

# **Planning and Paying for College**

---

# PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

---

- ✖ Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
  - FAFSA4CASTER, Getting a PIN
- ✖ Cost of College
  - Net Price Calculator
- ✖ Scholarships, Grants, Loans
- ✖ Understanding Award Letters
- ✖ Budgeting For College
  - Payment Plans
  - Understanding Debt
  - Maintaining Financial Aid

# APPLY FOR FEDERAL AID

---

- ✗ Get your FSA ID at [fsaid.ed.gov](https://fsaid.ed.gov)

*both the student and a parent will need ID's*

- ✗ Fafsa at [www.fafsa.gov](https://www.fafsa.gov)

*find out if your colleges have a recommended application deadline*

- ✗ Complete your taxes as soon as possible

*you can estimate income on your fafsa, then make corrections later*

- ✗ Respond timely to all requests for information

*requests are often made via email or on your college's web account*

**Check out  
FAFSA4caster**

**Use your college's website for guidance about additional applications or tasks**



# FAFSA HIGHLIGHTS

---

- ✗ Take care to be accurate
- ✗ My parent(s) on the FAFSA = the parent unit whose roof you live under the majority of the year  
(may include a step-parent, may not be the parent who claims you for taxes)
- ✗ Do not report the value of: the home you live in, designated retirement accounts or life insurance
- ✗ Talk with your school counselor or a financial aid office if you have a special family situation

# FAFSA HIGHLIGHTS CONT...

- ✗ *Check with your college(s) for a recommended application deadline*
- ✗ *Read all questions carefully, particularly Parts 3 & 5*
- ✗ *Use your copy of your filed Federal Tax Return as your guide through the IRS data retrieval*

## The FAFSA

Part 1	Student Demographics
Part 2	School Selection
Part 3	Dependency Status
Part 4	Parent Demographics
Part 5	Financial Information
Part 6	Sign & Submit
Part 7	Confirmation <i>(with link to continue to state aid application)</i>

# APPLY FOR NYS AID

---

- ✗ Optional feature links you from the FAFSA submission confirmation page to your TAP application
- ✗ Or go direct to [www.tapweb.org](http://www.tapweb.org)
- ✗ Visit [www.hesc.ny.gov](http://www.hesc.ny.gov) => [Grants, Scholarships, Awards](#) to learn about all state aid resources and utilize the TAP Award Estimator
- ✗ Visit [www.StartHereGetThere.org](http://www.StartHereGetThere.org) and [www.GoCollegeNY.org](http://www.GoCollegeNY.org) for more student aid and college planning tools.



# TALK ABOUT MONEY

---

- ✗ How much does college (or other higher ed.) cost?
- ✗ How much can we afford? (saved ahead or during)
- ✗ Is student and/or parent borrowing an option?
- ✗ What other costs do we need to prepare for?
- ✗ What can we do to minimize college costs?

# How much does college cost?

Direct Costs	Clinton CC	Plattsburgh	Daemen	Siena
Tuition	4,200	6,470	23,090	30,420
Fees	754	1,680	1,900	1,873
Room	5,170	7,010	7,450	8,315
Board	<u>4,348</u>	<u>4,270</u>	<u>4,350</u>	<u>4,745</u>
Estimated Total of Direct Costs	<b>\$14,472</b>	<b>\$19,430</b>	<b>\$36,790</b>	<b>\$45,353</b>

## Indirect Costs (varies student to student)

- Books/Supplies \$1,200
- Transportation \$ 680
- Personal/Living \$1,810
- \$3,690**

*Higher cost does NOT necessarily mean more costly...*



SUNY Oswego - Net Price Calculator - Windows Internet Explorer

http://www.oswego.edu/admissions/costs/financial/net\_price\_calculator.html

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Convert Select

SUNY Oswego - Net Price Calculator

CONTACT US | A TO Z INDEX | WEBCAM | SEARCH

OSWEGO  
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Home | Admissions | Costs | Financial | Net Price Calculator

## Net Price Calculator

Welcome Tell us Net Price Charts Campus Profile

**Type of student**

Will you be a Freshman or Transfer student? ☐ Freshman ☐ Transfer ?

**Tell us about your residency and housing plans**

The residency and housing plan questions are used to estimate how much it will cost to attend this college. If you reside within the district or state, your tuition will be based on in-district or in-state rates. Where you live determines how much you will need to budget for housing expenses.

Are you eligible for the in-state tuition rate? ☐ Yes ☐ No ?

Where do you plan to live while attending this college?  ?

**Tell us about your dependency status**

Please select your dependency status:

☐ Dependent ☐ Independent ?

You are most likely considered an independent student, if you are any of the following:

- 24 years of age by Dec. 31st of the year you plan to attend
- married
- a veteran
- on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces
- supporting dependents
- in foster care
- a dependent or ward of the court
- an emancipated minor
- in legal guardianship
- an unaccompanied youth who is homeless

- Freshman
- On-Campus
- Dependent
- EFC = 13556 (91,000 Parent AGI)

### Estimated Cost for 1st Year of Attendance

Estimated tuition and fees:	\$6,206
Estimated room and board:	<u>\$10,870</u>
Cost Paid Directly to SUNY Oswego	\$17,076
Estimated books and supplies:	\$800
Estimated personal expenses:	\$800
Estimated transportation:	<u>\$600</u>
Estimated total cost of attendance:	\$19,276
Estimated grants and scholarships:	<u>-\$2,140</u>
Estimated Net Price:	\$17,136
(Price of attendance - grant aid)	
Estimated loans:	<u>\$8,146</u>
Estimated out-of-pocket cost:	\$8,990
(Net price minus loans)	

# TYPES OF AID

MORE INFO AT... [WWW.STUDENTAID.ED.GOV](http://WWW.STUDENTAID.ED.GOV) AND [WWW.HESC.NY.GOV](http://WWW.HESC.NY.GOV)

- ✘ Grants (i.e. Pell, TAP, SEOG, EOP)
  - free, eligibility criteria, usually a need component
- ✘ Scholarships (i.e. Presidential, Freshman Merit, Kiwanis, Excelsior, North Country-Criteria and money awarded as changed, )
  - free, eligibility criteria, usually an academic component
- ✘ Loans (i.e. FELP, Direct, PLUS, Alternative)
  - debt, interest, borrowing limits, repayment options
- ✘ Employment Opportunities (i.e. work-study)
  - funding contingent on work or service
- ✘ Third Party Resources
  - VESID, Employer, Union, Community Group
- ✘ Self-Help and Out-of-Pocket
  - personal resources and cost-saving measures

# FINANCIAL AID OPPORTUNITIES

---

## Grants

- ❖ Where do they come from?

federal, state, county and local funded/supported education agencies.

- ❖ How do I qualify?

application, determination of financial need, unique individual or family circumstance.

- ❖ How do I renew?

typically not renewable, but rather annually reviewed for eligibility.



# FINANCIAL AID OPPORTUNITIES

## Federal Direct Student (Stafford) Loans

### ❖ What types are available?

Subsidized Loan = 0.0 % interest while in school

4.29 % fixed interest during repayment

Unsubsidized Loan = 4.29 % fixed interest during school and repayment

### ❖ How much do I qualify for?

<u>Year in College</u>	<u>Maximum Amount (Base Sub/Unsub + Add'l Unsub)</u>	
1 <sup>st</sup> year	\$ 5,500	(\$ 3,500 + \$ 2,000)
2 <sup>nd</sup> year	\$ 6,500	(\$ 4,500 + \$ 2,000)
3 <sup>rd</sup> year	\$ 7,500	(\$ 5,500 + \$ 2,000)
4 <sup>th</sup> year +	\$ 7,500	(\$ 5,500 + \$ 2,000)

### ❖ How do I apply?

Complete your FAFSA once each year. Sign a MPN and fulfill loan counseling.

Your Financial Aid Office will instruct you on any additional action items.

# FINANCIAL AID OPPORTUNITIES

---

## Federal Direct Parent (PLUS) Loans

### ❖ Who qualifies?

Biological parent, adoptive parent or stepparent (if on the FAFSA). The parent borrower cannot have an adverse credit history and must be a U.S. Citizen or Eligible Non-Citizen.

### ❖ How much do I qualify for?

The maximum loan amount is the student's cost of attendance (determined by the school) minus any other financial aid received. COA - Other Aid The interest rate on PLUS loans is fixed at 7.21 %.

### ❖ How do I apply?

Have your student complete the FAFSA once each year. Sign a MPN. Your students Financial Aid Office will provide instruction on any additional action items.

# Federal Student Loans

- Interest Rate Fixed at 4.29%
- Subsidized (no in-school interest) and Unsubsidized available
- Repayment after graduation



## FEDERAL PARENT (PLUS) LOANS

- ✗ Interest Rate Fixed at 6.84%
- ✗ Repayment begins 60 days following full disbursement, OR request deferment during in-school period
- ✗ Standard 10 year repayment period (no prepayment penalty)



## Alternative (Private) Student Loans

- Primary borrower is usually the student
- Credit and income review weighs heavily on the co-signer
- Interest rate can be Prime or LIBOR
- Fixed and variable interest programs available





# FINANCIAL AID OPPORTUNITIES

---

## Scholarships

- ❖ Where do they come from?

may be offered from: your college, employers, local businesses, private and non-profit groups, membership organizations and many other areas

- ❖ How do I qualify?

application, essay, letters of recommendation, academic achievement, testing scores, portfolio, etc.

- ❖ How do I renew?

some are 1 time only. If renewable, you may have to meet minimum academic progress expectations, or other criteria. *Read the fine print.*

**Clarkson University  
Financial Aid Award Notice**

NAME  
Clarkson University  
PO Box XXXX  
Potsdam, NY 13699-XXXX

Notification Number 2  
ID: XXXXXXXX

**We are pleased to inform you of your Financial Aid as indicated below for the 2011-2012 academic year at Clarkson.**

- Please read both sides of this award notice carefully.
- Be sure read the *Required Reading* section of the informational wrap that surrounds your Financial Aid Award.
- Please take note of the message codes (if any) for each award line. Each message code is explained on the second page.
- Only loan recipients are required to sign and return this Financial Aid Award Notification within 2 weeks. Please keep a copy for your records.
- Before accepting any loans, please refer to the Required Reading section of the informational wrap. Any adjustments to your loans must be indicated on the second page of the Financial Aid Award Notice.

**ESTIMATED DIRECT COST OF ATTENDANCE**

Tuition	30,320.00
Housing	13,012.00
Student Activities Fees	<u>890.00</u>
<b>DIRECT COSTS:</b>	<b>\$ 44,222.00</b>

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	Fall 2011	Spring 2012	TOTAL	Message
<i>Scholarships/Grants:</i>				
Federal Pell Grant	1,641.00	1,640.00	3,281.00	
Federal SEOG Grant	350.00	350.00	700.00	
Veterans Benefits	10,505.00	0.00	10,505.00	
Veterans Benefits	0.00	10,505.00	10,505.00	
<i>Loans:</i>				
Federal Direct Loan - Subsidiz	2,750.00	2,750.00	5,500.00	FDL
Federal Direct Loan - Unsub	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	FDL
Federal Perkins Loan	1,250.00	1,250.00	2,500.00	PERK
<b>TOTAL AWARD</b>			<b>\$34,991.00</b>	

In addition to the direct costs, you should plan for additional expenses, including books and supplies, transportation and personal expenses estimated at \$3,178 per year. To help with these costs, you may be eligible for Federal Work Study if indicated immediately below.

**William D. Ford Federal Direct Parent (PLUS) Loan for Undergraduate Students**

Your parents may further reduce educational expenses using the Federal PLUS program up to the following amount:

FEDERAL PLUS ELIGIBILITY      \$ 12,409.00

## AWARD LETTER FOR 2011-2012 FINANCIAL AID YEAR

Student Name & Address

Date:

ID:

Dear:

This award letter summarizes your financial aid eligibility for 2011-2012 and lists the tasks you need to complete in order for your aid to be applied toward your bill. It also estimates your bill balance and suggests other aid options if you need additional help.

### YOUR ENROLLMENT STATUS

Level: <i>Undergraduate</i>	Enrollment: <i>Full-Time</i>	Housing: <i>On Campus</i>
Class: <i>Freshman</i>	Residency: <i>NYS Resident</i>	Verification: <i>Dependent</i>

<b>YOUR FINANCIAL AID</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>FALL 2011</b>	<b>SPRING 2012</b>	<b>Total</b>
Federal Pell Grant	Estimated	1,691.00	1,690.00	\$3,381.00
NYS Tuition Assistance Program	Estimated	1,489.50	1,489.50	\$2,979.00
Federal Direct Subsidized Loan	Offered	1,750.00	1,750.00	\$3,500.00
Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan	Offered	1,000.00	1,000.00	\$2,000.00
<b>Total Financial Aid</b>		<b>\$5,930.50</b>	<b>\$5,929.50</b>	<b>\$11,860.00</b>

### YOUR ESTIMATED BILL

	<b>FALL 2011</b>	<b>SPRING 2012</b>	<b>Total</b>
Tuition	2,635.00	2,635.00	5,270.00
Mandatory Fees	504.00	504.00	1,008.00
Meal Plan	1,850.00	1,850.00	3,700.00
Room /Rent	2,825.00	2,825.00	5,650.00
Optional Fees (average)	157.00	157.00	314.00
Total Estimated Charges	\$7,971.00	\$7,971.00	\$15,942.00
Less Total Financial Aid*	\$5,930.00	\$5,930.00	\$11,860.00
<b>Estimated Balance (or Refund if Negative)</b>	<b>\$2,041.00</b>	<b>\$2,041.00</b>	<b>\$4,082.00</b>

\* Assumes you accept all offered aid from above. Excludes work-study and EOP book grants. Origination and insurance fees will reduce subsidized and unsubsidized loans by .5%, and PLUS loans by 2.5%.

You will also have non-billed expenses for books, supplies, personal, and transportation. Books and supplies are approximately \$550 per semester. Other expenses vary depending on your habits.

### YOUR OTHER AID OPTIONS

- If you need additional financial aid, your parent may be eligible to borrow a parent **PLUS** loan up to \$6,585.00 for the year. To apply, complete the enclosed *Parent PLUS Loan Request* form.



# Review Your Award Packages

## Award Package Comparison Worksheet

It can be tricky to compare different schools' financial aid offers because costs and aid vary greatly from school to school. This worksheet helps you compare aid offers from several schools. As you review financial aid offers, keep in mind:

- "Gift aid" like a grant or scholarship is the best type of aid. Make sure you are aware of any requirements (like maintaining a certain grade point average) to maintain eligibility for this aid.
- Some institutions offer more grant money to new students. Check if any grant aid is restricted to first-year students or if it can be renewed. Consider each school's student aid policies to determine if future aid packages will be similar or less generous.
- The difference between the gift aid you're offered and the cost of attendance will give you a good idea of your out-of-pocket costs for school.
- "Self-help" aid like work-study and student loans are also available, but aren't as desirable as gift aid.
- Student loans have to be repaid with interest and can't be discharged in bankruptcy so don't take the decision to borrow lightly.

You can usually find this information on schools' websites or in materials they send you. If you can't find it, contact the school's financial aid office.

Award Package from School:	1.	2.	3.
<b>Gift Aid (sources):</b>			
1.	\$ Renewable?	\$ Renewable?	\$ Renewable?
2.	\$ Renewable?	\$ Renewable?	\$ Renewable?
3.	\$ Renewable?	\$ Renewable?	\$ Renewable?
4.	\$ Renewable?	\$ Renewable?	\$ Renewable?
<b>Total Gift Aid:</b>	\$	\$	\$
<b>Self-Help Work (sources):</b>			
1.	\$	\$	\$
2.	\$	\$	\$
<b>Total Work:</b>	\$	\$	\$
<b>Loans (sources and interest rates):</b>			
1. (    %)	\$	\$	\$
2. (    %)	\$	\$	\$
3. (    %)	\$	\$	\$
<b>Total Loans:</b>	\$	\$	\$
<b>TOTAL All Aid:</b>	\$	\$	\$
<b>Cost of Attendance (COA or Budget):</b>	\$	\$	\$
<b>Less Expected Family Contribution (EFC):</b>	– \$	– \$	– \$
<b>Less Total All Aid:</b>	– \$	– \$	– \$
<b>Equals Unmet Need (COA - EFC - Aid):</b>	= \$	= \$	= \$
<b>Your Estimated COA/budget (if different from school's estimate):</b>	\$	\$	\$
<b>Revised Unmet Need (based on your estimated COA/budget):</b>	\$	\$	\$

Will list the financial aid you may qualify for should you decide to attend that college/university

Will provide instructions for you to follow if any action is required to accept, decline, or finalize the awards

# Special Circumstances?

---

*Examples only. Talk with your college about your circumstance.*



- ✕ Loss of income - retirement, unemployment, job change, etc.
- ✕ Loss of Benefits – social security, unemployment compensation, child support, disability pension, etc.
- ✕ Change in Marital Status – widowed, divorced or separated since filing the FAFSA.
- ✕ Extraordinary Expense – unreimbursed out-of-pocket medical, catastrophic event, etc.

# WHERE DO I FIND OUT ABOUT AVAILABLE \$\$\$

× **Guidance Dept**

× **Public Library**

× **College Websites**

× **Online Resources**

such as fastweb.com, collegeboard.com

× **Community & Gov't Sponsors**

Key Club, Boy/Girl Scouts of America, Model UN, 4-H, Football Boosters, National Honor Society, Union Affiliation, Moose Lodge, Kiwanis, American Legion, Church or Synagogue, etc.

× **Employers (Student & Parents)**

tuition reimbursement, short term loans, scholarships, etc.





# Maintain Success in the Classroom!

---

Most financial aid has a minimum academic progress expectation

- + SAP = Satisfactory Academic Progress
- + 2.0 gpa or better (higher for many aid programs)
- + 67% completion rate (fulltime for state aid)
- + Warning/Probationary semester may be available
- + May lose aid awards if student falls below standards
- + Federal, state and institutional standards differ

