



# Understanding Financial Aid

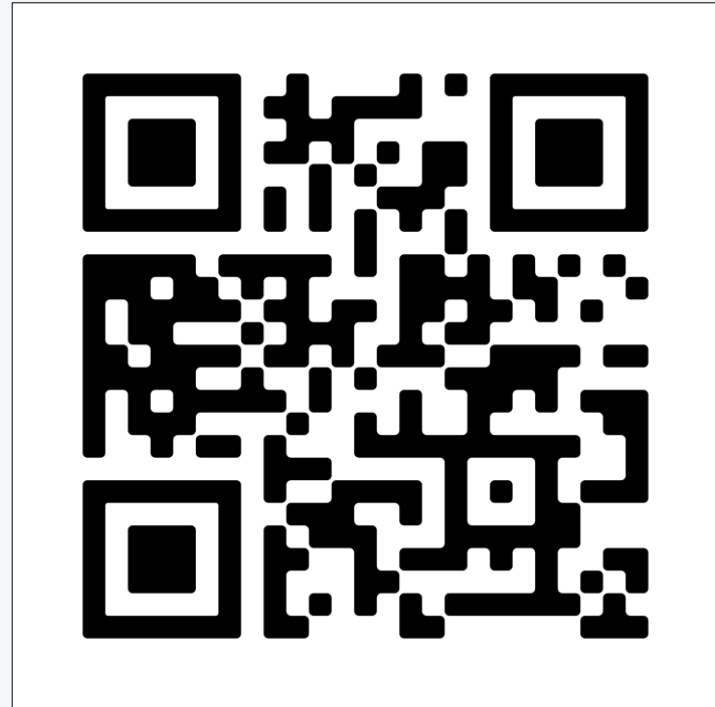
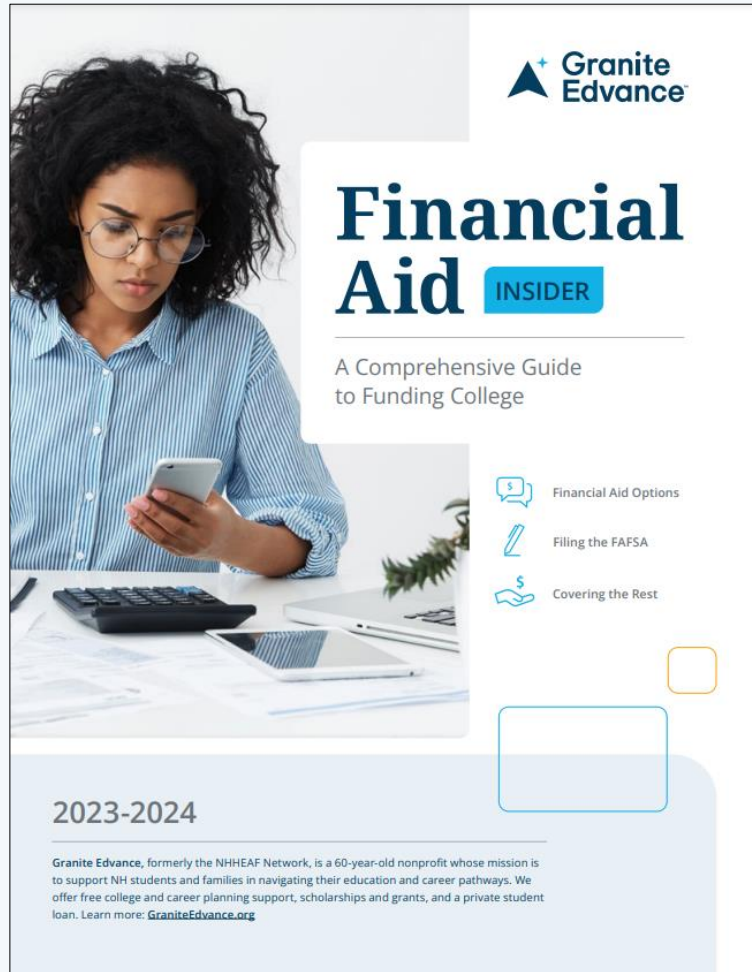
Funding for Education Beyond High School



**Please Sign In**



# Financial Aid Insider - Digital Copy



SCAN ME!

# Who We Are

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- We are dedicated to providing students and families with FREE, important information about education and career planning
- Team of expert Education and Career Counselors
- Aim to empower students to plan and achieve their future goals with confidence and excitement
- Facilitate connections among individuals and organizations that support students
- Serve all NH students of any age, background, interest, and pathway



# Appointments

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**Virtual** appointments available every day

**In-person** appointments available on Tuesdays and Thursdays in our Concord office

Schedule online:

<https://calendly.com/graniteedvance>

Or call: 603.227.5444

## Career & Aptitude Exploration

- Complete assessment and meet with a counselor to discuss careers and college majors that match your results

## Exploring Education Pathways

- College, career prep, program options, application process, understanding role of financial aid

## Financial Aid Support & FAFSA Prep

- Ask your questions about the financial aid process, create FSA ID

## FAFSA Assistance

- FAFSA filing assistance

## Reviewing Financial Aid Offers

- Understanding & comparing offers, next steps

# Agenda

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- Financial aid basics
- Cost saving options
- Completing financial aid forms
- Searching for scholarships




# Understanding Financial Aid



## DEFINITION AND GOAL:

The goal of financial aid is to help students pay for college. Financial aid is offered in the form of grants, scholarships, federal student loans, and work study jobs.

## ACHIEVED BY:

- Evaluating a family's ability to pay for educational costs (Student Aid Index)
    - SAI can be a negative number
  - Distributing limited resources in an equitable manner
  - Providing a balance of gift aid and self-help aid (when available)
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# Types Of Financial Aid

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## Gift Aid

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- Merit-based (scholarships)
  - Offered based on academic, artistic, or athletic talent; community service, leadership
- Need-based (grants)
  - Based on the family's finances

## Self-Help Aid

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- Federal Loans
- Work Study



# Financial Aid & The College Search

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## THINGS TO CONSIDER

- *Types of aid* offered at each school
  - Merit, need, both?
- Having the “money talk” *early*
- *Net price*, not sticker price



- Calculators will differ from college to college
- Results are an estimate of potential financial aid – you still must file the FAFSA and any other required financial aid forms
- Find the NPC by using the search box on a college website or Google

# Did You Know?

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## Granite Guarantee

Provides free tuition to students attending a NH public college who are eligible for the Pell Grant and will be attending full-time



## Tuition Break

Allows New England residents to enroll at out-of-state New England public colleges and universities at a discounted tuition rate



## Community College

Offers a more affordable option for students at a price of \$215 a credit



# Applying for Financial Aid

# Financial Aid Forms

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## FAFSA

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid
- [studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov)
- The FAFSA opens in December (this year only)

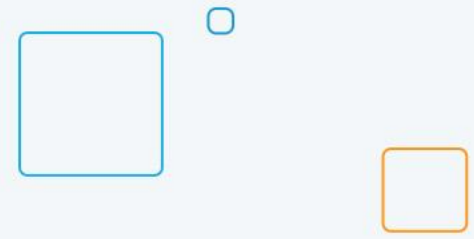
## CSS Profile

- [cssprofile.org](https://cssprofile.org)
- CSS Profile is available October 1st

- Check with each school to determine required application forms and specific deadlines
- Your timeline may be very different from the timeline of others
- Consider these variables:
  - WHERE are you applying?
  - HOW are you applying?
  - WHEN is the college's deadline?

# FAFSA

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## GOAL OF THE FAFSA:

- To collect a family's personal and financial information in order to calculate the Student Aid Index (SAI)

## WHO SHOULD FILE THE FAFSA?

- Everyone!

### KEEP IN MIND:

The FAFSA Form must be completed EVERY year

## WHY FILE THE FAFSA?

- To make you potentially eligible for Federal Aid: Federal loans, Federal Grants and Work-study opportunities
- Some private scholarships require the FAFSA as part of their application process



# File Online

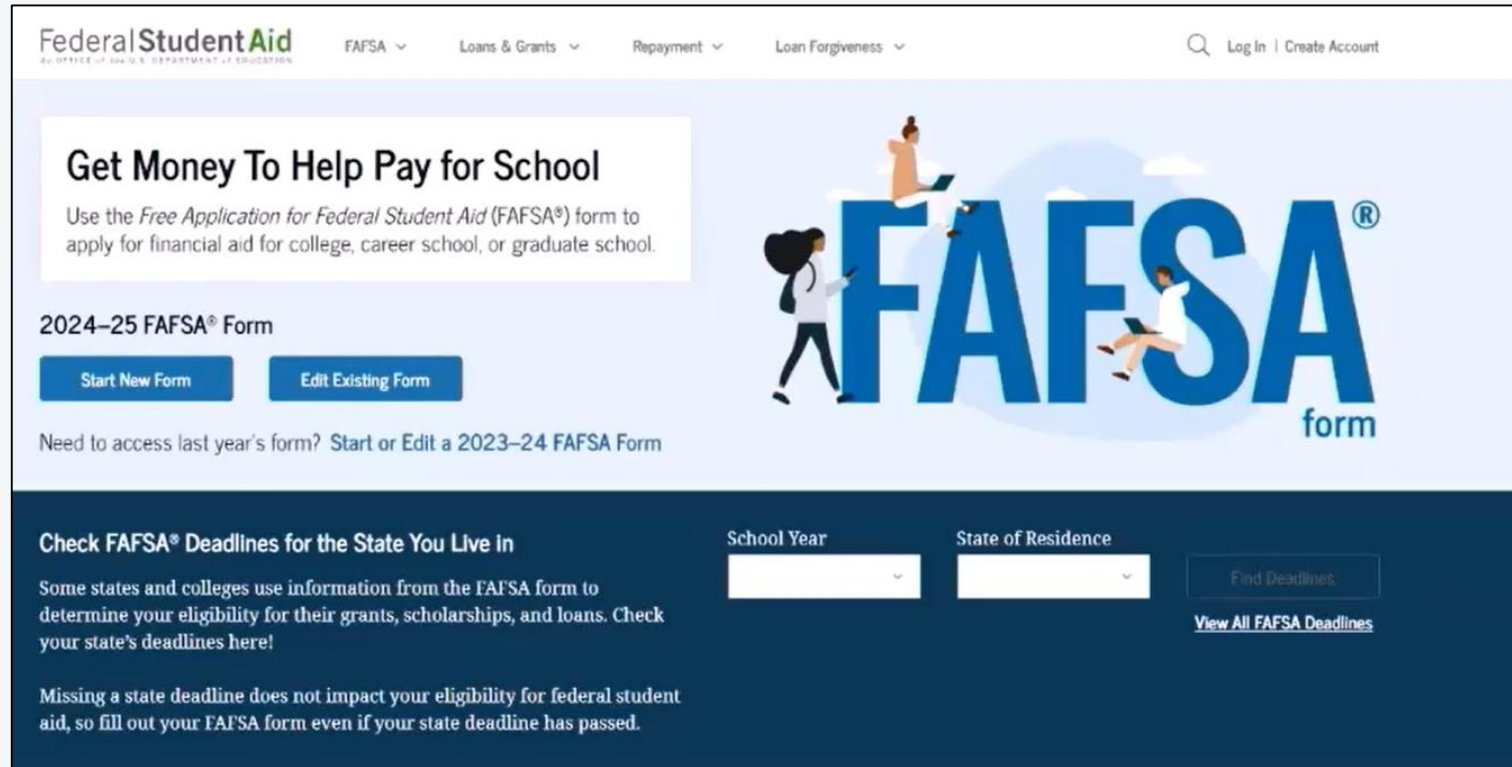
[studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov)

Completing the FAFSA is  
FREE

Have Questions?

Twitter account @FAFSA

Chat online with FAFSA  
Specialist  
1-800-4-FEDAID



The screenshot shows the FAFSA website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the "Federal Student Aid" logo and links for "FAFSA", "Loans & Grants", "Repayment", and "Loan Forgiveness". A search icon and "Log In | Create Account" are also present. The main content area features a large blue banner with the text "Get Money To Help Pay for School" and a sub-headline: "Use the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) form to apply for financial aid for college, career school, or graduate school." Below this, there are two buttons: "Start New Form" and "Edit Existing Form". To the right of the text is a large graphic of the word "FAFSA" in blue, with a person sitting on the letter 'A' and another person walking with a backpack. Below the banner, there is a section titled "Check FAFSA® Deadlines for the State You Live In" with two dropdown menus for "School Year" and "State of Residence", and a "Find Deadlines" button. A link "View All FAFSA Deadlines" is also visible. A footer note states: "Missing a state deadline does not impact your eligibility for federal student aid, so fill out your FAFSA form even if your state deadline has passed."

# What Is a **studentaid.gov** Account?

- A username/password that allows students and parents to log in to [studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov)
- Takes 3-5 days to verify
- Needed BEFORE completing the FAFSA

## What is needed to create your account:

- Social Security number
- Your own cell phone and/or email address

### Create an Account

Whether you're a student, parent, or borrower, you'll need to create your own account to manage the student loan journey.

Get Started

Already have an account? [Log In](#)

\*\*\*Remember to save your Backup Code! You will use your backup code to access your account in the event you cannot use any other two-step verification method.\*\*

# Filing FAFSA

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Students and parents of dependent students MUST consent to the use and disclosure of tax information for the FAFSA

For more details about FAFSA income and asset requirements, see the **Financial Aid Insider**

## Income

- Examples:
  - Wages
  - Rental Income

## Assets

- Examples:
  - 529 for students
  - Non-retirement investments



# FAFSA FAQs

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- Whose FAFSA is it?
- When is the deadline to complete the FAFSA?
- Which year's tax return should a family use?
- Who qualifies as an independent student?
- Which parent(s) are included on the FAFSA form?
- If a student is not sure they are going to college, should they still complete a FAFSA?

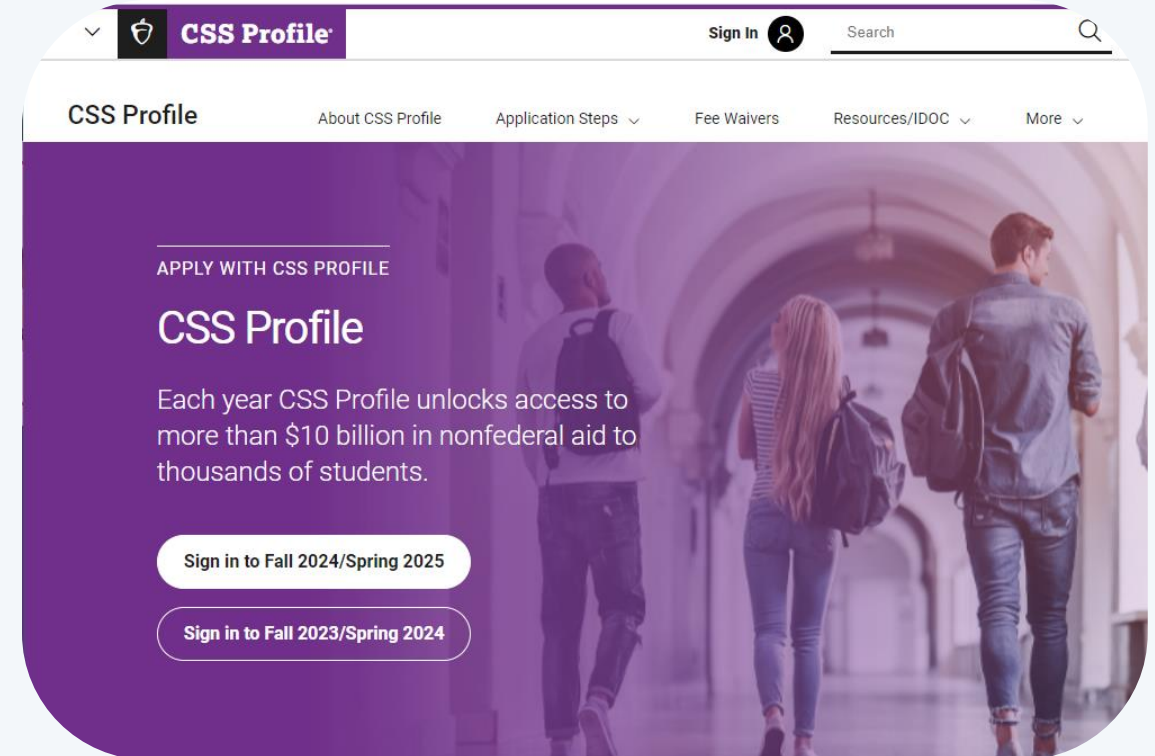
# Special Circumstances

- Contact financial aid professionals at each college
- Complete special circumstances form on each school's financial aid webpage
- Have realistic expectations of financial aid appeal outcomes

<b>MAY be considered:</b>	<b>MAY NOT be considered:</b>
Loss or reduction of employment	Vacation expenses
Separation or divorce of parents	Graduate school expenses for a sibling
Death of a parent	Wedding expenses
High unreimbursed medical or dental expenses	Consumer debt
Unusual losses in business, investments, or real estate	Expenses related to pets

# CSS Profile

- Used by approximately 300 colleges to determine eligibility for institutional aid
- Use student's College Board log-in to access form
- \$25 fee to register and to send to first school; \$16 for each additional school
- If your AGI is less than \$100K, the application will be free



[cssprofile.org](https://cssprofile.org)

The top left corner of the slide features a collection of decorative geometric shapes. These include several squares and rectangles of varying sizes, some outlined in a light blue color and others in a light orange color. The shapes are scattered across the top portion of the dark blue background.

# Searching For Scholarships

# National Search

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- Start the search now
- Deadlines will vary throughout your senior year

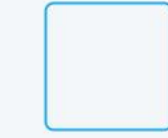
[collegeboard.org](https://collegeboard.org)

[fastweb.com](https://fastweb.com)

[scholarships.com](https://scholarships.com)

[scholarshipowl.com](https://scholarshipowl.com)

[scholarships360.com](https://scholarships360.com)



## TIP

Create an appropriate and unique email address for the college and scholarship processes!

## CAUTION

Do not pay money to apply!



# Local Search

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## SCHOOL COUNSELING OFFICE

- Check with your counselor for information about local scholarships for students from your town, school district, and state

## WORK

- Check with your (or your parents') employer(s)
- Many have scholarship programs set up for their employees or their family members

## NEW HAMPSHIRE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

- Scholarships for New Hampshire residents
- **Statewide Student Aid Program**
  - For students enrolling in 4-year degree programs
- **Career Aid to Technical Students Program**
  - For students enrolling in 2-year degree programs

[nhcf.org](https://nhcf.org)

# Next Steps

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- Gather the required personal and financial information required by the FAFSA and/or CSS profile
- Make a chart/list of each school's submission deadline
- Complete the FAFSA, being sure to identify each school you may consider applying to (up to 20)
- SUBMIT your FAFSA before the EARLIEST financial aid submission deadline
- Determine which schools may also require the CSS profile and complete and submit that as well

The top portion of the image features a dark blue background with several geometric shapes. There are several squares and rectangles of varying sizes, some outlined in a light blue color and others in a light orange color. These shapes are scattered across the top, creating a modern, abstract header design.

More from Granite Edvance



# Coming Soon!




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## Paying for College 101

- Learn how to break down financial aid offer letters
- Explore options to cover your costs

## Reviewing Financial Aid Offer Appointments

- Using your financial aid offers, compare final cost of each college
  - Understand your options to pay the remaining cost
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# Questions?

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Phone:

**603.227.5444**

Email:

[findyourdirection@graniteedvance.org](mailto:findyourdirection@graniteedvance.org)

Schedule an appointment:

<https://calendly.com/graniteedvance>



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