community colleges, Minnesota state universities and University of Minnesota campuses are charged the higher of either the resident tuition rate at the institution they attend or the resident rate at a comparable institution in Wisconsin. In cases where the Minnesota resident tuition rate exceeds the Wisconsin resident tuition rate, the State of Wisconsin will offer its residents a tuition reciprocity supplement to cover the difference between the two state rates. Wisconsin resident undergraduate students first enrolled at the University of Minnesota prior to the 2008-2009

academic year pay tuition based on the resident undergraduate rate charged at the University of Wisconsin-Madison plus 25 percent of the difference between the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the University of Minnesota Twin Cities undergraduate rate.

Minnesota and Wisconsin residents enrolled in graduate education, the pharmacy program or in law school under the tuition reciprocity agreement pay the higher of the two resident rates.

**Application Process: Minnesota residents** who enroll in University of Wisconsin institutions must apply for tuition reciprocity through the Minnesota Office of Higher Education (see page 32). Minnesota students seeking tuition reciprocity at a Wisconsin technical college should apply directly to the institution they will attend.

**Wisconsin residents** who enroll in a University of Minnesota institution, a Minnesota state university, a Minnesota community college or a Minnesota consolidated community and technical college must apply through the Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board. Wisconsin students enrolling at a Minnesota technical college should apply directly to the institution they will attend.

Applications are available from all high schools or eligible postsecondary education institutions, or from:

Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board  
P.O. Box 7885  
Madison, WI 53707  
Tel: (608) 267-2209  
E-mail: HEABmail@heab.state.wi.us  
Web: www.heab.state.wi.us

### Minnesota/North Dakota Reciprocity

All public postsecondary education institutions in Minnesota and North Dakota are included in the statewide tuition reciprocity agreement. All undergraduate and graduate programs of study are available to reciprocity students. Some professional programs are also included; however, law, pharmacy and medicine are excluded.

**Reciprocity Tuition Rate: Minnesota resident** undergraduate or graduate students enrolled at the University of North Dakota or North Dakota State University pay tuition equal to the average tuition charged by Minnesota state universities. Minnesota resident students attending other North Dakota public four-year institutions pay tuition at a rate slightly above the North Dakota resident tuition rate. Minnesota residents enrolled in a North Dakota two-year institution pay tuition at a rate comparable to what is charged Minnesota residents attending a Minnesota community or technical college.

**North Dakota residents** enrolled in a Minnesota public postsecondary institution at the undergraduate or graduate level pay the Minnesota resident tuition rate.

**Application Process:** Minnesota residents who graduated from a Minnesota high school within 12 months of initial enrollment at a North Dakota institution do not have to apply for tuition reciprocity. These students must present an official high school transcript to the enrolling North Dakota school. Minnesota residents who graduated from high school more than 12 months prior to initial enrollment at a North Dakota institution must apply for tuition reciprocity through the Minnesota Office of Higher Education (see page 32).

**North Dakota residents** who enroll in a Minnesota technical college must apply for tuition reciprocity through the North Dakota Board for Career and Technical Education. All other North Dakota residents must apply through the North Dakota Board of Higher Education.

Applications are available from all high schools or eligible postsecondary education institutions or online.

North Dakota University System  
Tel: (701) 328-4113  
E-mail: ndus.office@ndus.nodak.edu  
Web: www.ndus.edu (Click on student and parent info, and then other resource info.)

North Dakota Board for Career and Technical Education  
Tel: (701) 328-2288  
E-mail: cte@state.nd.us  
Web: www.state.nd.us/cte/students/reciprocity.html

## What Types of Financial Aid Are Available?

### Minnesota/South Dakota Reciprocity

All public postsecondary education institutions in Minnesota and South Dakota are included in the statewide tuition reciprocity agreement. All undergraduate and graduate programs of study are available to reciprocity students, including some professional programs of study.

**Reciprocity Tuition Rate: Minnesota resident** undergraduate or graduate students enrolled at the University of South Dakota, South Dakota State University or other South Dakota public four-year institutions pay the average undergraduate or graduate tuition rate charged by Minnesota state universities and the University of Minnesota campuses in Crookston and Duluth. Minnesota residents enrolled in professional programs at the University of South Dakota pay no more than 150 percent of the South Dakota resident tuition rate. Minnesota residents enrolled in South Dakota technical institutes in Watertown, Mitchell, Sioux Falls or Rapid City pay the South Dakota resident tuition rate.

**South Dakota residents** enrolled in a Minnesota public postsecondary institution pay approximately the Minnesota resident tuition rate. At some Minnesota state universities and Minnesota two-year institutions the tuition rate is slightly above Minnesota resident rates.

**Application Process: Minnesota residents** attending a South Dakota public college or university will have their eligibility for reciprocity determined by the campus they attend.

**South Dakota residents** who enroll in a Minnesota state university, community college or technical college will have their eligibility for reciprocity determined by the campus they attend. South Dakota residents who enroll in the University of Minnesota must apply for tuition reciprocity through the South Dakota Board of Regents.

Applications are available from all high schools or eligible postsecondary education institutions, or from:

Reciprocity Program  
South Dakota Board of Regents  
Tel: (605) 688-4497  
E-mail: joella.anderson@sdstate.edu  
Web: www.sdbor.edu

### Minnesota/Manitoba Reciprocity

Minnesota and Manitoba residents wishing to obtain tuition reciprocity benefits should contact the school where they intend to enroll. Students pay the resident tuition rate at the institution attended.

### Iowa Lakes Community College & Minnesota West Community and Technical College

Minnesota residents may attend Iowa Lakes Community College at the resident tuition rate. Iowa residents who live in the Iowa Lakes Community College attendance district may attend Minnesota West Community and Technical College at the resident tuition rate.

### Midwest Student Exchange Program

Minnesota residents may enroll in selected programs at a limited number of public and private postsecondary institutions in Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri and Nebraska at a reduced tuition rate through the Midwest Student Exchange Program. Minnesota students attending or planning to attend a public institution in North Dakota or Wisconsin must apply for reciprocity instead.

**Program Tuition Rate:** Students pay up to 150 percent of the resident tuition rate (which is still below the non-resident rate) at participating public colleges and universities or receive a 10 percent reduction in tuition at participating private schools.

**Eligibility Requirements:** The institution to which the student applies determines the student's eligibility. If you're a resident of Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri and Nebraska, you're eligible for reduced tuition if you attend a Minnesota public college or university through the Midwest Student Exchange Program.

**Application Process:** Students must indicate they are seeking admission as a Midwest Student Exchange Program student when applying to an eligible institution.

Brochures listing eligible colleges, universities and programs of study are distributed to high schools, and are available from:

Midwest Higher Education Commission  
Tel: (612) 626-8288  
Web: www.mhec.org

# Are There Education Tax Benefits?

Several federal tax benefits are available to help offset the cost of postsecondary education.

**Limits & Restrictions:** The following tax incentives have different phase-in and phase-out periods and varying income eligibility requirements. Students and families may need to choose among incentives since some tax preferred investment options and tax provisions cannot be used in combination in the same tax year. For complete information, see IRS publication 970 at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

## American Opportunity Tax Credit

The American Opportunity Tax Credit expands the Hope Tax Credit for tax years 2009 and 2010. You may be able to claim an American Opportunity Tax Credit of up to \$2,500 for qualified tuition and related expenses for each eligible student on your federal individual income tax return. If you qualify for the credit and have a federal individual income tax liability, the credit reduces your liability. If you qualify and do not have a federal individual income tax liability, the credit is 40 percent refundable.

**Income Limits:** Single tax filers may claim an American Opportunity Tax Credit if their modified adjusted gross income is less than \$90,000. Joint tax filers may claim the credit if their modified adjusted gross income is less than \$180,000. The credit is phased out if your modified adjusted gross income is between \$80,000 and \$90,000 for single filers and between \$160,000 and \$180,000 for joint tax filers.

**Eligibility:** The American Opportunity Tax Credit can be claimed until the student's first four years of postsecondary education are completed. The student must be pursuing an undergraduate degree or other recognized education credential. In addition, the student must be enrolled at least half time for at least one academic period during the tax year. Generally, you can claim the American Opportunity Tax Credit if all three of the following requirements are met.

- You pay qualified education expenses of higher education.
- You pay the education expenses for an eligible student.
- The eligible student is either yourself, your spouse or a dependent for whom you claim an exemption on your tax return.

Qualified education expenses paid by a dependent for whom you claim an exemption, or by a third party for that dependent, are considered paid by you. You cannot claim the credit if your tax filing status is married filing separate or you are listed as a dependent in the exemptions section of another person's tax return.

The credit is refundable up to \$1,000. Even if you do not have to pay federal income taxes, you may get a refund for qualified expenses up to \$1,000 per year.

**Eligible Expenses:** Qualified expenses are tuition and certain related expenses required for enrollment or attendance at an eligible education institution and are reported to taxpayers on Form 1098T, Tuition Statement, by the college or university.

**Eligible Educational Institutions:** An eligible institution is any college, university, vocational school or other postsecondary educational institution eligible to participate in a student aid program administered by the U.S. Department of Education.

**Compatibility with Other Tax Benefits:** You cannot claim the American Opportunity Tax Credit if you deducted higher education expenses using the same expenses. You cannot claim the American Opportunity Tax Credit if you claim a Lifetime Learning Tax Credit based on the same expenses. You cannot claim the American Opportunity Tax Credit if you used the same expenses to figure the tax-free portion of a distribution from a Coverdell ESA or a Qualified Tuition Program (529 college savings).

**Claiming the American Opportunity Tax Credit:** The American Opportunity Tax Credit is claimed on your federal individual income tax return. It is also reported on FAFSA Worksheet C. For more information, consult your tax advisor or the Internal Revenue Service.

## Are There Education Tax Benefits?

### Lifetime Learning Tax Credit

You may be able to claim a federal individual income Lifetime Learning Tax Credit of up to \$2,000 for qualified tuition and related expenses per tax return per year. The credit reduces the amount of federal individual income taxes you may have to pay. The credit is non-refundable.

**Income Limits:** Single tax filers may claim a Lifetime Learning Tax Credit if their modified adjusted gross income is below \$60,000. Joint tax filers may claim the credit if their modified adjusted gross income is below \$120,000. The credit is phased out if your modified adjusted gross income is between \$50,000 and \$60,000 for single tax filers, and between \$100,000 and \$120,000 for joint tax filers.

**Eligibility:** There is no limit on the number of years for which the Lifetime Learning Tax Credit can be claimed for each student and it may be applied to expenses related to undergraduate and graduate study. Generally, you can claim the credit if you pay qualified tuition and related higher education expenses for yourself, your spouse or a dependent for whom you claim an exemption. You cannot claim this tax credit if your tax filing status is married filing separately or you are listed as a dependent in the exemptions section of another person's tax return.

**Eligible Expenses:** Qualified tuition and related expenses are tuition and fees required for enrollment at an eligible education institution. You must reduce the qualified expenses by the amount of any tax-free educational assistance you received. Non-credit courses to acquire or improve job skills also may qualify. Check with your tax preparer or contact the IRS.

**Eligible Educational Institutions:** Eligible educational institutions are any college, university, vocational school, or other postsecondary educational institution eligible to participate in student aid programs administered by the U.S. Department of Education.

**Compatibility with Other Tax Benefits:** You cannot claim the Lifetime Learning tax credit if you deducted higher education expenses using the same expenses. You cannot claim the Lifetime Learning tax credit if you claim an American Opportunity Tax Credit based on the same expenses. You cannot claim the lifetime learning tax credit if you used the same expenses to figure the tax-free portion of a distribution from a Coverdell ESA or a Qualified Tuition Program (529 college savings plan).

**Claiming the Lifetime Learning Tax Credit:** The Lifetime Learning Tax Credit is claimed on your federal income tax form and reported on FAFSA Worksheet C. For more information, consult your tax advisor or the Internal Revenue Service.

### Student Loan Interest Deduction

You may be able to deduct up to \$2,500 of the interest you paid on student loans on your federal individual income tax return.

**Income Limits:** You may be able to deduct up to the full \$2,500 limit if your modified adjusted gross income is \$60,000 or less (\$120,000 for joint filers). A partial deduction may be available for single tax filers with modified adjusted gross incomes up to \$75,000 and joint filers with incomes up to \$150,000.

**Eligibility:** You are eligible to take the interest deduction if you paid interest on a student loan for yourself, your spouse or your dependent. An eligible student is a student who was enrolled at least half time in a program leading to a degree, certificate or recognized educational credential.

**Qualified Expenditures:** Qualified expenditures are the total cost of attending an eligible educational institution, including tuition and fees, room and board, books, supplies, equipment and other necessary expenses such as transportation. Expenses for graduate school are included. The deduction is not limited to government-sponsored loans. The deduction cannot be applied to loans made to students by family members. You must reduce the qualified expenses by the amount of any tax-free educational assistance you received.

**Eligible Educational Institutions:** Eligible educational institutions are any college, university, vocational school or other postsecondary educational institution eligible to participate in student aid programs administered by the U.S. Department of Education.

**Claiming the Student Loan Interest Deduction:** Your deduction is claimed on your federal individual income tax return. For more information, consult your tax advisor or the Internal Revenue Service.

### Tuition and Fees Deduction

You may be able to deduct qualified tuition and related expenses even if you do not itemize deductions on Schedule A, Form 1040. This deduction may be beneficial to you if you cannot take either the American Opportunity or Lifetime Learning Tax Credit because your income is too high.

**Deduction Limits:** You may deduct up to \$4,000 of qualified tuition and related expenses if your modified adjusted gross income is \$65,000 or less (\$130,000 for joint filers). If your modified adjusted gross income is more than \$65,000 (\$130,000 for joint filers) but not more than \$80,000 (\$160,000 for joint filers), you may deduct up to \$2,000.

**Eligibility:** Generally, you can claim the deduction if (1) you pay the educational expenses for an eligible student and (2) the eligible student is yourself, your spouse or a dependent you claim as an exemption on your tax return.

**Qualified Educational Expenses:** In general, qualified tuition and related expenses are tuition and fees paid by you, your spouse or a dependent. Student activity fees and fees for books, supplies and equipment are included only if the fees must be paid to the institution as a condition of enrollment. You must reduce your qualified expenses by the amount of any tax-free education assistance you receive.

**Eligible Educational Institutions:** Eligible educational institutions are any college, university, vocational school or other postsecondary educational institution eligible to participate in student aid programs administered by the U.S. Department of Education.

**Limitations:** You cannot claim the deduction if you or anyone else claims a Hope or Lifetime Learning credit for expenses of the student for whom the qualified education expenses were paid.

**Application Process:** Your deduction is claimed on your federal income tax form. For more information, consult your tax advisor or the Internal Revenue Service.

### Employer-Paid Educational Assistance

Your employer can exclude from your W-2 wages, tips and other compensation \$5,250 in educational assistance benefits you receive annually under an educational assistance program. Your employer can tell you if there is a qualified program where you work. You do not have to include the benefits on your income tax return.

**Limitations & Restrictions:** You cannot use any of the tax-free education expenses paid for by your employer as the basis for any other deduction or credit, including the American Opportunity Tax Credit and the Lifetime Learning Credit.

**Qualified Expenses:** Tax-free educational assistance benefits include payments for tuition, fees and similar expenses, books, supplies and equipment. The payments may be for either undergraduate or graduate courses. The payments cannot include meals, lodging, transportation and tools or supplies (other than textbooks) you can keep after completing the course of instruction.

# Are There Tax-Advantaged Investment & Savings Options?

Several tax-preferred saving and investment options are available to help you save and pay for postsecondary education. These are particularly valuable if the family begins to use them when children are young.

## Minnesota College Savings Plan

The Minnesota College Savings Plan is one of many 529 plans offered throughout the country. The plan is a 529 Qualified Tuition Program. Earnings accumulate tax-free, and are exempt from federal and state income taxes if used for qualified higher education expenses. For additional information on the Minnesota College Savings Plan or to open an account, visit [www.mnsaves.org](http://www.mnsaves.org) or call (877) 338-4646.

**Investment Options:** Account owners have six investment options: a managed allocation option in which savings are invested more conservatively as the account beneficiary nears college age, an all-equities option, a guaranteed option with a guaranteed rate of return adjusted annually, a balanced option, a fixed-income option and a money market option. Account owners are assessed an annual plan manager fee of 0.65 percent (less than one percent) of the plan assets.

**Qualified Education Expenses:** Qualified expenses include tuition, required fees, room and board, books, supplies and equipment for students enrolled at least half time.

**Eligibility Requirements:** Any individual with a valid social security number or federal tax identification number who is a U.S. citizen or resident alien can open an account and contribute to the plan on behalf of any beneficiary. The beneficiary must have a valid social security number and be a U.S. citizen or resident alien.

**Limitations:** The maximum contribution is \$235,000. Other limitations apply. Contributions to the Minnesota College Savings Plan are not tax-deductible. Contributions can be made to a Coverdell ESA and the Minnesota College Savings Plan in the same year for the same beneficiary.

## Coverdell Education Savings Accounts

A Coverdell Education Savings Account is a trust or custodial account created for paying qualified education expenses of the designated beneficiary of the account. A Coverdell ESA can be opened at any bank or other IRS-approved entity.

Earnings accumulate tax-free, and distributions may be used for elementary and secondary school expenses as well as for postsecondary education expenses.

**Qualified Education Expenses:** Generally, qualified expenses are expenses required for the enrollment of the student at an eligible institution. Qualified higher education expenses include tuition and fees, books, supplies and equipment. Room and board expenses qualify if the student is enrolled at least half time.

**Eligibility Requirements:** If your 2008 adjusted gross income is less than \$110,000 (\$220,000 for joint filers), you may be able to establish a Coverdell ESA to finance the qualified education expenses of a designated beneficiary. When a Coverdell ESA is established, the designated beneficiary must be under age 18 or considered a special needs beneficiary.

**Limitations:** There is no limit to the number of separate Coverdell ESA accounts that can be established for a designated beneficiary. Total contributions for the beneficiary exceeding \$2,000 in any year will be taxed, no matter how many accounts have been established.

## Education Savings Bonds

Contributions are not tax deductible, but you may be able to exclude all or part of the interest earned on series EE bonds from income when you redeem the bonds to pay postsecondary education tuition and fees for undergraduate or graduate study.

**Income Eligibility:** Your modified adjusted gross income in 2008 must be less than \$82,100 (\$130,650 for joint filers or qualifying widow(er)).

**Qualified U.S. Savings Bond:** A qualified U.S. savings bond is a series EE bond issued after January 1, 1990 or a series I bond.

**Eligibility:** You must have paid qualified higher education expenses for yourself, your spouse or a dependent for whom you claim an exemption on your return. The bond must be issued either in your name (as the sole owner) or in the name of both you and your spouse (as co-owners). The owner must be at least 24 years old before the bond's issue date. The issue date is printed directly on the front of the savings bond.

**Qualified Expenses:** Qualified higher education expenses include tuition and fees required to enroll at or attend an eligible educational institution, contributions to a qualified state tuition program and contributions to a Coverdell education savings account you pay for either yourself, your spouse, or a dependent for whom you claim an exemption. Qualified expenses do not include expenses for room and board or for courses involving sports, games or hobbies that are not part of a degree program. Generally, you must reduce the qualified expenses by the amount of any tax-free educational assistance you received as well as any expenses used in figuring the Hope and Lifetime Learning tax credits and tax-free withdrawals from a Coverdell ESA.

**Eligible Educational Institutions:** Eligible educational institutions are any college, university, vocational school or other postsecondary educational institution eligible to participate in student aid programs administered by the United States Department of Education.

Visit [www.savingsbonds.gov](http://www.savingsbonds.gov) to learn more about U.S. savings bonds. Click on *Individual/Personal* and then *EE/E Savings Bond*.

## Withdrawals from IRAs

Taxpayers can withdraw funds from traditional or Roth Individual Retirement Accounts to pay qualified higher education expenses without paying the 10 percent early withdrawal tax that applies to withdrawals before the account owner reaches age 59½.

**Qualified Education Expenses:** Qualified expenses are tuition, fees, books, room and board, supplies and equipment if the student is enrolled at least half time.

Distributions from a Coverdell ESA, grants and tax-free employer-provided educational assistance are deducted from qualified expenses.

**Eligibility Requirements:** None.

**Limitations:** Early distributions from an IRA are limited to paying for qualified higher education expenses of the taxpayer or spouse, or the child or grandchild of the taxpayer or taxpayer's spouse.

## Other College Tax Provisions

Several other tax provisions may help families cover college costs.

- Grants and scholarships are generally excluded from the gross income of the recipient.
- The value of debt forgiven if a student performs qualified work after graduation is excluded from the student's gross income.
- The tuition reduction provided to postsecondary employees and their immediate family is excluded from the gross income of the recipient.

For more information on tax benefits, visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) for access to Internal Revenue Service Publication 970.

## Are There Tax-Advantaged Investment & Savings Options?

### Does Saving for College Hurt Your Chances for Receiving Financial Aid?

Probably not, but it depends upon your family's economic circumstances. As a parent you will be better prepared to answer the question for yourself if you understand how assets are considered as part of the federal and state financial aid application and award process. You and your child separately report income and net worth (assets minus liabilities) on the FAFSA application and submit it to the U.S. Department of Education.

**Asset Assessment:** The U.S. Department of Education assesses your family income and net worth, adjusted for household size to determine your family's Expected Family Contribution (or EFC). Your EFC is transmitted by the Department of Education to you (or your child) and to the colleges your child identified on the application.

In determining your EFC, the federal government does not consider all your parental assets as available to help pay for college. For example, your retirement plan funds, such as an Individual Retirement Account or a 401(k) plan, home equity and equity in a small business with fewer than 100 employees are all excluded from consideration. Other assets you, as the parent, own including college savings are protected, in part or in full, by an Education Savings and Asset Protection Allowance. The allowance increases as the age of the parents' increase, as shown in the table.

As a parent of a dependent student, about 5.6 percent of your parental net worth exceeding the Education Savings and Asset Protection Allowance is included in your EFC. The 5.6 percent of your net worth over the allowance compares with a 20 percent rate for certain assets owned by your child, who has no asset protection allowance in the federal need analysis.<sup>1</sup> As such, there are important benefits for you as a parent to own college savings accounts, not your child.

If your college savings exceed the Education Savings and Asset Protection Allowance, your Expected Family Contribution will likely increase. However, the formula used in determining your EFC counts only about 5.6 percent of your assets above the Education Savings and Asset Protection Allowance as available to pay for college.

<sup>1</sup> Effective with the 2009-2010 academic year, assets in a 529 College Savings Plan account and/or a Coverdell Education Savings Account owned by a dependent student will be counted as a parental asset as provided in the College Cost Reduction and Access Act (H.R. 2669). Aid Awarded in 2007, August 2008.

### Education Savings and Asset Protection Allowance, Academic Year 2008-2009

Age of older parent*	Allowance if there are two parents	Allowance if there is only one parent
25 or less	\$0	\$0
26	\$2,900	\$1,200
27	\$5,800	\$2,400
28	\$8,700	\$3,600
29	\$11,600	\$4,800
30	\$14,500	\$6,000
31	\$17,400	\$7,200
32	\$20,300	\$8,400
33	\$23,100	\$9,500
34	\$26,000	\$10,700
35	\$28,900	\$11,900
36	\$31,800	\$13,100
37	\$34,700	\$14,300
38	\$37,600	\$15,500
39	\$40,500	\$16,700
40	\$43,400	\$17,900
41	\$44,200	\$18,200
42	\$45,300	\$18,600
43	\$46,400	\$19,100
44	\$47,600	\$19,500
45	\$48,700	\$19,900
46	\$44,500	\$20,400
47	\$45,600	\$20,900
48	\$52,400	\$21,400
49	\$53,700	\$21,900
50	\$55,300	\$22,400
51	\$56,700	\$22,900
52	\$58,000	\$23,500
53	\$59,800	\$24,000
54	\$61,200	\$24,600
55	\$63,000	\$25,300
56	\$64,900	\$25,900
57	\$66,400	\$26,500
58	\$68,300	\$24,400
59	\$70,300	\$25,000
60	\$72,300	\$25,700
61	\$74,400	\$26,300
62	\$76,600	\$27,000
63	\$79,100	\$27,800
64	\$81,300	\$28,500
65 or over	\$84,000	\$29,300

\*As of December 31, 2009

Source: U.S. Department of Education: The Expected Family Contribution, 2000-2010, EFC Formula Worksheet A (parents only).

# Who Can Provide Additional Help?

Financial aid can be complex, but there are people who can advise students and parents on the best way to meet college costs. These people include high school counselors, financial aid staff at colleges and the staff of the Office of Higher Education.

An important source of information is the college financial aid administrator who:

- distributes and receives applications
- determines student need
- develops financial aid packages
- distributes aid
- provides professional counseling to students and families

Your financial aid administrator will suggest the types of aid best suited to your needs and financial situation. Contact the financial aid administrator well before the start of the academic term, and be sure to consult the school's catalog for application deadlines.

Many of the federal, state and private student aid programs provide for some degree of discretion by the aid administrator who can consider special circumstances affecting the financial need of students.

If you have additional questions about state financial aid, tuition reciprocity or the Minnesota College Savings Plan, contact the Office of Higher Education:

Tel: (651) 642-0567 or (800) 657-3866

E-mail: [info@ohe.state.mn.us](mailto:info@ohe.state.mn.us)

Web: [www.getreadyforcollege.org](http://www.getreadyforcollege.org)

Additional resources are listed on the following pages and the inside back cover.

## Resources for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities may have additional needs and expenses when they attend college. Support services such as individual counseling and reasonable accommodation (assistive technology, auxiliary aids and services for effective communication) may be available at the postsecondary institution. Students should register with the student services personnel at their college, and will need to disclose any disabilities in order to qualify for support services.

### Vocational Rehabilitation Services

If you have a severe physical or mental disability that causes a significant impediment to gainful employment, you may be eligible for rehabilitation counseling and other career planning services from your state Vocational Rehabilitation Services.

***Most financial aid is made available through your college's financial aid office.***

If you are determined eligible for services and if you meet the criteria to receive services, a rehabilitation counselor can assist with developing an individual plan for employment and will provide services to meet your disability-related needs.

Minnesota's vocational rehabilitation services considers your eligibility for other financial aid, and may fund some direct costs (such as tuition and mandatory fees, books, supplies and equipment) if postsecondary training is part of your Employment Plan.

For information, visit [www.mnwfc.org](http://www.mnwfc.org), consult the blue pages in your local phone book for the Rehabilitation Services Office nearest you, or call (651) 259-7366 voice or (651) 296-3900 TTY in the Twin Cities metro area, or (800) 328-9095 voice or (800) 657-3973 TTY in Greater Minnesota.

## Who Can Provide Additional Help?

### Services for the Blind or Visually Impaired

Vocational rehabilitation services for persons who are blind or visually impaired are provided by the Minnesota State Services for the Blind ([www.mnssb.org](http://www.mnssb.org)). Consult this Web site or your local phone book for the State Services for the Blind office nearest you, or call (651) 642-0500 voice or (651) 642-0506 TTY in the Twin Cities metro area, or call (800) 652-9000 voice or (888) 665-3276 TTY.

The Minnesota State Services for the Blind also transcribes textbooks and vocational materials in audio or into braille for Minnesota students who are blind, visually impaired or physically and reading impaired.

Additional resources are available from the **Federal Student Aid Information Center** to assist students who are blind or visually impaired:

#### **Audio: Funding Your Education Beyond High School**

The U.S. Department of Education has produced a guide, *Funding Education Beyond High School: Audio Highlights*, which provides students with information to help them decide what to study, how to choose a college, how to choose a career and how to pay for college. The audio guide is available on CD or online at [www.studentaid.ed.gov/audio/](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov/audio/).

#### **The FAFSA in Braille**

A Braille version of the FAFSA is available as a reference; however, it cannot be submitted. Visit [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) for more information.

### Disability Resources

#### **FAFSA in Braille**

#### ***Funding Education Beyond High School (Audio Highlights)***

#### ***Funding Your Education Beyond High School: The Guide to Federal Student Aid (in Braille)***

Visit [www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov](http://www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov) to learn more about the above resources or contact:

Federal Student Aid Information Center  
P.O. Box 84  
Washington, D.C. 20044-0084  
Tel: (800) 433-3243 voice  
(800) 730-8913 TTY

#### ***Creating Options: A Resource on Financial Aid for Students with Disabilities***

Describes financial aid terms and disability-related expenses and shows how to coordinate such sources of funding as Vocational Rehabilitation Services and Social Security. To obtain a copy, visit [www.heath.gwu.edu](http://www.heath.gwu.edu) or contact:

HEATH Resource Center  
George Washington University  
2134 G Street Northwest  
Washington, D.C. 20052  
Voice: (202) 973-0904  
E-mail: [askheath@gwu.edu](mailto:askheath@gwu.edu)

#### ***College Students Who Have Chronic Diseases or Medical Conditions***

#### ***College Students with Learning Disabilities***

#### ***College Students Who Have ADHD***

There is a small fee charged for each of these brochures. Visit [www.ahead.org](http://www.ahead.org) to learn more or contact:

Association on Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD)  
P.O. Box 540666  
Waltham, MA 02454  
Tel: (781) 788-0003 (voice and TTY)  
E-mail: [ahead@ahead.org](mailto:ahead@ahead.org)

## Additional Sources of Information

Many publications are available to help you learn about sources of financial aid. Some are available at your school or public library. Your high school counselor or career center staff can help you find them.

### ***The Scholarship Handbook 2010 - \$28.95*** ***Guide to Getting Financial Aid 2010 - \$21.95***

These can be purchased at bookstores, or directly from the publisher at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) or by calling (800) 323-7155.

### ***Funding Education Beyond High School: The Guide to Federal Student Aid 2009-2010***

This publication published by the U.S. Department of Education is a resource for high school students, college students and parents who want an overview of the financial aid process as well as detailed steps for taking action. Visit [www.fsapubs.org](http://www.fsapubs.org).

### ***Get Set for College: A College Planning Guide for Minnesota Students and Parents***

This guide contains financial aid facts and tips, the steps for college planning and a directory of Minnesota colleges and universities. The guide is available free from high school counselors' offices, or directly from the publisher by calling (847) 634-2560 or by writing to:

ACT Midwest Office  
300 Knightsbridge Parkway, Suite 300  
Lincolnshire, IL 60069-9498

### ***Need A Lift?***

This 150-page handbook contains sources of scholarships, financial aid opportunities, loans, careers and employment opportunities for all students. A special section applies to veterans and their dependents. Available online at [www.needalift.org](http://www.needalift.org).

### ***Peterson's College Money Handbook, 2009 - \$24.00***

This publication presents information on costs and financial aid opportunities at over 2,000 U.S. four-year colleges and universities. The guide can be purchased at bookstores and at [www.petersons.com](http://www.petersons.com) through Peterson's online bookstore.

### ***Your Federal Student Loans: Learn the Basics and Manage Your Debt***

This publication covers information students should consider before borrowing money. The publication is available in print, Braille and online. To more more, visit [www.federalstudentaid.ed.gov/repayingpub](http://www.federalstudentaid.ed.gov/repayingpub).

## Summary of Financial Aid Programs

Program	Apply to	Amount
<b>Scholarships and Grants</b>		
<b>Minnesota State Grant</b>	Complete the FAFSA within 30 days of start of term www.fafsa.ed.gov	\$100 to \$4,000 range Average state award is \$1,800
<b>Federal Pell Grant</b>	Complete the FAFSA www.fafsa.ed.gov	\$400 - \$4,731 per year
<b>Federal Academic Competitiveness Grant</b>	Complete the FAFSA and inquire at the college financial aid office www.fafsa.ed.gov	\$750 first year \$1,300 second year
<b>Federal SMART Grant</b>	Complete the FAFSA Inquire at college financial aid office www.fafsa.ed.gov	Up to \$4,000 per year for third-, fourth- and some fifth-year undergraduates
<b>Federal Supplemental Opportunity Grant</b>	Institution	Up to \$4,000 per year
<b>Minnesota Achieve Scholarship</b>	Institution and the Minnesota Office of Higher Education	Up to \$1,200 one time for 2008 high school graduates; up to \$4,000 for high school graduates in 2009 and later
<b>Minnesota Postsecondary Child Care Grant</b>	Institution	Up to \$2,600 per child per academic year
<b>Work-Study Programs</b>		
<b>Minnesota Work Study</b>	Institution	Determined by institution
<b>Federal Work Study</b>	Institution	Determined by institution
<b>Loan Programs</b>		
<b>Federal Perkins Loan</b>	Institution	Up to \$4,000 per year for undergraduates or \$6,000 per year for graduate students

Type of Award	Eligible Students
Based on need and price of attendance	Minnesota resident enrolled for at least three credits in undergraduate study at eligible Minnesota institution. Must be a high school graduate or equivalent or be 17 years of age or older, have completed less than four years of college, be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen and not in default on student loans or child support payments.
Based on demonstrated financial need	Undergraduates. Must be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen, registered for Selective Service, not in default on federal loans and have no drug conviction while receiving federal aid.
Student must demonstrate completion of a rigorous high school curriculum and have a 3.0 GPA in college	First- and second-year undergraduates. Must be Pell eligible, U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen, registered for Selective Service, not in default on federal loans and have no drug conviction while receiving federal aid.
Student must be enrolled in a major in the physical, life or computer sciences; mathematics; technology; engineering; or in a foreign language that is critical to national security	Third-, fourth- and some fifth-year students must be at least half-time undergraduates admitted to designated programs. Must be Pell eligible, maintain a 3.0 GPA, U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen, registered for Selective Service, not in default on federal loans and have no drug conviction while receiving federal aid.
Based on demonstrated financial need	Undergraduates. Must be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen, and registered for Selective Service. Priority given to Pell Grant recipients.
Based on completion of a series of high school courses and financial need	Students who graduate from a Minnesota high school in 2008 or later and complete a series of college preparation courses described at <a href="http://www.getreadyforcollege.org/achieve">www.getreadyforcollege.org/achieve</a> . Must be attending a Minnesota institution and be U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen.
Based on demonstrated financial need, family size and number of children	Minnesota residents with children 12 years old or younger, or 14 or younger with disability. Students must be enrolled for at least six credits in an undergraduate program at an eligible Minnesota institution, and not a recipient of benefits from the Minnesota Family Investment Program. Must be U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen.
Part-time job based on financial need	Minnesota resident enrolled for at least six credits per term. Includes undergraduates, graduates or vocational students. Must be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen.
Part-time job based on financial need; more restrictive than state program	Undergraduate, graduate or vocational students. Must be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen and be registered for Selective Service.
Long-term, low-interest loans based on financial need, must be repaid	Undergraduate and graduate. Must be U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen, registered for Selective Service and cannot be in default or owe a refund on any Title IV Higher Education Act loan or grant.

## Summary of Financial Aid Programs (continued)

Program	Apply to	Amount
<b>Loan Programs continued</b>		
<b>Federal Stafford Student Loan</b>	Private lenders (a few schools make loans directly to students)	Up to \$5,500 per year for first-year undergraduate, \$6,500 per year for second-year undergraduates, and \$7,500 for undergraduates in third- and fourth-year status. Loan limits are higher for graduate, professional and independent students.
<b>PLUS Loan</b>	Private lenders (a few schools make loans directly to students)	Up to annual price of attendance less other aid received for each dependent child
<b>SELF Loan</b>	Minnesota Office of Higher Education	Up to \$7,500 per year
<b>Out-of-State Tuition Reduction and Reciprocity</b>		
<b>Minnesota-Wisconsin</b>	Minnesota Office of Higher Education (application online) or the Wisconsin technical college you wish to attend <a href="http://www.getreadyforcollege.org">www.getreadyforcollege.org</a>	
<b>Minnesota-South Dakota</b>	Directly to South Dakota campus	
<b>Minnesota-North Dakota</b>	Minnesota Office of Higher Education (application online) <a href="http://www.getreadyforcollege.org">www.getreadyforcollege.org</a>	
<b>Minnesota-Manitoba</b>	Non-resident tuition waiver at participating Manitoba institutions	
<b>Minnesota students attending in Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri and Nebraska</b>	School of attendance when application is submitted	Student pays up to 150 percent of resident tuition at certain public institutions or receives a 10 percent discount off tuition at certain private schools

Type of Award	Eligible Students
Subsidized loans based on need, government pays interest while student is in school. Unsubsidized loan is available for students without financial need. Borrowers pay interest while in school.	Any student enrolled at least half time in an eligible school in Minnesota or another state, undergraduate, graduate, professional and vocational students. Must be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen, registered for Selective Service and cannot be in default or owe a refund on any Title IV Higher Education Act loan or grant.
Long-term loans, must be repaid, fixed interest	Parents of dependent, undergraduate students and students in graduate and professional programs. Must be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen and registered for Selective Service. Must not be in default or owe a refund on any Title IV Higher Education Act loan or grant.
Long-term loans, must be repaid, variable interest	Undergraduate, graduate and vocational students enrolled at least half time in an eligible school in Minnesota, or Minnesota residents enrolled in an eligible out-of-state school or Canadian province of Manitoba. Co-signer must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident and be credit-worthy.
Students pay the higher of the resident tuition and fee rate at the institution attended, or the average rate at a comparable home-state institution.	Nearly all public college students. Exceptions are students in the College of Medicine, Veterinary Medicine and Dentistry at the University of Wisconsin-Madison or Milwaukee. (Eligible professional programs are subject to change.)
Students pay the higher of the resident tuition and fee rate at the institution attended, or the average rate at a comparable home-state institution.	Nearly all Minnesota residents attending public institutions in South Dakota.
Students pay the higher of the resident tuition and fee rate at the institution attended, or the average rate at a comparable home-state institution.	Nearly all Minnesota residents attending public institutions in North Dakota. Professional programs in law, pharmacy and medicine are excluded.
Non-resident tuition waiver at participating Manitoba institutions.	Minnesota residents attending at University of Manitoba, University of Winnipeg, Brandon University, Red River Community College, Assiniboine Community College or College Universitaire de Saint-Boniface.
Non-resident tuition discount at a limited number of institutions in Midwestern states. Visit <a href="http://www.mhec.org">www.mhec.org</a> and click on the Midwest Student Exchange Program.	Minnesota residents enrolling in certain participating institutions and programs in Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri and Nebraska. (Programs and institutions are limited so ask in advance.)

# Financial Aid Contacts

Following is the contact information for financial aid offices at Minnesota postsecondary institutions. To find Title IV school codes used to complete the FAFSA that are not listed here, please visit [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).

**Academy College #013505**  
(952) 851-0066 or (800) 292-9149  
1101 East 78th Street, Suite 100  
Bloomington, MN 55420  
finaid@academycollege.edu  
[www.academycollege.edu](http://www.academycollege.edu)

**Adler Graduate School**  
(612) 861-7554 x102  
1550 East 78th Street  
Richfield, MN 55423  
jeanette@alfredadler.edu  
[www.alfredadler.edu](http://www.alfredadler.edu)

**Alexandria Technical College #005544**  
(320) 762-4540 or (888) 234-1222  
1601 Jefferson Street  
Alexandria, MN 56308  
financialaid@alextech.edu  
[www.alextech.edu](http://www.alextech.edu)

**Allure School of Cosmetology**  
(651) 388-8224  
1610 West 3rd Street  
Red Wing, MN 55066  
billbuysse@gmail.com

**American Academy of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine**  
(651) 631-0204  
1925 West County Road B2  
Roseville, MN 55113  
[www.aaaom.edu](http://www.aaaom.edu)

**American Indian OIC School of Business & Office Technology #016346**  
(612) 341-3358 x136  
1845 East Franklin Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55404  
michaelw@aioic.org  
[www.aioic.org](http://www.aioic.org)

**Anoka-Ramsey Community College, Cambridge #002332**  
(763) 433-1500  
300 Spirit River Drive South  
Cambridge, MN 55008  
karla.seymour@anokaramsey.edu  
[www.anokaramsey.edu](http://www.anokaramsey.edu)

**Anoka-Ramsey Community College, Coon Rapids #002332**  
(763) 433-1500  
11200 Mississippi Boulevard Northwest  
Coon Rapids, MN 55433  
karla.seymour@anokaramsey.edu  
[www.anokaramsey.edu](http://www.anokaramsey.edu)

**Anoka Technical College #007350**  
(763) 576-4760  
1355 West Highway 10  
Anoka, MN 55303  
finaid@anokatech.edu  
[www.anokatech.edu](http://www.anokatech.edu)

**Argosy University #021799**  
(651) 846-3387 or (888) 844-2004  
1515 Central Parkway  
Eagan, MN 55121  
lwnerner@argosyu.edu  
[www.argosyu.edu](http://www.argosyu.edu)

**The Art Institutes International Minnesota #010248**  
(612) 656-6839 x139 or  
(800) 777-3643 x6839  
15 South 9th Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
bburgoyne@aii.edu  
[www.aim.artinstitutes.edu](http://www.aim.artinstitutes.edu)

**Augsburg College #002334**  
(612) 330-1046 or (800) 458-1721  
2211 Riverside Avenue South, CB309  
Minneapolis, MN 55454  
enroll@augzburg.edu  
[www.augszburg.edu](http://www.augszburg.edu)

**Avalon School of Cosmetology**  
(507) 372-2344  
1428 North McMillan St  
P.O. Box 10  
Worthington, MN 56187  
avalonschoolofcosmetology@frontiernet.net  
[www.avalonschoolofcosmetology.com](http://www.avalonschoolofcosmetology.com)

**Aveda Institute #014847**  
(612) 378-7407 or (800) 274-6778  
400 Central Avenue Southeast  
Minneapolis, MN 55414  
mdegaetano@aveda.com  
[www.aveda.com](http://www.aveda.com)

**Bemidji State University #002336**  
(218) 755-2034 or (877) 755-3243  
1500 Birchmont Drive Northeast  
Bemidji, MN 56601  
financialaid@bemidjistate.edu  
[www.bemidjistate.edu](http://www.bemidjistate.edu)

**Bethany Lutheran College #002337**  
(507) 344-7307 or (800) 944-3066  
700 Luther Drive  
Mankato, MN 56001  
finaid@blc.edu  
[www.blc.edu](http://www.blc.edu)

**Bethel Seminary #002338**  
(651) 638-6241 or (800) 255-8706  
3900 Bethel Drive  
St. Paul, MN 55112  
finaid@bethel.edu  
[www.bethel.edu/finaid](http://www.bethel.edu/finaid)

**Bethel University #002338**  
(651) 638-6241 or (800) 255-8706  
3900 Bethel Drive  
St. Paul, MN 55112  
finaid@bethel.edu  
[www.bethel.edu/finaid](http://www.bethel.edu/finaid)

**Brainco: Minneapolis School of Advertising Design and Interactive Studies**  
(612) 822-1313  
2900 Aldrich Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55408  
prentiss@brainco.com  
[www.braincomsa.com](http://www.braincomsa.com)

**Brown College #007351**  
(651) 905-3400 or (800) 627-6966  
1440 Northland Drive  
Mendota Heights, MN 55120  
hbetz@browncollege.edu  
[www.browncollege.edu](http://www.browncollege.edu)

**Capella University #032673**  
(888) 227-3552  
225 South 6th Street, 9th Floor  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
fao@capella.edu  
[www.capella.edu](http://www.capella.edu)

**Cardinal Stritch University #003837**

(952) 835-6418 or (800) 878-7482  
3300 Edinborough Way, #320  
Edina, MN 55435  
sfaonline@stritch.edu  
www.stritch.edu

**Carleton College #002340**

(507) 222-4138 or (800) 995-2275  
One North College Street  
Northfield, MN 55057  
financialaid@carleton.edu  
www.carleton.edu

**Centerpoint Massage and Shiatsu Therapy School & Clinic**

(612) 617-9090 x303  
1313 5th Street Southeast, Suite 336  
Minneapolis, MN 55414  
info@centerpointmn.com  
www.centerpointmn.com

**Central Beauty School, Cambridge**

(763) 691-1431  
538 South Main Street, Suite 110  
Cambridge, MN 55008  
tinamcbs@aol.com  
www.centralbeautyschool.com

**Central Beauty School, Minneapolis**

(621) 781-3619  
2933 Pentagon Drive  
Minneapolis, MN 55418  
centralbeautyschool@hotmail.com  
www.centralbeautyschool.com

**Central Lakes College, Brainerd #002339**

(218) 855-8025 or (800) 933-0346  
501 West College Drive  
Brainerd, MN 56401  
mbarnaby@clcmn.edu  
www.clcmn.edu

**Central Lakes College, Staples #002339**

(218) 894-5157 or (800) 247-6836  
1830 Airport Road  
Staples, MN 56479  
mbarnaby@clcmn.edu  
www.clcmn.edu

**Century College #010546**

(651) 779-3305 or (800) 228-1978  
3300 Century Avenue North  
White Bear Lake, MN 55110  
financialaid@century.edu  
www.century.edu

**College of St. Benedict #002341**

(320) 363-5388 or (800) 544-1489  
37 South College Avenue  
St. Joseph, MN 56374  
jhaugen@csbsju.edu  
www.csbsju.edu

**College of Saint Scholastica #002343**

(218) 723-6047 or (800) 447-5444  
1200 Kenwood Avenue  
Duluth, MN 55811  
financialaid@css.edu  
www.css.edu

**College of Visual Arts #007462**

(651) 757-4020 or (800) 224-1536  
344 Summit Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55102  
financialaid@cva.edu  
www.cva.edu

**Concordia College #002346**

(218) 299-3010 or (800) 699-9897  
901 South 8th Street  
Moorhead, MN 56562  
financialaid@cord.edu  
www.cord.edu

**Concordia University #002347**

(651) 603-6300 or (800) 333-4705  
275 North Syndicate Street  
St. Paul, MN 55104  
financialaid@fsp.edu  
www.fsp.edu

**Cosmetology Training Center**

(507) 345-4033  
1701 Adams Street  
Mankato, MN 56001  
info@cosmetologytraining.com  
www.cosmetologytrainingcenter.com

**Crossroads College #002366**

(507) 535-3308 or (800) 456-7651  
920 Mayowood Road Southwest  
Rochester, MN 55902  
pkelloggbradley@crossroadscollege.edu  
www.crossroadscollege.edu

**Crown College #002383**

(952) 446-4177 or (800) 682-7696  
8700 College View Drive  
St. Bonifacius, MN 55375  
financialaid@crown.edu  
www.crown.edu

**Dakota County Technical College #010402**

(651) 423-8299 or (877) 937-3282  
1300 East 145th Street  
Rosemount, MN 55068  
financialaid@dctc.edu  
www.dctc.edu

**DeVry University #010727**

(952) 838-1860  
7200 France Avenue South, Suite 575  
Edina, MN 55435  
mkelly@kc.devry.edu  
www.devry.edu

**Duluth Business University #009892**

(218) 722-4000 or (800) 777-8406  
4724 Mike Colalillo Drive  
Duluth, MN 55807-2762  
gloriac@dbumn.com  
www.dbumn.com

**Dunwoody College of Technology #004641**

(612) 374-5800 or (800) 292-4625  
818 Dunwoody Boulevard  
Minneapolis, MN 55403  
bcharboneau@dunwoody.edu  
www.dunwoody.edu

**East Metro OIC #017116**

(651) 291-5088  
1919 University Avenue West Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55104  
frannyj@eastmetrooic.org  
www.eastmetrooic.org

**Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University #001479**

(866) 567-7202  
1365 Corporate Center Curve #104  
Eagan, MN 55121  
wwfinancialaid@erau.edu  
www.erau.edu

**Empire Beauty School, Bloomington #009870**

(952) 881-9327  
9749 Lyndale Avenue South  
Bloomington, MN 55420  
kbreslin@empire.edu  
www.empire.edu

## Financial Aid Contacts

### **Empire Beauty School, Eden Prairie #009870**

(952) 746-9046  
964 Prairie Center Drive  
Eden Prairie, MN 55344  
kbreslin@empire.edu  
www.empire.edu

### **Empire Beauty School, St. Paul #009722**

(651) 209-6930  
1905 Suburban Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55119  
kbreslin@empire.edu  
www.empire.edu

### **Empire Beauty School, Spring Lake Park #009722**

(763) 717-1903  
University IV Shopping Center  
8205 University Avenue  
Spring Lake Park, MN 55432  
kbreslin@empire.edu  
www.empire.edu

### **Everest Institute #010356**

(651) 688-2145  
1000 Blue Gentian Road, Suite 250  
Eagan, MN 55121  
chubbard@cci.edu  
www.everest-institute.com

### **Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College #031291**

(218) 879-0816 or (800) 657-3712  
2101 14th Street  
Cloquet, MN 55720  
finaid@fdltcc.edu  
www.fdltdcc.edu

### **Globe University #004642**

(651) 730-5100  
8089 Globe Drive  
Woodbury, MN 55125  
tkukowski@globeuniversity.edu  
www.globeuniversity.edu

### **Green River Dance for Global Somatics**

(651) 257-8697  
2242 University Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55104  
dance@globalsomatics.com  
www.globalsomatics.com

### **Gustavus Adolphus College #002353**

(507) 933-7527 or (800) 487-8288  
800 West College Avenue  
St. Peter, MN 56082  
finaid@gustavus.edu  
www.gustavus.edu

### **Hamline University #002354**

(651) 523-3000 or (800) 888-2182  
1536 Hewitt Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55104  
sasmail@hamline.edu  
www.hamline.edu

### **Hastings Beauty School, Inc.**

(651) 437-1225 or (800) 657-6881  
221 East 2nd Street  
Hastings, MN 55033  
sue@hastingsbeautyschool.com  
www.hastingsbeautyschool.com

### **Hennepin Technical College, Brooklyn Park #010491**

(952) 995-1472 or (800) 345-4655  
9000 Brooklyn Boulevard  
Brooklyn Park, MN 55445  
pat.berktold@hennepintech.edu  
www.hennepintech.edu

### **Hennepin Technical College, Eden Prairie #010491**

(952) 995-1472 or (800) 345-4655  
13100 College View Drive  
Eden Prairie, MN 55347  
pat.berktold@hennepintech.edu  
www.hennepintech.edu

### **Herzing University #011017**

(763) 231-3150 or (800) 878-3729  
5700 West Broadway  
Minneapolis, MN 55428  
jriverso@mpls.herzing.edu  
www.herzing.edu

### **Hibbing Community College #002355**

(218) 262-7378 or (800) 224-4422  
1515 East 25th Street  
Hibbing, MN 55746  
paulhatch@hibbing.edu  
www.hibbing.edu

### **High-Tech Institute #015988**

(952) 417-2200 or (800) 987-0110  
5100 Gamble Drive, Suite 200  
St. Louis Park, MN 55416  
www.hightechinstitute.com

### **Ingénue Beauty College #017055**

(218) 236-7201  
1024 Center Avenue  
Moorhead, MN 56560

### **Institute of Production and Recording #041302**

(612) 375-1900 or (866) 477-4840  
312 Washington Avenue North  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
jrhunte@ipr.edu  
www.ipr.edu

### **Inver Hills Community College #006935**

(651) 450-8518  
2500 East 80th Street  
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076  
finaid@inverhills.edu  
www.inverhills.edu

### **Itasca Community College #002356**

(218) 322-2320 or (800) 996-6422  
1851 East Highway 169  
Grand Rapids, MN 55744  
nathan.wright@itascacc.edu  
www.itascacc.edu

### **ITT Technical Institute #030875**

(952) 914-5300 or (888) 488-9646  
8911 Columbine Road  
Eden Prairie, MN 55347  
kzakariasen@itt-tech.edu  
www.itt-tech.edu

### **Lake Superior College #005757**

(218) 723-4895 or (800) 432-2884  
2101 Trinity Road  
Duluth, MN 55811  
s.olin@lsc.edu  
www.lsc.edu

### **LeCordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts #030226**

(651) 675-4700 or  
(800) 528-4575 x4784  
1315 Mendota Heights Road  
Mendota Heights, MN 55120  
fainfo@twincitiesculinary.com  
www.twincitiesculinary.com

### **Leech Lake Tribal & Community College #030964**

(218) 335-4200  
P.O. Box 180  
Cass Lake, MN 56633  
barb.carlson@lrtc.edu  
www.lrtc.edu

### **Macalester College #002358**

(651) 696-6214 or (800) 231-7974  
1600 Grand Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55105  
finaid@macalester.edu  
www.macalester.edu

### **Maranatha College**

(763) 488-7876  
9201 75th Avenue North  
Brooklyn Park, MN 55428  
www.mcollege.org

### **Martin Luther College #002361**

(507) 354-8221 x221  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073  
slettega@mlc-wels.edu  
www.mlc-wels.edu

### **Massage and Spa Professional Academy**

(507) 536-4076  
17 13½ Street Northwest  
Rochester, MN 55902  
info@m-spa.org  
www.m-spa.org

### **Masters Recording Institute**

(952) 897-1111  
4100 West 76th Street  
Edina, MN 55435  
stacys@mastersrecording.com  
www.mastersrecording.com

### **McNally Smith College of Music #030012**

(651) 291-0177 x2372 or  
(800) 594-9500  
19 Exchange Street East  
St. Paul, MN 55101  
jdeis@mcnallysmith.edu  
www.mcnallysmith.edu

### **Mesabi Range Community & Technical College, Eveleth #002350**

(218) 744-7496 or (800) 657-3860  
1100 Industrial Park Drive  
P.O. Box 648  
Eveleth, MN 55734  
j.pontinen@mr.mnscu.edu  
www.mesabirange.mnscu.edu

### **Mesabi Range Community & Technical College, Virginia #004009**

(218) 749-7753 or (800) 657-3860  
1001 Chestnut Street West  
Virginia, MN 55792  
g.walters@mr.mnscu.edu  
www.mesabirange.mnscu.edu

### **Metropolitan State University #010374**

(651) 793-1414  
700 East Seventh Street  
St. Paul, MN 55106  
financial.aid@metrostate.edu  
www.metrostate.edu

### **Miami Ad School Minneapolis**

(612) 339-4089  
25 North 4th Street, Suite 201  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
craig@miamiadschool.com  
www.adschool.com

### **Minneapolis Business College #004645**

(651) 636-7406 or (800) 279-5200  
1711 West County Road B  
Roseville, MN 55113  
mmartin@minneapolisbusinesscollege.edu  
www.minneapolisbusinesscollege.edu

### **Minneapolis College of Art and Design #002365**

(612) 874-3782 or (800) 874-6223  
2501 Stevens Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55404  
financial\_aid@mcad.edu  
www.mcad.edu

### **Minneapolis Community & Technical College #002362**

(612) 659-6240 or (800) 247-0911  
1501 Hennepin Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55403  
financial.aid@minneapolis.edu  
www.minneapolis.edu

### **Minnesota Commercial Diver Training Center**

(218) 829-5953  
712 Washington Street  
Brainerd, MN 56401  
info@mndiving.com  
www.mndiving.com

### **Minnesota Paralegal Institute**

(952) 542-8417  
13911 Ridgedale Drive, Suite 175  
Minnetonka, MN 55305  
mpi@mnparalegal.com  
www.mnparalegal.com

### **Minnesota School of Barbering #025831**

(612) 722-1996  
3615 East Lake Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55406  
mnbarbfinaid@aol.com

### **Minnesota School of Beauty**

(952) 469-9825  
20186 Heritage Drive  
Lakeville, MN 55044  
finaid@mnschoolofbeauty.com  
www.mnschoolofbeauty.com

### **Minnesota School of Business, Blaine #017145**

(763) 225-8000  
3680 Pheasant Ridge Drive Northeast  
Blaine, MN 55449  
sspinks@msbcollege.edu  
www.msbcollege.edu

### **Minnesota School of Business, Brooklyn Center #017145**

(763) 585-5202 or (800) 231-9157  
5910 Shingle Creek Parkway  
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430  
kmartin@msbcollege.edu  
www.msbcollege.edu

### **Minnesota School of Business, Moorhead #017145**

(218) 422-1000 or (877) 373-7855  
2777 34th Street South  
Moorhead, MN 56560  
lroesch@msbcollege.edu  
www.msbcollege.edu

### **Minnesota School of Business, Plymouth #017145**

(763) 476-2000 or (866) 476-2121  
1455 County Road 101 North  
Plymouth, MN 55447  
npaulson@msbcollege.edu  
www.msbcollege.edu

### **Minnesota School of Business, Richfield #017145**

(612) 798-3722 or (800) 752-4223  
1401 West 76th Street  
Richfield, MN 55423  
ljones@msbcollege.edu  
www.msbcollege.edu

### **Minnesota School of Business, Rochester #017145**

(507) 536-9500 or (888) 662-8772  
2521 Pennington Drive Northwest  
Rochester, MN 55901  
idresow@msbcollege.edu  
www.msbcollege.edu

### **Minnesota School of Business, St. Cloud #017145**

(320) 257-2008 or (866) 403-3333  
1201 2nd Street South  
Waite Park, MN 56387  
rcannon@msbcollege.edu  
www.msbcollege.edu

## Financial Aid Contacts

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**Minnesota School of Business,  
Shakopee #017145**

(952) 516-7006 or (866) 776-1200  
1200 Shakopee Town Square  
Shakopee, MN 55379  
ksamstad@msbcollege.edu  
www.msbcollege.edu

**Minnesota School of Cosmetology  
#015752**

(651) 287-2190  
1750 Weir Drive, Valley Creek Mall  
Woodbury, MN 55125  
skronmiller@msbcollege.edu  
www.msbcollege.edu

**Minnesota State College-Southeast  
Technical, Red Wing #002393**

(651) 385-6323 or (800) 657-4849  
308 Pioneer Road  
P.O. Box 409  
Red Wing, MN 55066  
adahlen@southeastmn.edu  
www.southeastmn.edu

**Minnesota State College-Southeast  
Technical, Winona #002393**

(507) 453-2711 or (800) 372-8164  
1250 Homer Road  
Box 409  
Winona, MN 55987  
adahlen@southeastmn.edu  
www.southeastmn.edu

**Minnesota State Community &  
Technical College, Detroit Lakes  
#005541**

(218) 846-3754 or (800) 492-4836  
900 Highway 34 East  
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501  
bonnie.dahring@minnesota.edu  
www.minnesota.edu

**Minnesota State Community &  
Technical College, Fergus Falls  
#005541**

(218) 736-1534 or (877) 450-3322  
1414 College Way  
Fergus Falls, MN 56537  
christi.dickey@minnesota.edu  
www.minnesota.edu

**Minnesota State Community &  
Technical College, Moorhead #005541**

(218) 299-6539 or (800) 426-5603  
1900 28th Avenue South  
Moorhead, MN 56560  
kay.gnoinsky@minnesota.edu  
www@minnesota.edu

**Minnesota State Community &  
Technical College, Wadena #005541**

(218) 631-3530 x203 or  
(800) 247-2007  
405 Colfax Avenue Southwest  
P.O. Box 566  
Wadena, MN 56482  
lauren.achterkirch@minnesota.edu  
www.minnesota.edu

**Minnesota State University, Mankato  
#002360**

(507) 389-1866 or (800) 627-3529  
120 Wigley Administration Center  
Mankato, MN 56001  
sandra.loerts@mnsu.edu  
www.mnsu.edu

**Minnesota State University Moorhead  
#002367**

(218) 477-2251 or (800) 593-7246  
1104 7th Avenue South  
Moorhead, MN 56563  
finaid@mnstate.edu  
www.mnstate.edu

**Minnesota West Community &  
Technical College, Canby  
#005263**

(507) 223-7252 or (800) 658-2535  
1011 1st Street West  
Canby, MN 56220  
micha.armitage@mnwest.edu  
www.mnwest.edu

**Minnesota West Community &  
Technical College, Granite Falls  
#005263**

(320) 564-5019 or (800) 657-3247  
1593 11th Avenue  
Granite Falls, MN 56241  
jennifer.zabel@mnwest.edu  
www.mnwest.edu

**Minnesota West Community &  
Technical College, Jackson #005263**

(507) 847-7920 x7941 or  
(800) 658-2522  
401 West Street, Box 269  
Jackson, MN 56143  
sharon.wieneke@mnwest.edu  
www.mnwest.edu

**Minnesota West Community &  
Technical College, Pipestone #005263**

(507) 825-6818 or (800) 658-2330  
1314 North Hiawatha Avenue  
P.O. Box 250  
Pipestone, MN 56164  
loren.sankey@mnwest.edu  
www.mnwest.edu

**Minnesota West Community &  
Technical College, Worthington  
#005263**

(507) 372-3450 or (800) 657-3966  
1450 Collegeway  
Worthington, MN 56187  
faith.drent@mnwest.edu  
www.mnwest.edu

**Model College of Hair Design #009831**

(320) 253-4222 or (800) 450-3300  
201 8th Avenue South  
St. Cloud, MN 56301  
finaid@mcohd.com  
www.modelcollegehairdesign.com

**Moler Barber School of Hairstyling  
#070404**

(612) 788-4045  
2500 Central Avenue Northeast  
Minneapolis, MN 55418  
molarbarberschool@msn.com

**Montessori Training Center  
of Minnesota**

(651) 298-1120  
1611 Ames Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55106  
mtcm@mtcm.org  
www.mtcm.org

**MRI School of Minnesota**

(651) 702-0674  
6053 Hudson Road, Suite 265  
Woodbury, MN 55125  
mrischool@yahoo.com  
www.mrischoolofmn.com

**Nail Tech and Beauty School**

(651) 777-0274  
6993 35th Street North  
Oakdale, MN 55128  
academy693@aol.com  
www.nailtechacademy.org

**National American University,  
Bloomington #004057**

(952) 356-3600  
7801 Metro Parkway, Suite 200  
Bloomington, MN 55425  
blfinancialaid@national.edu  
www.national.edu

**National American University,  
Brooklyn Center #004057**

(763) 852-7500  
6120 Earle Brown Drive, Suite 100  
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430  
bcfinancialaid@national.edu  
www.national.edu

**National American University,  
Roseville #004057**

(651) 855-6300  
1550 West Highway 36  
Roseville, MN 55113  
rosfinancialaid@national.edu  
www.national.edu

**New Horizons Computer Training  
Centers of Minnesota**

(952) 896-6800  
4510 West 77th Street, Suite 210  
Edina, MN 55435  
kcarlberg@benchmarknewhorizons.com  
www.newhorizons.com

**Normandale Community College  
#007954**

(952) 487-8250 or (866) 880-8740  
9700 France Avenue South  
Bloomington, MN 55431  
finaid@normandale.edu  
www.normandale.edu

**North Central University #002369**

(612) 343-4485 or (800) 289-6222  
910 Elliot Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55404  
finaid@northcentral.edu  
www.northcentral.edu

**North Hennepin Community College  
#002370**

(763) 424-0728 or (800) 818-0395  
7411 85th Avenue North  
Brooklyn Park, MN 55445  
financialaid@nhcc.edu  
www.nhcc.edu

**Northland Community & Technical  
College, East Grand Forks #002385**

(218) 793-2390 or (800) 451-3441  
2022 Central Avenue Northeast  
East Grand Forks, MN 56721  
gerald.schulte@northlandcollege.edu  
www.northlandcollege.edu

**Northland Community & Technical  
College, Thief River Falls #002385**

(218) 683-8557 or (800) 959-6282  
1101 Highway One East  
Thief River Falls, MN 56701  
gerald.schulte@northlandcollege.edu  
www.northlandcollege.edu

**Northwest Technical College,  
Bemidji #005759**

(218) 333-6649 or (800) 942-8324  
905 Grant Avenue Southeast  
Bemidji, MN 56601  
mary.pietruszewski@ntcmn.edu  
www.ntcmn.edu

**Northwestern College #002371**

(651) 631-5212 or (866) 853-2455  
3003 North Snelling Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55113  
financial-aid@nwc.edu  
www.nwc.edu

**Northwestern Health Sciences  
University #012328**

(952) 887-1387 or  
(800) 888-4777 x387  
2501 West 84th Street  
Bloomington, MN 55431  
ahoppin@nwhealth.edu  
www.nwhealth.edu

**Nova Academy of Cosmetology**

(507) 280-6910  
1629 Broadway #7  
Rochester, MN 55906  
admission@nova-academy.com  
www.nova-academy.com

**NTI School of CAD Technology  
#008267**

(952) 944-0080 x101 or  
(800) 443-4223  
950 Blue Gentian Road, Suite 500  
Eagan, MN 55121  
kraabe@nti.edu  
www.nti.edu

**Oak Hills Christian College #016116**

(218) 751-8671 x1220 or  
(888) 751-8670  
1600 Oak Hills Road Southwest  
Bemidji, MN 56601  
ohfinaid@oakhills.edu  
www.oakhills.edu

**Park Avenue School of Cosmetology**

(218) 237-2260  
306 Main Avenue South  
Park Rapids, MN 56470  
park.avenue.school@hotmail.com  
www.parkavenuecosmetology.com

**PC ProSchools**

(952) 252-0048  
4350 Baker Road  
Hopkins, MN 55343  
kpelchat@pcproschool.edu  
www.pcpro.edu

**Pine Technical College #005535**

(320) 629-5100 or (800) 521-7463  
900 4th Street Southeast  
Pine City, MN 55063  
financialaid@pinetech.edu  
www.pinetech.edu

**Presentation College #003467**

(605) 229-8427 or  
(800) 437-6060 x429  
115 South Park Street, Suite 117  
Fairmont, MN 56031  
pcaid@presentation.edu  
www.presentation.edu

**Pro-Image Beauty School**

(651) 488-3028  
759 Millon Street North  
St. Paul, MN 55104  
finaid@pro-imagebeautyschool.com  
www.pro-imagebeautyschool.com

**Professional Salon Academy**

(218) 444-0604  
519 Anne Street Northwest, Suite D-E  
Bemidji, MN 56601  
haireduc@paulbunyan.net  
www.professionalsalonacademy.com

**Rainy River Community College  
#006775**

(218) 285-2205 or (800) 456-3996  
1501 Highway 71  
International Falls, MN 56649  
sriley@rrcc.mnscu.edu  
www.rrcc.mnscu.edu

**Rasmussen College, Brooklyn Park  
#E01193**

(763) 493-4500 or (877) 495-4500  
8301 93rd Avenue North  
Brooklyn Park, MN 55445  
bpkfa@rasmussen.edu  
www.rasmussen.edu

**Rasmussen College, Eagan #004648**

(651) 687-9000 or (800) 852-6367  
3500 Federal Drive  
Eagan, MN 55122  
lindsay.adams@rasmussen.edu  
www.rasmussen.edu

**Rasmussen College, Eden Prairie  
#011686**

(952) 545-2000 or (800) 852-0929  
7905 Golden Triangle Drive, Suite 100  
Eden Prairie, MN 55344  
alan.grueneich@rasmussen.edu  
www.rasmussen.edu

## Financial Aid Contacts

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**Rasmussen College, Lake Elmo  
#E01264**

(651) 259-6600  
8565 Eagle Point Circle  
Lake Elmo, MN 55042  
joshua.tilander@rasmussen.edu  
www.rasmussen.edu

**Rasmussen College, Mankato  
#016845**

(507) 625-6556 or (800) 657-6767  
130 St. Andrews Drive  
Mankato, MN 56001  
carrie.thell@rasmussen.edu  
www.rasmussen.edu

**Rasmussen College, Moorhead  
#004846**

(218) 304-6200 or (866) 562-2758  
1250 29th Avenue South  
Moorhead, MN 56560  
crystal.vold@rasmussen.edu  
www.rasmussen.edu

**Rasmussen College, St. Cloud  
#008694**

(320) 251-5600 or (800) 852-0460  
226 Park Avenue South  
St. Cloud, MN 56301  
carole.inderrieden@rasmussen.edu  
www.rasmussen.edu

**Regency Beauty Institute, Blaine  
#010490**

(763) 533-3179 or (800) 787-6456  
1351 113th Avenue Northeast  
Blaine, MN 55434  
smickelson@regencybeauty.com  
www.regencybeauty.com

**Regency Beauty Institute, Burnsville  
#010490**

(763) 533-3179 or (800) 787-6456  
14350 Buck Hill Road  
Burnsville, MN 55306  
smickelson@regencybeauty.com  
www.regencybeauty.com

**Regency Beauty Institute, Duluth  
#010490**

(763) 533-3179 or (800) 787-6456  
5115 Burning Tree Road, Suite 307  
Duluth, MN 55811  
smickelson@regencybeauty.com  
www.regencybeauty.com

**Regency Beauty Institute, Maplewood  
#010490**

(763) 533-3179 or (800) 787-6456  
3000 White Bear Avenue, Suite 37  
Maplewood, MN 55109  
smickelson@regencybeauty.com  
www.regencybeauty.com

**Regency Beauty Institute, Minnetonka  
#010490**

(763) 533-3179 or (800) 787-6456  
12293 Ridgedale Drive, Suite 103  
Minnetonka, MN 55305  
smickelson@regencybeauty.com  
www.regencybeauty.com

**Regency Beauty Institute, St. Cloud  
#010490**

(320) 251-5600 or (800) 852-0460  
226 Park Avenue South  
St. Cloud, MN 56301  
smickelson@regencybeauty.com  
www.regencybeauty.com

**Ridgewater College, Hutchinson  
#005252**

(320) 234-8500 or (800) 722-1151  
2 Century Avenue Southeast  
Hutchinson, MN 55350  
diane.jude@ridgewater.edu  
www.ridgewater.edu

**Ridgewater College, Willmar #005252**

(320) 222-7474 or (800) 722-1151  
2101 15th Avenue Northwest,  
Box 1097  
Willmar, MN 56201  
jim.rice@ridgewater.edu  
www.ridgewater.edu

**Riverland Community College,  
Albert Lea #002335**

(507) 379-3323 or (800) 247-5039  
2200 Riverland Drive  
Albert Lea, MN 56007  
linda.wasmoen@riverland.edu  
www.riverland.edu

**Riverland Community College,  
Austin #002335**

(507) 433-0511 or (800) 247-5039  
1900 8th Avenue Northwest  
Austin, MN 55912  
jrobeck@riverland.edu  
www.riverland.edu

**Rochester Community & Technical  
College #002373**

(507) 285-7259 or (800) 247-1296  
851 30th Avenue Southeast  
Rochester, MN 55904  
rosemary.hicks@roch.edu  
www.rctc.edu

**Rochester School of Hair Design**

(507) 285-3365  
4229 Highway 52 North  
Rochester, MN 55901  
www.rochesterschoolofhairdesign.com

**St. Catherine University #002342**

(651) 690-6540 or (800) 945-4599  
2004 Randolph Avenue, Mail #F-11  
St. Paul, MN 55105  
finaid@stkate.edu  
www.stkate.edu

**St. Cloud State University #002377**

(320) 308-2047 or (877) 654-7278  
720 4th Avenue South  
St. Cloud, MN 56301  
financialaid@stcloudstate.edu  
www.stcloudstate.edu

**St. Cloud Technical College #005534**

(320) 308-5961 or (800) 222-1009 x4  
1540 Northway Drive  
St. Cloud, MN 56303  
financialaid@sctc.edu  
www.sctc.edu

**Saint John's University #002379**

(320) 363-3664 or (800) 544-1489  
P.O. Box 5000  
Collegeville, MN 56321  
sperry@csbsju.edu  
www.csbsju.edu

**Saint Mary's University of Minnesota  
#002380**

(507) 457-1438 or (800) 635-5987  
700 Terrace Heights  
Winona, MN 55987  
jwobig@smumn.edu  
www.smumn.edu

**St. Olaf College #002382**

(507) 786-3019 or (877) 235-8386  
1520 St. Olaf Avenue  
Northfield, MN 55057  
finaid@stolaf.edu  
www.stolaf.edu

**Saint Paul College #005533**

(651) 846-1471 or (800) 227-6029  
235 Marshall Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55102  
susan.pixley@saintpaul.edu  
www.saintpaul.edu

**Salon Professional Academy, New Hope #E01054**

(763) 536-0772  
4411 Winnetka Avenue North  
New Hope, MN 55428  
admissions@tspanewhope.com  
www.tspanewhope.com

**Salon Professional Academy, Waite Park**

(320) 240-6985  
136 Division Street  
Waite Park, MN 56387  
admissionsstcloud@earthlink.net  
www.thesalonprofessionalacademy.com

**South Central College, Faribault #005537**

(507) 332-5805 or (800) 422-0391  
1225 3rd Street Southwest  
Faribault, MN 55021  
elizabeth.prange@southcentral.edu  
www.southcentral.edu

**South Central College, North Mankato/Mankato #005537**

(507) 389-7269 or (800) 722-9359  
1920 Lee Boulevard  
North Mankato, MN 56002  
jayne.dinse@southcentral.edu  
www.southcentral.edu

**Southwest Minnesota State University #002375**

(507) 537-6281 or (800) 642-0684  
1501 State Street  
Marshall, MN 56258  
vikander@smsu.edu  
www.smsu.edu

**Summit Academy Opportunities Industrialization Center #015950**

(612) 278-7354  
935 Olson Memorial Highway  
Minneapolis, MN 55405  
slueben@saoc.org  
www.saoic.org

**Transportation Center for Excellence**

(651) 683-8383 or (866) 253-4823  
2755 Highway 55, Suite 200  
Eagan, MN 55121  
tamim@tce4cdl.com  
www.tce4cdl.com

**University of Phoenix, Minneapolis/St. Paul #014593**

(952) 487-7226  
435 Ford Road, Suite 1000  
St. Louis Park, MN 55426  
www.phoenix.edu

**University of Minnesota, Crookston #004069**

(218) 281-8576 or (800) 862-6466  
2900 University Avenue  
Crookston, MN 56716  
umc-fa@umn.edu  
www.umcrookston.edu

**University of Minnesota, Duluth #002388**

(218) 726-8786 or (800) 232-1339  
1049 University Drive  
Duluth, MN 55812  
umdhelpp@d.umn.edu  
www.d.umn.edu

**University of Minnesota, Morris #002389**

(320) 589-6035 or (800) 992-8863  
105 Behmler Hall  
600 East 4th Street  
Morris, MN 56267  
morrisfa@morris.umn.edu  
www.morris.umn.edu

**University of Minnesota, Rochester #003969**

(507) 280-2831  
855 30th Avenue Southeast  
Rochester, MN 55904  
stuserv@umn.edu  
www.r.umn.edu

**University of Minnesota, Twin Cities #003969**

(612) 624-1111 or (800) 400-8636  
210 Fraser Hall  
106 Pleasant Street Southeast  
Minneapolis, MN 55455  
helpingu@umn.edu  
www.umn.edu/twincities

**University of St. Thomas #002345**

(651) 962-6557 or (800) 328-6819  
2115 Summit Avenue, AQU 328  
St. Paul, MN 55105  
financialaid@stthomas.edu  
www.stthomas.edu

**Vermilion Community College #002350**

(218) 235-2153 or (800) 657-3608  
1900 East Camp Street  
Ely, MN 55731  
financialaid@vcc.edu  
www.vcc.edu

**White Earth Tribal & Community College #039214**

(218) 936-5731 x304  
202 Main Street South  
Mahnomen, MN 56557  
dstone@wetcc.org  
www.wetcc.org

**William Mitchell College of Law #G02391**

(651) 290-6358 or (888) 963-5529  
875 Summit Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55105  
pharris@wmitchell.edu  
www.wmitchell.edu

**Winona State University #002394**

(507) 457-2800 or (800) 342-5978  
P.O. Box 5838  
8th and Johnson Streets  
Winona, MN 55987  
financialaid@winona.edu  
www.winona.edu

**Disclaimer:** Information about federal and state financial aid and tax programs is based on 2009 policies and rules as of June 2009. The U.S. Congress and the Minnesota Legislature may change programs. The information contained here is meant to reflect program highlights. For the most complete information, consult the appropriate financial aid manuals, state or federal law or tax code.



# Where Can I Get Help?

The most valuable source of information for you is the financial aid office at the college you attend or plan to attend. The office can help you complete the FAFSA and will suggest the types of aid best suited to your needs. Ultimately, it is the school's financial aid office that puts together a financial aid package for you, using funds from appropriate sources.

For information about federal student aid matters, call the Federal Student Aid Information Center at (800) 4-FED-AID or (800) 433-3243 or (800) 730-8913 TDD Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Central Standard Time.

The FAFSA Web site allows you to apply for financial aid online, make changes online, and check the status of your application. [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

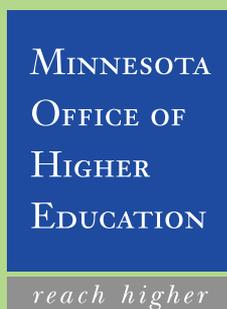
The Minnesota Office of Higher Education can provide you with information on the financial aid process, SELF loans, tuition reciprocity, Minnesota's 529 College Savings Plan and much more. The site includes a personal financial aid estimator to help you determine whether or not you may qualify for assistance. Materials and other resources are available at [www.getreadyforcollege.org](http://www.getreadyforcollege.org).

The U.S. Department of Education Web site provides information for students and families about pursuing education beyond high school. [www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov)

The FinAid Web site provides links to sources of information about student financial aid and includes an online searchable database of more than 180,000 private sector scholarships, fellowships, grants and loans. [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org)

The ISEEK Web site is a state-sponsored site with information on careers, training and education. ISEEK has over 500 career profiles, nearly 600 descriptions of educational areas of study at public and private colleges. [www.iseek.org](http://www.iseek.org)

## About Us



The Minnesota Office of Higher Education is a state agency providing students with financial aid programs and information to help them gain access to postsecondary education. The agency serves as the state's clearinghouse for data, research and analysis on postsecondary enrollment, financial aid, finance and trends.

The Minnesota State Grant program, which is the largest financial aid program administered by the agency, is a need-based tuition assistance program for Minnesota students. The agency also oversees tuition reciprocity programs, a student loan program, Minnesota's 529 college savings plan, licensing and an early awareness outreach initiative for youth.



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