

# Paying for College

MINNESOTA 2014-15

Grants  
Scholarships  
Loans  
Work-Study  
Military Service  
Reciprocity  
Family Support  
Tax Credits  
Savings  
Community Service Benefits

A guide to help you make the big decision. **Which combination is right for you?**

MINNESOTA  
OFFICE OF  
HIGHER  
EDUCATION

*reach higher*

**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 based on many factors including the cost of attendance, your financial needs, your high school achievement and special talents.

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.

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# 5 TYPES OF College Costs

The annual cost of college depends on which school you decide to attend. That amount is made up of five very different types of costs:

**Don't let sticker shock turn you away!**

Few students pay the full price to attend college. Most receive financial aid, which reduces the amount you and your family are expected to pay.

## Type of Cost

## What does that mean?

### 1. Tuition & Fees

Visit [www.ohe.state.mn.us/tuition](http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/tuition) to view current tuition and fees for individual colleges.

What it costs to take classes and use certain facilities at the school. The price of attending college varies depending on the type of school you attend.

#### 2-year Colleges



#### 4-year Colleges



### 2. Room & Board

What you pay for housing (whether it's a dormitory or an apartment) and meals (whether it's in the college cafeteria or buying food and cooking for yourself)

**\$8,800**  
Average Cost\*

### 3. Books & Supplies

Items you need to complete your courses, including things like books, pencils, paper and art supplies. This cost depends less on the type of school you attend and more on the classes you take.

**\$1,200**  
Average Cost

### 4. Personal Expenses

What you will spend on laundry, clothing, recreation and other personal items.

**\$1,900**  
Average Cost

### 5. Transportation Expenses

What it costs to travel to and from school at the beginning and end of the school year, or if you commute each day to class.

**\$1,200**  
Average Cost

\*Source: The College Board, 2011

## REDUCING YOUR College Costs

College isn't free but there are things you can do to save a little green before and while you're in college.

### Expense

- Tuition
- Room & Board
- Books & Supplies
- Personal Expenses
- Transportation Expenses

### You Could Save Money by

- Taking college prep classes in high school to earn an academic scholarship.
- Making dinner at home instead of eating out.
- Buying used textbooks instead of new ones.
- Buying generic shampoo instead of brand name shampoo.
- Taking the bus rather than paying to park on campus.

# HOW CAN I FUND MY EDUCATION?

## Scholarships

There are millions of dollars in scholarships out there that are awarded for good grades, sports, cultural or religious background, music and other talents. Some are awarded based on financial need. They come from colleges, community organizations and businesses. Some companies award scholarships to their employees and their employees' children. Most scholarship dollars are awarded directly from colleges.



### Are there scholarships for me?

Look at each option below and think about whether you could receive a scholarship for each. Check the appropriate column based on how likely you think you are to receive a scholarship.

Use the blank lines to list specific interests, skills or hobbies.

Area	Yes	No	Maybe
Art	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Athletics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community service	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Computers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Creativity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cultural background	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Drama	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Good grades	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
History	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Leadership	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Music	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Racial/ethnic background	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Religious background	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
_____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
_____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
_____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### Applying for Scholarships

Although most scholarships have different application forms or requirements, you may be able to use what you wrote or submitted for one application for another. Make sure you keep copies of any scholarship application you complete. And be patient: You may have to wait several weeks or months before finding out if you'll receive the scholarship.

### Is it worth it?

Every little bit helps reduce your out-of-pocket costs.

#### CONSIDER THIS:

\$1,200 scholarship = your books and supplies for one academic year

### Scholarship Searches

You can begin researching your scholarship options at any age, but don't wait until your senior year of high school. Most have deadlines in the fall so if you wait too long, you may miss out! Best of all, most online scholarship searches are free!

### Try out the links below:

Adventures in Education: [www.aie.org/scholarships/](http://www.aie.org/scholarships/)

College Answer: [www.collegeanswer.com](http://www.collegeanswer.com)

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

Scholarships offered by some Minnesota schools:  
[www.ohe.state.mn.us/mnscholarships](http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/mnscholarships)

Search scholarships in the U.S. by state, major, etc.:  
[www.mycollegeoptions.org](http://www.mycollegeoptions.org)

# 7 WAYS TO PAY FOR COLLEGE

Attending college isn't free, but you can afford to go. It doesn't matter what your family's income is. It doesn't matter where you live. It doesn't matter how much you have in the bank. There are a variety of ways to pay for it.

## 1. Savings

Savings allow you to use money you already have. The more you save, the less you'll have to borrow. If you save at a financial institution like a bank or credit union, your savings will earn interest over time. Even saving a small amount each month can help.

## 2. Your Family

Your family is expected to help pay for your education out of their current income, but financial aid is designed to help families unable to do so.

## Types of Financial Aid

To receive financial aid, you must apply for it using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA ([www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)). Applying for admission to a college or university is not the same thing. Colleges use the results of the FAFSA to create a financial aid package, which may include a combination of the following:

## 3. Grants

Grants don't have to be repaid and are given to the students who have the most financial need. Most grants come from the federal and state government.

## 4. Scholarships

Scholarships don't have to be repaid and are awarded for good grades, cultural or religious background, sports and special talents. Most scholarships come from organizations and colleges.

## 5. Work Study

Work study helps you to earn money to pay for your education by working a part-time job offered through the college. Work study is funded by the government.

## 6. Loans

Loans for students have lower interest rates than most other types of loans. Unlike grants or scholarships, loans must be repaid with interest when you finish college, even if you don't graduate. Student loans are offered through banks, colleges and other institutions.

## Another Option

## 7. Military or Community Service

Military or community service allows you to earn special scholarships and other educational assistance. Serving in the military might also earn you college credit, tuition assistance and help you repay your student loans. You can enlist after high school to earn college assistance for later or go to college under the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC). To learn more about education benefits, visit:

Community Service: [www.americorps.gov/for\\_individuals/benefits/](http://www.americorps.gov/for_individuals/benefits/)

Military Service: [www.todaysmilitary.com/military-benefits/education-support](http://www.todaysmilitary.com/military-benefits/education-support)

# Financial Aid Makes College Possible

Below are examples of how three students are paying for college. Each student is from a family that makes around \$40,000 per year (before taxes). Use your math skills to figure out the missing number.

	Student 1	Student 2	Student 3
<b>College type</b>	2-year Community or Technical College	4-year Public State University	4-year Private College or University
<b>Total cost for 1 school year <sup>1</sup></b>	\$11,500	\$19,500	\$43,500

<sup>1</sup> Includes tuition and fees, room and board (except for 2-year colleges which generally do not have on-campus housing or meal plans), books and supplies, personal expenses and transportation expenses.

## Financial Aid

When you go to college, you may be eligible for more or less financial assistance than what is shown here. The amount of financial aid you receive depends on the price of the school you attend and the amount that you and your family are expected to contribute as determined by the FAFSA.

<b>Grants</b>	\$ _____	\$7,700	\$9,400
<b>Scholarships</b>	\$500	\$2,200	\$ _____
<b>Work Study</b>	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500
<b>Loans (must be paid back)</b>	\$1,000	\$ _____	\$8,000
<b>Total Financial Aid</b>	\$11,500	\$19,500	\$33,000
<b>Amount not covered by financial aid</b>	\$0	\$0	\$10,500 <sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> This remaining cost could be met through family support (such as loans from existing income or savings) as well as through additional scholarships or student loans.

### Learn About Financial Aid:

Minnesota Office of Higher Education: [www.ohe.state.mn.us](http://www.ohe.state.mn.us)

Federal Student Aid: [www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov)

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA): [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)





# 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 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, race or ethnicity, 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.

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

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

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 need-based 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.ohe.state.mn.us/estimator](http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/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, Direct 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 out if there is a separate application and deadline.

*An “Institutional Student Information Record” (or ISIR) is the electronic output from the student’s FAFSA. The record is used by schools to prepare the financial aid package for the student.*

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. The earliest you can submit the FAFSA application to apply for state and federal need-based aid is January 1 for the following academic year. You must reapply each year using a shortened renewal application form.

### Application Deadlines

- **State Grant:** No later than 30 days after the start of the term
- **Federal Pell Grant:** Anytime during the academic year in which you are enrolled (through June 30)
- **Institutional Scholarships:** Deadlines vary, but can be as early as December of the preceding academic year
- **Other Scholarships:** Deadlines vary
- Many colleges have March 1 or April 1 deadlines

### Application Procedure

You may apply online at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). The paper FAFSA may also be obtained from this website 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.

The FAFSA on the Web now allows families to import tax information from the IRS system into the FAFSA on the Web. Whether you do this on the original FAFSA or later as a correction, it will allow the college to verify information on the FAFSA without having to request tax documentation from the family.

School codes needed to complete the FAFSA are available at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov) or 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.

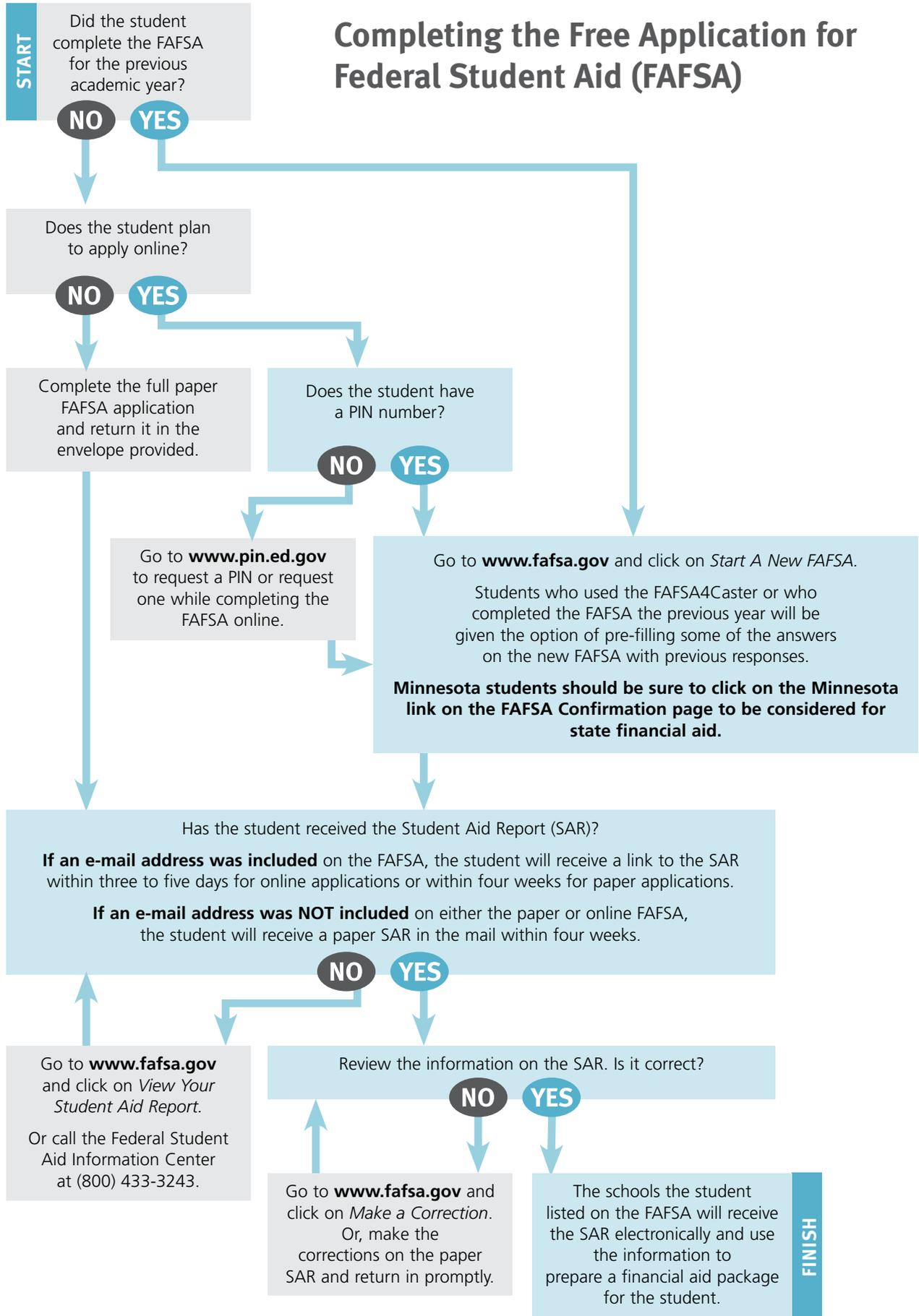
Your FAFSA will be analyzed and an electronic report will be sent to the schools you designate. This report will confirm the information you provided on the FAFSA and contains your expected family contribution (EFC). If you estimate your federal income taxes on the FAFSA, many schools will hold off awarding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

### Tips on Completing the FAFSA

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

Check the status of your FAFSA at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov) by clicking on the FAFSA follow-up. There is also an online chat function to answer any questions students or parents might have.

# 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 2015-2016 school year if you are 24 or older as of December 31, 2015. If you are under 24, you will be considered an independent student if you are any one of the following:

- a graduate or professional student
- married
- a student with legal dependents including children 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 date of application (or 18th birthday if a Minnesota resident)
- determined to be an unaccompanied homeless youth

**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.

### Citizenship Requirements

Most federal financial aid programs are not available to undocumented students. However, certain undocumented students in Minnesota may qualify for state financial aid. In addition, students who are U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens but whose parents are undocumented may apply for state and federal student aid. See page 34 for more information about undocumented students and financial aid.

### 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 24).

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 must be sure to have an electronic version of the FAFSA results sent to the new institution by logging into **www.fafsa.gov** and adding the school code of the new school as a FAFSA correction. Students with a Direct, 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, significant medical expenses, 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 will 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 Your Education: The Guide to Federal Student Aid**

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**.

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 forms of aid include community 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 2014-2015, Pell Grants range from \$602 to \$5,730 per year. 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 \$60,000 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, or receive a grant for the equivalent of 12 full-time semesters, whichever comes first, 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 18-25 and not currently on active duty in the armed forces.
  - maintain satisfactory academic progress. If you are receiving federal student aid, 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. You must also be successfully completing enough courses each term to graduate in a timely manner.
  - 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 a Permanent Resident 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 2015-2016 school year after January 1, 2015 and until June 30, 2016 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 a state-funded need-based program. During the 2012-2013 academic year, about 99,440 Minnesota residents received grants totaling about \$161 million. The average State Grant award for a full-time student for one year is about \$1,623.

**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 135 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 institutions include state universities, the University of Minnesota, public community and technical colleges, 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 most state financial aid programs, a student must meet ONE of the following criteria:

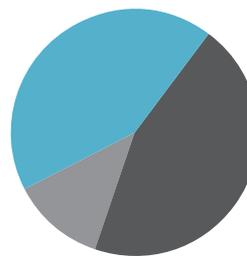
- graduated from a Minnesota high school while residing in Minnesota and is physically attending a Minnesota college (if temporarily residing in another state)
- received a GED in Minnesota after living in the state for at least one year
- lived in Minnesota for at least one year for other than educational 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
- meet the requirements under the MN Dream Act (see page 34)

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.

**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 2014-2015 school year after January 1, 2014. You must apply each year to renew the grant.



**Combined Pell & State Grants Received by State Grant Recipients by Income, Fiscal Year 2013**

- 46% incomes below \$20,000
- 45% incomes between \$20,000 and \$60,000
- 9% incomes over \$60,000

You are eligible to receive a State Grant until you have attended college for the equivalent of eight full-time semesters (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 or who have withdrawn due to a major medical illness.

**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 50 percent of their cost of attendance from savings, earnings, loans or other financial aid using the school or private sources.

The price of attendance comprises:

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

**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.

## How It Works

**Example:** *A dependent student attending a Minnesota state university for 15 credits each semester in 2014-2015 with a family income of \$25,000*

### State University (\$0 Expected Family Contribution)

#### Price of Attendance:

Actual Tuition & Fees.....	\$7,800
Living & Misc. Allowance.....	\$8,490
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$16,290</b>

#### Source of Funds:

Student Responsibility.....	\$8,145
Pell Grant .....	\$5,730
State Grant.....	\$2,415
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$16,290</b>

In this example, the student would be eligible for federal and state grants totaling \$8,145.

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 Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG)

The Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant Program makes awards 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 13).

**Application Process:** The financial aid office at your school 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 \$2,800 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 16), including undocumented students who qualify under the MN Dream Act (see page 34)
- 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 been enrolled for the equivalent of eight full-time semesters or 12 full-time quarters (an additional term of eligibility is available for students who have withdrawn from school for active military service after January 1, 2013 or for a major medical illness)
- 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
- 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 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 this 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.ohe.state.mn.us/estimator](http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/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 and scholarships for dependent undergraduates enrolled for 15 credits per term or the equivalent. You may be eligible for more or less need-based assistance based on your enrollment level, academic achievement, family size, number of students in college, eligible assets and other factors. This chart in no way guarantees the grant amounts shown. Grant results are based on the dependent student's expected family contribution for the 2014-2015 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	4-Year Private Career Schools
<b>Estimated Average Annual Tuition and Fees<sup>1</sup></b>	\$5,370	\$7,683	\$13,626	\$34,000	\$14,000
<b>Average Institutional Grant/Scholarship<sup>2</sup> (for first-time, full-time students)</b>	\$970	\$2,016	\$4,450	\$15,354	\$2,417
<b>Percent of First-Time, Full-Time Freshmen Receiving Institutional Grant/Scholarship</b>	5%	28%	57%	93%	46%

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

<b>Pell Grant</b>	\$5,730	\$5,730	\$5,730	\$5,730	\$5,730
<b>State Grant</b>	\$1,200	\$2,356	\$5,015	\$5,015	\$1,419

### Family Income \$40,000 (\$635 Expected Family Contribution)

<b>Pell Grant</b>	\$5,080	\$5,080	\$5,080	\$5,080	\$5,080
<b>State Grant</b>	\$1,240	\$2,396	\$5,055	\$5,055	\$1,459

### Family Income \$60,000<sup>3</sup> (\$3,942 Expected Family Contribution)

<b>Pell Grant</b>	\$5,080	\$1,780	\$1,780	\$1,780	\$1,780
<b>State Grant</b>	\$1,366	\$2,522	\$5,181	\$5,181	\$1,585

### Family Income \$80,000<sup>3</sup> (\$8,809 Expected Family Contribution)

<b>Pell Grant</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>State Grant</b>	\$0	\$0	\$2,288	\$2,288	\$0

<sup>1</sup> Tuition and fees represent the estimated average reported tuition and fees for a student taking 30 semester or 45 quarter credits during the 2014-2015 academic year.

<sup>2</sup> Institutional grants and scholarships are based on the average amount of institutional funds awarded to students for the 2011-2012 academic year from the U.S. Department of Education IPEDS Student Financial Aid Survey. Dollar amounts and percentages are based on weighted averages.

<sup>3</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. Some colleges require students to complete the CSS Profile, which is an in-depth assessment of financial need.

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!

For a partial list of institutional scholarships in Minnesota, visit [www.ohe.state.mn.us/mnscholarships](http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/mnscholarships).

## 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. Or you can find out which colleges participate by going to <https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/dvs/Pages/dvs-content-detail.aspx?pageID=617>, then click on "frequently asked questions" toward the bottom of the page.

## 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, race or ethnicity, 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, churches or Rotary Clubs
- check with your high school counselor
- review reference books in your high school guidance office, the library or career center
- search online using one of the free scholarship search sites listed below. Creating a profile on some of the scholarship search sites may result in a significant amount of emails, so you may wish to create a separate email address for yourself for this purpose

## Scholarship Resources

### *Scholarship Handbook, 2015*

This guide helps students identify federal, state and private scholarships. More than 2,100 programs are surveyed annually. It can be purchased for \$31.99 at [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org).

## Scholarship Searches

### 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.ohe.state.mn.us/mnscholarships](http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/mnscholarships)

### Scholarship Experts

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

### Scholarships.com

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

## Beware of Financial Aid Search Companies

Some financial aid search companies offer to match students with financial aid for a fee. Be cautious in using these services. There are no guarantees the company will find any sources of financial aid that you can't find yourself.

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

- Does the company maintain its own scholarship database? Or does it use the databases of others?
- Do the sources 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?
- Are there application fees for the sources provided?
- 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, if aid sources no longer exist or fail to reply to the student?

### Proceed with Caution

Proceed with caution if you are considering working with a company that:

- requests personal information (bank account, credit card, or social security numbers)
- 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

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

### Where to File Complaints

#### Federal Trade Commission

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

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

#### Minnesota Better Business Bureau

Tel: (651) 699-1111 or (800) 646-6222

Web: [www.bbb.org/minnesota](http://www.bbb.org/minnesota)

#### 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](http://www.naag.org)

#### If you replied by mail, contact:

Criminal Investigations Service Center

Attn: Mail Fraud

433 Harrison Street, Room 3255

Chicago, IL 60699-3255

Tel: (877) 876-2455

Web: <https://postalinspectors.uspis.gov>

## Loans

Loan programs are available for both students and parents from the federal and Minnesota state government.

### 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.
- whether payments can be deferred if you re-enter college or experience financial difficulties.

Plan your loans carefully. Ask for information about interest rates and fees, repayment terms and options and other obligations.

### Federal Student Loans

The federal government makes Direct, Perkins and PLUS loans directly available to students through schools across the country. No banks or guarantee agencies are involved. The U.S. Department of Education is the lender.

### Federal Subsidized Direct Loans

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

The chart below illustrates how much you may be eligible to borrow. Loan amounts are higher for independent (self-supporting) students. Federal student loan interest rates for new loans from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 are 4.66% for undergraduates. The interest rates are the same for federal Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans. For graduate students, the comparable interest rate is 6.21%. The interest rates are tied to the economy and change every year on July 1.

**Eligibility Requirements:** You must attend school at least half time, and your school must determine your financial need.

**Application Process:** Complete the FAFSA. You will then need to sign a **promissory note** (an agreement to repay your loan) acknowledging the terms. After you sign the promissory note, your loan will be sent to your school. Most loans are disbursed in two or more payments, rather than a lump sum.

**Repayment:** The interest rates are constant for the life of the loan. Interest rates for new loans from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 are 4.66% for undergraduates.

For subsidized Direct 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 how much you have in student loans. If you pick the “pay as you earn” repayment plan the amount of your payment depends on your income. Under certain conditions you may postpone payments for up to three years. Ask your financial aid administrator or read your promissory note to learn about deferring payment.

### Maximum Annual Federal Direct 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	\$20,500*	\$0*	\$138,500** (no more than \$65,500 can be in subsidized loans)
*Subsidized loans are not available for graduate and professional students.			
**The aggregate limit for graduate and professional students enrolled in certain approved health professional programs is \$224,000.			

Once a Direct Loan is made, it is managed and collected by the U.S. Department of Education's Direct Loan Servicing Center. For more information, call (800) 848-0979 or visit [www.myedaccount.com](http://www.myedaccount.com).

Direct Loans offer seven repayment plans, four of the repayment plans allow some borrowers: to repay their loans based on "income-based", "income-contingent", "income-sensitive", or "pay as you earn" plans and consider your financial situation when determining the monthly payment. The repayment plans include:

- *Standard Repayment Plan*: a fixed amount is paid each month, at least \$50, for up to 10 years
- *Extended Repayment Plan*: extends repayment over a period of up to 25 years depending on your loan amount
- *Graduated Repayment Plan*: payments are lower at beginning of the repayment period and continue to increase for up to 10 years
- *Income-Based Repayment Plan*: bases payment on total federal loan payments as a percentage of income, for up to 25 years, remaining balances can be forgiven after 25 years
- *Income-Contingent Repayment Plan*: bases payment on income, loan balances and family size, payments adjusted annually, for up to 25 years, remaining balances can be forgiven after 25 years
- *Income-Sensitive Repayment Plan*: bases payment on annual income, for up to 10 years
- *Pay As You Earn Repayment Plan*: bases payment on annual income, for up to 20 years, remaining balances can be forgiven after 20 years

Loans are subject to a 1.075 percent fee which is deducted from the first amount you receive from the loan.

## Federal Unsubsidized Direct Loans

The *unsubsidized* Direct Loan is available to all students.

Borrowers are charged interest on the loan while in school. 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.

## Direct Loan Comparison

### Subsidized Direct Loan

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

### Unsubsidized Direct Loan

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

**Application Process:** Complete the FAFSA. You will then need to sign a promissory note acknowledging the borrower's responsibilities and repayment terms.

**Repayment:** Interest rates for new loans from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 are 4.66% for undergraduates. The amount of your payment depends on the size of your debt. Under certain conditions you may defer (postpone) payments for up to three years. Ask your financial aid administrator or read your promissory note to learn about deferring payment.

Once a Direct Loan is made, it is managed and collected by the U.S. Department of Education's Direct Loan Servicing Center. For more information, call (800) 848-0979 or visit [www.myedaccount.com](http://www.myedaccount.com).

## Federal PLUS Loans

Loans to parents of dependent undergraduate students and students in graduate and professional programs are available directly through schools participating in the Federal Direct Loan Program. Interest rates for new loans from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 are 7.21%

## 10-Year Direct Loan Monthly Repayment

Total Balance	6.8%*
\$ 5,500	\$ 61
\$ 7,500	\$ 83
\$15,000	\$ 167
\$30,000	\$ 333
\$50,000	\$ 555

\*As of the printing of this publication, Congressional action may change the rates.

**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 lifetime borrowing amounts. Borrowers must be U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens (see page 13).

**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 fee of 4.288 percent of the loan amount is deducted from each disbursement. For more information on PLUS Loans, visit [www.studentaid.ed.gov/types/loans/plus](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov/types/loans/plus).

**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. Standard Graduated and Extended Repayment Plans are available.

### 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 \$5,500 per year and \$27,500 in total. Students in graduate and professional programs may borrow up to \$8,000 per year and \$60,000 in total, including any Perkins Loans borrowed as an undergraduate.

**Eligibility Requirements:** You must be an undergraduate or graduate student at a participating school. For undergraduate students, priority is given to Federal Pell Grant recipients. You must be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen (see page 13).

**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, leave school, or drop below half-time status. 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.

Students are able to select either a fixed- or variable-rate SELF Loan. The fixed rate is 6.9 percent, and the variable rate is 3.2 percent as of July 2014. There are no guarantee or origination fees with the SELF Loan.

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

The loan limit for students enrolled in bachelor's degree, post-baccalaureate or graduate programs at participating schools is \$10,000 per year. Students enrolled in all other programs are eligible for up to \$7,500 per year.

**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 or territory
- 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:* up to one year of interest only
- *Extended Interest Plan:* up to three years of interest only for three years

Loans must enter repayment no later than nine years after the first disbursement. The repayment term is 10 to 20 years depending on the loan balance.

## Private or Alternative Loans

Private or Alternative loans are available from private lenders, such as banks, savings and loan associations or credit unions. Depending on the credit strength of the borrower/cosigner, these loans may cost more than federal loans, or the SELF Loan. For more information and assistance, contact the private lenders directly or the financial aid administrator at the school you attend or plan to attend.

## 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.

**Fee:** An amount of funds deducted from the proceeds of student and parent loans to compensate student lenders, including the U.S. Department of Education, for the cost of processing and lending loan funds.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**Servicer:** A loan servicer sends borrowers bills for payment, collects payment for the lender and maintains the borrower's loan accounts. Lenders pay servicers to provide this function. The SELF Loan program contracts with Firstmark for this service.

## Loan Repayment

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.

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 6.0 percent interest rate, and a minimum of 120 monthly (or 10 years) of payments.

### Pay As You Earn

The Pay As You Earn Repayment Plan for Federal Direct loans bases payments on your income and family size. It is designed to make repaying Federal Direct loans easier for those who have jobs with lower salaries. Monthly payments are capped at a percentage of the borrower's discretionary income, which is based on the borrower's income and family size, not the total amount borrowed. The monthly payment amount is adjusted annually, based on changes in annual income and family size. Under Pay As You Earn, your monthly payment amount will be 10 percent of your discretionary income, will never be more than the amount you would be required to pay under the 10-year Standard Repayment Plan, and may be less than under other repayment plans. If you repay under Pay As You Earn and meet certain other requirements, any remaining balance will be forgiven after 20 years of qualifying repayment. To be eligible for Pay As You Earn, you must have new federal loans you received on or after October 1, 2011. Borrowers with federal loans from before October 2011 may qualify for a similar program called Income-Based Repayment.

### Public Service Loan Forgiveness

Borrowers may qualify for forgiveness of the unpaid balance on federal Direct Consolidation loans after they have made payments on those loans for 10 years. The payments that qualify are payments made on or after October 1, 2007, so the first loans forgiven under this program will occur in October 2017. In general, only borrowers who are making reduced monthly payments through the federal Pay As You Earn, Income-Based Repayment, or Income-Contingent plans will have a remaining balance after making 10 years of payments on a loan. Borrowers who work in government and most non-profit jobs are eligible, including public school teachers, and state and local government employees.

More information is available from the federal government at [www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov).

### Loan Consolidation

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

The Federal Direct Loan Program offers consolidation loans. Most federal student loans or PLUS loans can be consolidated under a Federal Consolidation Loan. The interest rate is a fixed rate and is based on the weighted average of the consolidated loans, not to exceed 8.25 percent.

#### Loan Repayment Chart at 6.8% Interest

Amount Borrowed	Monthly Payment (10 years)	Estimated Income Level Needed
\$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.

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 institution loans also cannot be included in a Federal Consolidation Loan. Federal student loans can be consolidated only once.

Other loan consolidation programs for private alternative and institution loans may be available from participating private lenders such as banks, credit unions and savings and loan associations. Some consolidation plans allow you to base your repayment on your income.

For information on federal student loan consolidation, visit [www.loanconsolidation.ed.gov](http://www.loanconsolidation.ed.gov) or contact the U.S. Department of Education at (800) 557-7392.

### Advantages of Consolidation

Consolidation loans allow borrowers to 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 federal loan consolidation.

### Disadvantages of Consolidation

Consolidation loans do not have a grace period, and payments begin shortly after the consolidation is finalized. You will also 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.
- You may be able to rehabilitate a defaulted loan and reduce the impact of the default on your credit score. Contact your loan servicer or [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov). You and your loan servicer agree on an amount and you make those payments monthly for a year. After paying for that year and continuing to pay, the loan default may be removed from your credit report.

### Complaints

If you are having problems working with your federal loan servicer, please contact the Federal Student Aid Ombudsman group at:

Postal Mail	U.S. Department of Education FSA Ombudsman Group 830 First Street, N.E., Mail Stop 5144 Washington, DC 20202-5144
Phone	1-877-557-2575
Fax	1-202-275-0549
Online	<a href="https://studentaid.ed.gov/repay-loans/disputes/prepare/contact-ombudsman">https://studentaid.ed.gov/repay-loans/disputes/prepare/contact-ombudsman</a>

If you are having problems working with your bank or credit union that services your private loan, please contact Consumer Financial Protection Bureau at:

Postal Mail	Consumer Financial Protection Bureau P.O. Box 4503 Iowa City, Iowa 52244
Phone	1-855-411-2372
Fax	1-855-237-2392
Online	<a href="http://www.consumerfinance.gov/complaint/#student-loan">http://www.consumerfinance.gov/complaint/#student-loan</a>

## 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 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.

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

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.

**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 13)
- be enrolled in a program leading to a degree, certificate or diploma
- be registered with the 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 16) and attend a participating Minnesota school (see page 15)
- be enrolled for at least six credit hours per term in a program leading to a degree, certificate or diploma (students are allowed to work during a period of enrollment less than six credits once per year)
- be making satisfactory academic progress

**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, or an eligible non-citizen (see page 13).

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

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

## 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 students who have served or are serving in the armed forces.

You may be able to use these education benefit programs for college, technical or vocational courses, correspondence courses, online courses, apprenticeships, on-the-job training, flight training licensing and certification tests, entrepreneurship training and certain entrance examinations. For more information regarding veterans education benefits, visit [www.mymilitaryeducation.org](http://www.mymilitaryeducation.org). Please note that not all programs can be used for all types of training.

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

The Post-9/11 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 after September 11, 2001 with a service-connected 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 contact a Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Coordinator on the campus you choose to attend. Visit [www.mymilitaryeducation.org](http://www.mymilitaryeducation.org) to find a local Campus Coordinator.

### 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 \$13,000, plus health care coverage, child care (if eligible)	\$5,550
Part time	300 to 900	about \$6,500 (pro-rated based on number of hours)	\$2,775 (pro-rated based on number of hours)

### Federal - Montgomery GI Bill - 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 the program, served two or more years of active duty, were honorably discharged, and you have a high school diploma or GED.

To learn more contact your institution's financial aid office or the Office of Higher Education at (651) 642-0567.

### Federal - Montgomery GI Bill - Selected Reserve

The Montgomery GI Bill - Selected Reserve program may be available 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, the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard.

This benefit pays up to 36 months, and eligibility for the program normally ends on the day you leave the Selected Reserve. One exception to this rule exists if you are mobilized (or recalled to active duty from your reserve status). In this case, your eligibility may be extended for the amount of time you are mobilized plus four months. For example, if you are mobilized for 12 months, your eligibility is extended for 16 months (12 months of active duty plus four months). So even after you leave the reserves after mobilization, you may have additional eligibility for the MGIB-Selected Reserve.

**Application Process:** Visit [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov) for up-to-date information on these benefits, or contact a Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Coordinator on the campus you choose to attend. Visit [www.mymilitaryeducation.org](http://www.mymilitaryeducation.org) to find a local Campus Coordinator.

### Federal - Reserve Educational Assistance Program

The Reserve Educational Assistance Program 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 contact a Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Coordinator on the campus you choose to attend.

Visit [www.mymilitaryeducation.org](http://www.mymilitaryeducation.org) to find a local Campus Coordinator.

### Federal Tuition Assistance Program

Army National Guard and Reservists may be eligible for this program while pursuing any degree up through a master's degree. Service members should check with their unit or a Higher Education Veterans Program coordinator for eligibility and application information. 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. Generally, you must submit the application before the term begins.

**Application Process:** Visit [www.goarmyed.com](http://www.goarmyed.com) or contact a Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Coordinator on the campus you choose to attend. Visit [www.mymilitaryeducation.org](http://www.mymilitaryeducation.org) to find a local Campus Coordinator.

### Minnesota GI Bill

The Minnesota GI Bill provides postsecondary financial assistance to eligible Minnesota veterans and service members and to the children and spouses of deceased or severely disabled eligible Minnesota veterans and service members. Full-time undergraduate or graduate students may be eligible to receive up to \$1,000 per semester and part-time students may receive up to \$500 per semester.

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

- veteran who is serving or has served honorably in any branch of the United States armed forces at any time, 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;
- spouse or dependent child of a person who has served in the military at any time, 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, the Minnesota Office of Higher Education at (651) 642-0567, visit [www.ohe.state.mn.us/military](http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/military) or contact a Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Coordinator on the campus you choose to attend. Visit [www.mymilitaryeducation.org](http://www.mymilitaryeducation.org) to find a local Campus Coordinator. You may be required to provide documentation to your institution.

## Minnesota Tuition Reimbursement for Air and Army National Guard

The Minnesota Tuition Reimbursement 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-of-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 of Military Affairs  
Veterans Service Building, 1st Floor East Wing  
20 12th Street West  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
Tel: (651) 282-4589  
E-mail: [ngmneducation@ng.army.mil](mailto:ngmneducation@ng.army.mil)  
Web: [www.minnesotanationalguard.org/education](http://www.minnesotanationalguard.org/education)

## 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 exhausted, through use, all federal education 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 of Veterans Affairs (see box below), or contact a Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Coordinator on the campus you choose to attend. Visit [www.mymilitaryeducation.org](http://www.mymilitaryeducation.org) to find a local Campus Coordinator.

### Military Education Benefits Information

#### Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Linkage Line: 1-888-546-5838  
[www.minnesotaveteran.org](http://www.minnesotaveteran.org)

#### Higher Education Veterans Program

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

#### National Guard Federal Tuition Assistance

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

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

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

#### Minnesota Office of Higher Education

[www.ohe.state.mn.us/military](http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/military)

## 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.

### 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 pages 30-31.

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 veterans service officer. A list of county veterans service officers is available at [www.macvso.org/directory.aspx](http://www.macvso.org/directory.aspx) or [www.mdva.state.mn.us/dvadir directory.pdf](http://www.mdva.state.mn.us/dvadir directory.pdf). You may also call the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs at (651) 296-2562 or visit [www.mdva.state.mn.us](http://www.mdva.state.mn.us).

### Minnesota Surviving Spouse/Dependent Education Benefits

An eligible spouse or child of a deceased veteran who died as a result of the person's military service and who was a resident of Minnesota may be eligible to receive up to \$750 per year from the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs. Eligible spouses and dependents may also qualify for admission to Minnesota public colleges and universities free of tuition until they complete a bachelor's degree or equivalent.

**Eligibility requirements:** To qualify, the student must be the surviving spouse or dependent of a deceased veteran who died as a result of their military service and was a Minnesota resident when entering the U.S. Armed Forces or who was a resident for at least six months prior to passing away due to a service-connected disability. The student must be a Minnesota resident for state financial aid purposes and meet satisfactory academic progress requirements at their college or university.

**Application process:** Contact the county Veterans Service Office in the county in which you live or the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs at:

20 West 12th Street, 2nd Floor Veterans Svcs Bldg  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
Tel: (651) 296-2562  
Web: [www.mdva.state.mn.us](http://www.mdva.state.mn.us)

### Scholarships for Students of Color

There are several private scholarship programs for students of color. Several of them are listed in the Minnesota Office of Higher Education's 'Useful Higher Education Website List' at: [www.ohe.state.mn.us/pdf/WebSiteList.pdf](http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/pdf/WebSiteList.pdf)

### Orphaned or Foster 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 are considered independent students and are not required to submit financial information about their parents on the FAFSA.

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 college for more details.

### Education and Training Vouchers or 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 current and former foster care youth 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
- are or were under state guardianship on your 18th birthday

**Application Process:** Applications are available at [mn.gov/dhs/](http://mn.gov/dhs/). Click on People We Serve, then Children and Families, then Services, then Adolescent services, then Education/training vouchers. The application deadline is July 1 of each year for students starting school in the fall semester and January 1 for students starting in the spring. Students may still apply after deadline, but are not granted an award.

To apply for an initial voucher, you must attach a copy of your financial aid award, FAFSA, postsecondary school acceptance letter and most recent transcripts. Students may reapply for education/training vouchers every year until age 23 if they are participating in the education/training voucher program and making 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.

## American Indian Students

American Indian 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 time or graduate students enrolled at least half time. Eligibility and award amount is based on need up to \$4,000 per year for undergraduate students and up to \$6,000 per year for graduate students.

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

- one-fourth or more American Indian
- a Minnesota resident for state financial aid purposes
- enrolled in an accredited college, university or vocational school in Minnesota
- undergraduates must qualify for a Pell or State Grant, graduate students must demonstrate need

**Application Process:** Students should complete the FAFSA and complete an application at [www.ohe.state.mn.us/indianscholarship](http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/indianscholarship).

The priority deadline for complete applications is July 1. Information and application forms also 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)

## 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/equitydiversity/financial/aitw](http://www.morris.umn.edu/equitydiversity/financial/aitw). Students with questions should call (800) 992-8863 or mail [morrisfa@morris.umn.edu](mailto:morrisfa@morris.umn.edu).

## 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 ten 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

Surviving spouses of all ages and dependents under age 23 are also eligible to use awards for graduate study.

## WHAT TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID ARE AVAILABLE?

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Those who have been enrolled full time for the equivalent of ten semesters are no longer eligible. An additional term of eligibility is available for students who have withdrawn from active military service or experience a major medical illness.

**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)

### Resources for Undocumented Students

In May 2013, the MN Dream Act (also known as the Prosperity Act) was signed into law. Undocumented students meeting the criteria in the MN Dream Act are now eligible for in-state tuition rates, privately funded financial aid administered by Minnesota public colleges and universities and can apply for state financial aid. Minnesota students granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) may also be eligible for these benefits. You can learn more about the MN Dream Act and how to apply for these benefits at [www.ohe.state.mn.us/MnDreamAct](http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/MnDreamAct).

### Federal Grants

To apply for a federal grant, you must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which requires the student's social security number. To qualify for a federal grant, 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 a 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, a parolee, a Cuban-Haitian entrant, a victim of human trafficking or a holder of T-Visa.

If you are a citizen or eligible non-citizen, you can qualify for federal grants even if your parents are undocumented. When you complete the FAFSA, you can enter all zeros for your parents' social security numbers.

### State Grants

You are eligible to apply for a MN State Grant and other state financial aid programs if you were granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status prior to establishing state residency or if you meet all the requirements for the MN Dream Act:

- Attended a Minnesota high school for at least 3 years;
- Graduated from a Minnesota high school or earned your GED in Minnesota;
- Registered for the Selective Service (if male age 18-25);
- Apply for legal immigrations status once a federal process for doing so becomes available (not required since federal process does not currently exist)

The application for state financial aid will be accessible at: [www.ohe.state.mn.us/MNDreamAct](http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/MNDreamAct). Otherwise, students must be U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens to apply for a MN State Grant using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

### Scholarships

Some colleges and universities may have scholarships available to students regardless of immigration status. It's important to check with the campus that interests you to learn more about possible. Many financial aid counselors are aware of and sensitive to your situation and will try to assist you as best they can. Several private organizations maintain online lists of scholarships. You can find out more about these scholarships at: [www.ohe.state.mn.us/MNDreamAct](http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/MNDreamAct).

### Tuition Policies

Students meeting MN Dream Act criteria are eligible for in-state tuition rates at Minnesota public colleges and universities. Minnesota students granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) may also be eligible for in-state tuition rates. Your college or university may ask you to submit documentation showing you meet these requirements.

Even if you do not qualify for the MN Dream Act, most public colleges and universities in Minnesota offer in-state tuition to all of their students, regardless of immigration status or state of residence.

### Student Loans

Federal student loans, such as the Direct Loan program, are not available to undocumented students. Minnesota offers a loan program called the SELF Loan Program, which is available to students regardless of immigration status. A separate application is used to apply for the SELF Loan, available through the college's financial aid office. A qualified borrower who is an undocumented student must have a credit-worthy cosigner who is a U.S. citizen or permanent resident. For more information on the SELF Loan Program, visit [www.selfloan.state.mn.us](http://www.selfloan.state.mn.us).

## Adult Students

Increasingly, adult students are returning to postsecondary education to gain a new skill, prepare for a different career or finish a degree they started years earlier. There is no age limit for federal and state financial aid, but some aid programs are limited to undergraduate students.

### 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).

**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 [positivelyminnesota.com/dw](http://positivelyminnesota.com/dw) to find the center nearest you.

## Financial 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 <http://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 on September 1, 2013 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)

### T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® MINNESOTA

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® MINNESOTA is a scholarship program for students working in the early childhood and school-age care field.

**Eligibility Requirements:** T.E.A.C.H. MINNESOTA provides higher education scholarships for child care professionals taking classes towards an associate's or bachelor's degree in early childhood education, early childhood special education, or child development. T.E.A.C.H. MINNESOTA also supports full-time students through its Judy Lindman Memorial Scholars award, which is a forgivable loan award paying up to \$6,000 per year for a maximum of two years. For more information about the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® MINNESOTA program, including eligibility requirements and a list of qualifying schools, visit <http://mnchildcare.org/TEACH/index.php>.

**Application Process:** Contact Shelly Hendricks at [shellyh@childcareawaremn.org](mailto:shellyh@childcareawaremn.org) or (651) 290-9704 ext.106 with questions.

### 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 a high-demand field at 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 13)
- 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 Unsubsidized Direct Loan. Students must then repay this loan to the U.S. Department of Education and will be charged interest from the dates of the 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/types/grants-scholarships/teach](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov/types/grants-scholarships/teach).

## Reciprocity & Reduced Tuition Programs

*For up-to-date information on tuition reciprocity, visit [www.ohe.state.mn.us/reciprocity](http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/reciprocity).*

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 Illinois, 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. 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 Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota and South Dakota tuition reciprocity students who earned postsecondary credits in the previous 12 months.

**Tuition reciprocity applications** for Minnesota residents (including undocumented students qualifying under the MN Dream Act) 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.ohe.state.mn.us/reciprocity](http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/reciprocity)

Applications become available around March 1 for the following fall. Most students apply online. Undocumented students qualifying under the MN Dream Act must complete a paper application if they do not have a social security number.

## 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 (including undocumented students qualifying under the MN Dream Act) 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. For example, 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 always 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.

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*** (including undocumented students qualifying under the MN Dream Act) who enroll in University of Wisconsin institutions must apply for tuition reciprocity through the Minnesota Office of Higher Education (see page 36). 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@wisconsin.gov  
Web: [www.heab.state.wi.us](http://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*** (including undocumented students qualifying under the MN Dream Act) undergraduate or graduate students enrolled at North Dakota colleges and universities pay tuition equal to the North Dakota resident rate plus a surcharge ranging from 12 percent at the undergraduate level to 15 percent at the graduate level.

**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 36).

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

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

North Dakota University System  
Tel: (701) 224-2541  
E-mail: [ndus.office@ndus.edu](mailto:ndus.office@ndus.edu)  
Web: [www.ndus.edu](http://www.ndus.edu) (Click on *Students* and then *Student Exchange/Reciprocity Programs*.)

### 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** (including undocumented students qualifying under the MN Dream Act) 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** (including undocumented students qualifying under the MN Dream Act) attending a South Dakota public college or university do not have to apply for reciprocity. Their eligibility for reciprocity is 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 University of Minnesota campuses 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](mailto:joella.anderson@sdstate.edu)  
Web: [www.sdbor.edu/students/redtuit\\_mnres.htm](http://www.sdbor.edu/students/redtuit_mnres.htm)

### 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 (including undocumented students qualifying under the MN Dream Act) 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 (including undocumented students qualifying under the MN Dream Act) may enroll in selected programs at a limited number of public and private postsecondary institutions in Illinois, 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. Residents of Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri and Nebraska, are eligible for reduced tuition to 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:

Midwestern Higher Education Compact  
Tel: (612) 677-2777  
Web: [www.mhec.org](http://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/Hope Tax Credit

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, head of household or qualifying widow(er), 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 for 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.

**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. You must reduce the qualified expenses by the amount of any tax-free educational assistance you received.

**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.

### 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, head of household or qualifying widow(er), tax filers may claim a Lifetime Learning Tax Credit if their modified adjusted gross income is below \$62,000. 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 \$52,000 and \$62,000 for single tax filers, and between \$104,000 and \$124,000 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 (\$125,000 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 \$155,000.

**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. You cannot claim this deduction 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.

**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 do not qualify for other higher education tax benefits.

**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. You cannot claim this deduction 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.

**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 Tax 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 Tax 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.

***The following information is not and should not be considered tax or investment advice. Links to further information and/or phone contact information follows each of the options presented. Some of the benefits of the options listed impact the available benefits of other options including education tax credits. Therefore, OHE strongly encourages you to direct specific questions about your own financial situation to a tax or investment professional.***

## Minnesota College Savings Plan

The Minnesota College Savings Plan is one of many college savings plans offered throughout the country. The plan is a 529 Qualified Tuition Program; “529” refers to the section of the Internal Revenue code governing college savings plans. Account owners have 11 different investment options to choose from which vary in risk from conservative to aggressive including one which adjusts automatically to be more conservative as the child approaches age 18. Earnings accumulate tax-free, and are exempt from federal and state income taxes if used for qualified higher education expenses. Qualified educational expenses include not only tuition and fees but if the student is enrolled at least half-time may also include room and board (meal) expenses.

### Further Information

For additional information or to open an account, visit [www.mnsaves.org](http://www.mnsaves.org) or call (877) 338-4646. More information about education tax benefits may also be found in Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Publication 970 which can be found at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

## 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 educational expenses include not only tuition and fees, but if the student is enrolled at least half-time may also include room and board (meal) expenses.

There are income limits and other restrictions, which must be met before an account is established.

### Further Information

More information about Coverdell Accounts as well as other education tax benefits may be found in Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Publication 970, which can be found at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

## 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.

A qualified U.S. savings bond is a series EE bond issued after January 1, 1990 or a series I bond. There are income limits and tax filing status limitations, which impact the benefits. Qualified expenses do not include room and board (meal) expenses.

### Further Information

More information about education savings bonds, as well as other education tax benefits may be found in Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Publication 970, which can be found at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). Also, visit [www.savingsbonds.gov](http://www.savingsbonds.gov), click on EE/E Savings Bonds under the heading “Individuals”.

## 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 educational expenses include not only tuition and fees, but if the student is enrolled at least half-time may also include room and board (meal) expenses.

### Further Information

More information about withdrawals from IRAs as well as other education tax benefits may be found in Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Publication 970, which can be found at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

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

## Does Saving for College Hurt Your Child's 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. 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.

**Table C5: Asset Protection Allowance**

Age of student as of 12/31/2014*	Allowance for Married Student	Allowance for Unmarried Student	Age of student as of 12/31/2014*	Allowance for Married Student	Allowance for Unmarried Student
25 or less	\$0	\$0	45	\$30,700	\$7,100
26	\$1,800	\$400	46	\$31,500	\$7,200
27	\$3,600	\$800	47	\$32,200	\$7,400
28	\$5,500	\$1,300	48	\$33,000	\$7,600
29	\$7,300	\$1,700	49	\$33,800	\$7,800
30	\$9,100	\$2,100	50	\$34,600	\$8,000
31	\$10,900	\$2,500	51	\$35,700	\$8,100
32	\$12,700	\$2,900	52	\$36,500	\$8,300
33	\$14,600	\$3,400	53	\$37,600	\$8,500
34	\$16,400	\$3,800	54	\$38,500	\$8,700
35	\$18,200	\$4,200	55	\$39,700	\$9,000
36	\$20,000	\$4,600	56	\$40,600	\$9,200
37	\$21,800	\$5,000	57	\$41,800	\$9,400
38	\$23,700	\$5,500	58	\$43,000	\$9,700
39	\$25,500	\$5,900	59	\$44,200	\$9,900
40	\$27,300	\$6,300	60	\$45,500	\$10,200
41	\$27,900	\$6,500	61	\$46,800	\$10,400
42	\$28,500	\$6,600	62	\$48,100	\$10,700
43	\$29,200	\$6,800	63	\$49,500	\$11,000
44	\$30,000	\$6,900	64	\$50,900	\$11,300
			65 or over	\$52,600	\$11,600

\*Determine the student's age as of 12/31/2014 from the student's date of birth (FAFSA/SAR #9).

# 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 may suggest the types of aid best suited to your needs and financial situation. Contact the financial aid office well before the start of the academic term, and be sure to consult the college's catalog for application deadlines.

Some of the federal, state and private student aid programs provide for 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.ohe.state.mn.us](http://www.ohe.state.mn.us)

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 when they attend college. Reasonable accommodation (assistive technology, auxiliary aids and services for effective communication) may be available at the postsecondary institution. Students should contact the disability services office at their college or university, and will need to disclose documented disabilities in order to qualify for accommodations.

### Vocational Rehabilitation Services

If you have a 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 Minnesota Vocational Rehabilitation Services.

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 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, consult the blue pages in your local phone book for the Rehabilitation Services Office nearest you, visit [www.positivelyminnesota.com/vrs](http://www.positivelyminnesota.com/vrs), 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.

### 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 website 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, vocational, personal and leisure materials into audio and braille for Minnesota students who cannot read standard print because of a qualifying visual, physical or learning disability.

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

#### Audio: Funding Your Education

The U.S. Department of Education has produced a guide, *Funding Your Education: 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.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov) for more information.

### Disability Resources

#### FAFSA in Braille

#### *Funding Your Education* (Audio Highlights)

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

Visit [www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.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

#### *2009-10 HEATH Financial Aid Information*

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 us through our email account:

HEATH Resource Center at the  
National Youth Transitions Center  
George Washington University  
2134 G Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20052  
E-mail: [askheath@gwu.edu](mailto:askheath@gwu.edu)

#### *College Students Who Have Chronic or Episodic Disabilities*

#### *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)  
107 Commerce Center Drive, Suite 204  
Huntersville, NC 28078  
Tel: (704) 947-7779 (voice and TTY)  
E-mail: [ahead@ahead.org](mailto:ahead@ahead.org)

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## Additional Sources of Information

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

### **The Scholarship Handbook 2014 - \$29.99** **Getting Financial Aid 2014 - \$22.99**

These can be purchased at bookstores, or directly from the publisher at [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org).

### **Funding Your Education: The Guide to Federal Student Aid 2013-2014**

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.studentaid.ed.gov/guide](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov/guide).

### **Peterson's How to Get Money for College: Financing Your Future Beyond High School 2013 - \$29.95**

This publication presents information on costs and financial aid opportunities at more than 2,400 colleges and universities throughout the United States. The guide can be purchased in bookstores, through online book retailers and at [www.petersonsbooks.com](http://www.petersonsbooks.com).

### **Peterson's Scholarships, Grants & Prizes 2013 - \$33.95**

This publication provides up-to-date information on millions of privately funded awards available to college students. This publication contains detailed profiles of awards, based on ethnic heritage, talent, employment experience, military service, and other categories, that are available from foundations, corporations, and religious and civic organizations. The guide can be purchased in bookstores, through online book retailers and at [www.petersonsbooks.com](http://www.petersonsbooks.com).

### **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 as a PDF online document. To learn more, visit [www.studentaid.ed.gov/repayingpub](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov/repayingpub).

## Summary of Financial Aid Programs

Program	Students Apply to	Amount
<b>Grants and Scholarships</b>		
<b>Minnesota State Grant</b>	Complete the FAFSA ( <a href="http://www.fafsa.gov">www.fafsa.gov</a> ) no later than 30th day of the term Undocumented students qualifying under the MN Dream Act should complete the MN State financial aid application ( <a href="http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/MNDreamAct">www.ohe.state.mn.us/MNDreamAct</a> )	Average state award is \$1,623
<b>Federal Pell Grant</b>	Complete the FAFSA ( <a href="http://www.fafsa.gov">www.fafsa.gov</a> )	\$602 to \$5,730 per year
<b>Federal Supplemental Opportunity Grant</b>	Complete the FAFSA ( <a href="http://www.fafsa.gov">www.fafsa.gov</a> )	Up to \$4,000 per year
<b>Minnesota Postsecondary Child Care Grant</b>	Contact the campus financial aid office after completing the FAFSA ( <a href="http://www.fafsa.gov">www.fafsa.gov</a> ) Undocumented students qualifying under the MN Dream Act should complete the MN State financial aid application ( <a href="http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/MNDreamAct">www.ohe.state.mn.us/MNDreamAct</a> )	Up to \$2,800 per child per academic year if enrolled full time
<b>Minnesota Indian Scholarship Program</b>	<a href="http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/indianscholarship">www.ohe.state.mn.us/indianscholarship</a>	Up to \$4,000 per year for undergraduate students and up to \$6,000 for graduate students
<b>Work-Study Programs</b>		
<b>Minnesota Work Study</b>	Contact the campus financial aid office after completing the FAFSA ( <a href="http://www.fafsa.gov">www.fafsa.gov</a> ) Undocumented students qualifying under the MN Dream Act should complete the MN State financial aid application ( <a href="http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/MNDreamAct">www.ohe.state.mn.us/MNDreamAct</a> )	Determined by institution
<b>Federal Work Study</b>	Contact the campus financial aid office after completing the FAFSA ( <a href="http://www.fafsa.gov">www.fafsa.gov</a> )	Determined by institution
<b>Loan Programs</b>		
<b>Federal Perkins Loan</b>	Complete the FAFSA ( <a href="http://www.fafsa.gov">www.fafsa.gov</a> )	Up to \$5,500 per year for undergraduates or \$8,000 per year for graduate students
<b>Federal Direct Student Loan</b>	Complete the FAFSA ( <a href="http://www.fafsa.gov">www.fafsa.gov</a> )	For dependent students there are up to \$5,500 per year for undergraduates, \$6,500 for second year undergrads, and \$7,500 for third and fourth year undergrads. Loan limits are higher for graduate, professional, and independent students.
<b>PLUS Loan</b>	Contact the campus financial aid office for a PLUS Loan application	Up to annual price of attendance less other aid received for each dependent child

Type of Award	Eligible Students
Based on financial need and price of attendance	Minnesota resident (includes undocumented students qualifying under the MN Dream Act) 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 attended less than four years of college, 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 and not in default on federal loans and have no drug conviction while receiving federal aid. Male students must be registered with the Selective Service.
Based on demonstrated financial need	Undergraduates enrolled at least half time. Must be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen. Male students must be registered with the Selective Service. Priority given to Pell Grant recipients.
Based on demonstrated financial need, family size and number of children	Minnesota residents (includes undocumented students qualifying under the MN Dream Act) 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.
Based on demonstrated financial need, cost of attendance, and the amount of other grants and scholarships student is receiving	MN resident students who are at least 1/4 American Indian ancestry and are enrolled in an accredited MN institution. Undergraduates must be eligible for the MN State Grant or Federal Pell Grant and enrolled at least 3/4 time. Graduate students must demonstrate financial need and be enrolled 1/2 time.
Part-time job based on financial need	Minnesota resident (includes undocumented students granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals and work authorization) enrolled for at least six credits per term. Includes undergraduates, graduates or vocational students. May work during one term of non-enrollment.
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. Male students must be registered with the 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 and cannot be in default or owe a refund on any Title IV Higher Education Act loan or grant. Male students must be registered with the Selective Service. Students must be enrolled in a participating school.
<p><b>Subsidized</b> loans based on need, government pays interest while student is in school, must be repaid</p> <p><b>Unsubsidized</b> loan available for students without financial need, borrowers pay interest while in school, must be repaid</p>	Any student enrolled at least half time in an eligible school in Minnesota or another state, undergraduate, graduate, professional and vocational students (not available for graduate students). Must be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen and cannot be in default or owe a refund on any Title IV Higher Education Act loan or grant. Male students must be registered with the Selective Service.
Fixed interest, long-term loans, must be repaid	Parents of dependent, undergraduate students and students in graduate and professional programs. Must be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen and not be in default or owe a refund on any Title IV Higher Education Act loan or grant. Male students must be registered with the Selective Service.

## Summary of Financial Aid Programs (continued)

Program	Students Apply to	Amount
<b>Loan Programs continued</b>		
<b>SELF Loan</b>	Minnesota Office of Higher Education	Up to \$10,000 per year for four-year degree and graduate programs; \$7,500 per year for shorter programs
<b>Out-of-State Tuition Reduction and Reciprocity</b>		
<b>Minnesota-Wisconsin</b>	Minnesota Office of Higher Education (visit : <a href="http://www.ohe.state.mn.us">www.ohe.state.mn.us</a> for online or paper application) or, if attending a Wisconsin technical college, apply directly to the college	
<b>Minnesota-South Dakota</b>	School of attendance in South Dakota	
<b>Minnesota-North Dakota</b>	Minnesota Office of Higher Education (visit : <a href="http://www.ohe.state.mn.us">www.ohe.state.mn.us</a> for online or paper application) or directly to the North Dakota college if graduated from a Minnesota high school within the past 12 months	
<b>Minnesota-Manitoba</b>	School of attendance in Manitoba	Varies with cost of institution
<b>Minnesota students attending in Illinois, 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
Variable- and fixed-interest, long-term loan options; must be repaid	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. Co-signer must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident and be credit-worthy.
Students pay the higher of the resident tuition rate at either the institution attended, or the average rate charged at comparable home-state institutions.	Nearly all Minnesota resident public college students (includes undocumented students qualifying under the MN Dream Act). Exceptions are students in the College of Medicine, Veterinary Medicine and Dentistry at the University of Wisconsin-Madison or Milwaukee.
Students pay the higher of the resident tuition and fee rate at either the institution attended, or the average rate charged at comparable home-state institutions.	Nearly all Minnesota residents (includes undocumented students qualifying under the MN Dream Act) attending public institutions in South Dakota.
Students pay the higher of the resident tuition rate at either the institution attended, or the average rate charged at comparable home-state institutions, with some slight price variations	Nearly all Minnesota residents (includes undocumented students qualifying under the MN Dream Act) 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 (includes undocumented students qualifying under the MN Dream Act) attending the Assiniboine Community College, Brandon University, Canadian Mennonite University, College Université de Saint-Boniface, Red River Community College, University of Manitoba, University of Winnipeg or Winnipeg Technical College.
Non-resident tuition discount at a limited number of institutions and programs. Visit <a href="http://www.mhec.org">www.mhec.org</a> to learn more about the Midwest Student Exchange Program.	Minnesota residents (includes undocumented students qualifying under the MN Dream Act) enrolling in certain participating institutions and programs in Illinois, 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 schools not listed here, visit [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov).

**Academy College #013505**

(952) 851-0066 or (800) 292-9149  
1600 West 82nd Street, Suite 100  
Bloomington, MN 55420  
[finaid@academycollege.edu](mailto:finaid@academycollege.edu)  
[www.academycollege.edu](http://www.academycollege.edu)

**Adler Graduate School #B08041**

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

**Alexandria Technical and Community College #005544**

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

**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 x146  
1845 East Franklin Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55404  
[amyk@aioic.org](mailto:amyk@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  
[financialaid@anokaramsey.edu](mailto:financialaid@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  
[financialaid@anokaramsey.edu](mailto:financialaid@anokaramsey.edu)  
[www.anokaramsey.edu](http://www.anokaramsey.edu)

**Anoka Technical College #007350**

(763) 576-7730  
1355 West Highway 10  
Anoka, MN 55303  
[finaid@anokatech.edu](mailto:finaid@anokatech.edu)  
[www.anokatech.edu](http://www.anokatech.edu)

**Anthem College #015988**

(952) 417-2200 or (800) 852-7272  
5100 Gamble Drive, Suite 200  
St. Louis Park, MN 55416  
[www.anthemcollege.edu](http://www.anthemcollege.edu)

**Argosy University #021799**

(651) 846-3539 or (888) 844-2004  
1515 Central Parkway  
Eagan, MN 55121  
[autwncfa@argosy.edu](mailto:autwncfa@argosy.edu)  
[www.argosy.edu](http://www.argosy.edu)

**The Art Institutes International Minnesota #010248**

(800) 777-3643  
15 South 9th Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
[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  
[studentfinances@augsborg.edu](mailto:studentfinances@augsborg.edu)  
[www.augsburg.edu](http://www.augsburg.edu)

**Avalon School of Cosmetology**

(507) 372-2344  
1428 North McMillan Street  
P.O. Box 1022  
Worthington, MN 56187  
[avalonschool@knology.net](mailto:avalonschool@knology.net)  
[www.avalonschoolofcosmetology.com](http://www.avalonschoolofcosmetology.com)

**Aveda Institute #014847**

(612) 378-7404 or (800) 274-6778  
400 Central Avenue Southeast  
Minneapolis, MN 55414  
[mmaki@aveda.com](mailto:mmaki@aveda.com)  
[www.aveda.edu/minneapolis/](http://www.aveda.edu/minneapolis/)

**Bemidji State University #002336**

(218) 755-2034 or (877) 755-3243  
1500 Birchmont Drive Northeast  
Bemidji, MN 56601  
[financialaid@bemidjistate.edu](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:finaid@bethel.edu)  
[www.bethel.edu/financial-aid](http://www.bethel.edu/financial-aid)

**Bethel University #002338**

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

**Brainco: Minneapolis School of Advertising Design and Interactive Studies**

(612) 822-1313  
2900 Aldrich Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55408  
[prentiss@brainco.com](mailto: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  
[fareps@browncollege.edu](mailto:fareps@browncollege.edu)  
[www.browncollege.edu](http://www.browncollege.edu)

**Capella University #032673**

(888) 227-3552  
225 South 6th Street, 9th Floor  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
[fa0@capella.edu](mailto:fa0@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](mailto:sfaonline@stritch.edu)  
[www.stritch.edu](http://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 #041488**

(952) 562-5200  
 5300 West 35th Street  
 Minneapolis, MN 55416  
 info@centerpointmn.com  
 www.centerpointmn.com

**Central Lakes College, Brainerd #002339**

(218) 855-8031 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  
 finaid@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  
 kschroeder@csbsju.edu  
 www.csbsju.edu

**College of Saint Scholastica #002343**

(218) 723-6570 or (877) 287-8716  
 1200 Kenwood Avenue  
 Duluth, MN 55811  
 onestop@css.edu  
 www.css.edu

**Concordia College #002346**

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

**Concordia University #002347**

(651) 603-6300 or (800) 333-4705  
 1282 Concordia Avenue  
 St. Paul, MN 55104  
 finaid@csp.edu  
 www.csp.edu

**Cosmetology Training Center**

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

**Crossroads College #002366**

(507) 288-4563 or (800) 456-7651  
 920 Mayowood Road Southwest  
 Rochester, MN 55902  
 pkello@bradley@crossroadscollege.edu  
 www.crossroadscollege.edu

**Crown College #002383**

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

**Dakota County Technical College #010402**

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

**DeVry University #010727**

(952) 838-1860  
 7700 France Avenue South, Suite 575  
 Edina, MN 55435  
 dshortle@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.edu  
 www.dbumn.edu

**Dunwoody College of Technology #004641**

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

**Empire Beauty School, Bloomington #009870**

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

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

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

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

(651) 209-6930  
 1905 Suburban Avenue  
 St. Paul, MN 55119  
 kkuperavage@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  
 kkuperavage@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.fdlcc.edu

**Globe University, Minneapolis #004642**

(651) 332-8100 or (877) 862-0662  
 80 South 8th Street, Suite 51  
 Minneapolis, MN 55402  
 genfa@globeuniversity.edu  
 www.globeuniversity.edu

## FINANCIAL AID CONTACTS

---

**Globe University, Woodbury #004642**

(651) 332-8100 or (877) 862-0662  
8089 Globe Drive  
Woodbury, MN 55125  
genfa@globeuniversity.edu  
www.globeuniversity.edu

**Globe University, Moorhead #004642**

(651) 332-8100 or (877) 862-0662  
2777 34th Street South  
Moorhead, MN 56560  
genfa@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  
finaid@hamline.edu  
www.hamline.edu

**Hastings Beauty School, Inc.**

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

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

(763) 488-2500 or (800) 345-4655  
9000 Brooklyn Boulevard  
Brooklyn Park, MN 55445  
fa@hennepintech.edu  
www.hennepintech.edu

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

(763) 488-2500 or (800) 345-4655  
13100 College View Drive  
Eden Prairie, MN 55347  
fa@hennepintech.edu  
www.hennepintech.edu

**Herzing University #009621**

(763) 535-3000 or (800) 878-3729  
5700 West Broadway  
Minneapolis, MN 55428  
hboes@herzing.edu  
www.herzing.edu

**Hibbing Community College #002355**

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

**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) 450-3495  
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, Brooklyn Center  
#007329**

(763) 549-5900 or (800) 216-8883  
6120 Earle Brown Drive, Suite 100  
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430  
jslewinski@itt-tech.edu  
www.itt-tech.edu

**ITT Technical Institute, Eden Prairie  
#030875**

(952) 914-5300 or (888) 488-9646  
7905 Golden Triangle Drive, Suite 100  
Eden Prairie, MN 55344  
serkkila@itt-tech.edu  
www.itt-tech.edu

**La Beauty School #009979**

(612) 869-4073  
406 W 65th St  
Richfield, MN 55423

**Lake Superior College #005757**

(218) 733-7616 or (800) 432-2884  
2101 Trinity Road  
Duluth, MN 55811  
l.robinson@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  
aganyaw@msp.chefs.edu  
www.chefs.edu/Minneapolis-StPaul

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

(218) 335-4200  
P.O. Box 180  
Cass Lake, MN 56633  
heather.broda@lltc.edu  
www.lltc.edu

**Macalester College #002358**

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

**Martin Luther College #002361**

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

**McNally Smith College of Music  
#030012**

(651) 361-3324 or (800) 594-9500  
19 Exchange Street East  
St. Paul, MN 55101  
neil.leibund@mcnallysmith.edu  
www.mcnallysmith.edu

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

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

**Metropolitan State University  
#010374**

(651) 793-1300  
700 East Seventh Street  
St. Paul, MN 55106  
gateway@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

**Minneapolis Media Institute**

(612) 808-0175  
4100 West 76th Street  
Edina, MN 55435  
yyang@mediainstitute.edu  
www.mediainstitute.edu/minneapolis.  
media.institute

**Minnesota Commercial Diver Training Center**

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

**Minnesota School of Barbering**

**#025831**  
(612) 722-1996  
3615 East Lake Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55406  
mnbarbfind@aol.com

**Minnesota School of Beauty**

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

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

(651) 332-8100 or (877) 862-0662  
3680 Pheasant Ridge Drive Northeast  
Blaine, MN 55449  
genfa@msbcollege.edu  
www.msbcollge.edu

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

(651) 332-8100 or (877) 862-0662  
5910 Shingle Creek Parkway  
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430  
genfa@msbcollege.edu  
www.msbcollge.edu

**Minnesota School of Business, Elk River #017145**

(651) 332-8100 or (877) 862-0662  
11500 193rd Avenue Northwest  
Elk River, MN 55330  
genfa@msbcollege.edu  
www.msbcollge.edu

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

(651) 332-8100 or (877) 862-0662  
17685 Juniper Path  
Lakeville, MN 55044  
genfa@msbcollege.edu  
www.msbcollge.edu

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

(651) 332-8100 or (877) 862-0662  
1455 County Road 101 North  
Plymouth, MN 55447  
genfa@msbcollege.edu  
www.msbcollge.edu

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

(651) 332-8100 or (877) 862-0662  
1401 West 76th Street  
Richfield, MN 55423  
genfa@msbcollege.edu  
www.msbcollge.edu

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

(651) 332-8100 or (877) 862-0662  
2521 Pennington Drive Northwest  
Rochester, MN 55901  
genfa@msbcollege.edu  
www.msbcollge.edu

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

(651) 332-8100 or (877) 862-0662  
1201 2nd Street South  
Waite Park, MN 56387  
genfa@msbcollege.edu  
www.msbcollge.edu

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

(651) 332-8100 or (877) 862-0662  
1200 Shakopee Town Square  
Shakopee, MN 55379  
genfa@msbcollege.edu  
www.msbcollge.edu

**Minnesota School of Cosmetology, Woodbury #015752**

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

**Minnesota School of Cosmetology, Plymouth #015752**

(763) 404-4812  
1425 County Road 101 North  
Plymouth, MN 55447  
ksavior@mssclege.edu  
www.msccollege.edu

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

(651) 385-6322 or (800) 657-4849  
308 Pioneer Road  
Red Wing, MN 55066  
pzimmerman@southeastmn.edu  
www.southeastmn.edu

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

(507) 453-2710 or (800) 372-8164  
1250 Homer Road  
Box 409  
Winona, MN 55987  
pzimmerman@southeastmn.edu  
www.southeastmn.edu

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

(218) 846-3754 or (877) 450-3322  
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

## FINANCIAL AID CONTACTS

---

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

(218) 299-6511 or (877) 450-3322  
1900 28th Avenue South  
Moorhead, MN 56560  
sarah.saude@minnesota.edu  
www@minnesota.edu

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

(877) 450-3322  
405 Colfax Avenue Southwest  
P.O. Box 566  
Wadena, MN 56482  
bonnie.dahring@minnesota.edu  
www.minnesota.edu

**Minnesota State University, Mankato #002360**

(507) 389-1866 or (800) 627-3529  
120 Wigley Administration Center  
Mankato, MN 56001  
campushub@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  
1011 1st Street West  
Canby, MN 56220  
Jodi.landgaard@mnwest.edu  
www.mnwest.edu

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

(320) 564-5019  
1593 11th Avenue  
Granite Falls, MN 56241  
Jodi.landgaard@mnwest.edu  
www.mnwest.edu

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

(507) 847-7920 x7941  
401 West Street, Box 269  
Jackson, MN 56143  
Jodi.landgaard@mnwest.edu  
www.mnwest.edu

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

(507) 825-6818  
1314 North Hiawatha Avenue  
P.O. Box 250  
Pipestone, MN 56164  
Jodi.landgaard@mnwest.edu  
www.mnwest.edu

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

(507) 372-3450  
1450 Collegeway  
Worthington, MN 56187  
Jodi.landgaard@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**

(763) 710-9093  
6846 Central Avenue Northeast  
Hilltop, MN 55421  
molerbarberschool@hotmail.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 140  
Woodbury, MN 55125  
mrischool@yahoo.com  
www.mrischoolofmn.com

**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  
6200 Shingle Creek Parkway, Suite 130  
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430  
bcfinancialaid@national.edu  
www.national.edu

**National American University, Burnsville #004057**

(952) 563-1250  
513 West Travelers Trail  
Burnsville, MN 55337  
mnbufinancialaid@national.edu  
www.national.edu

**National American University, Minnetonka Education Center #004057**

(952) 562-4200  
610901 Red Circle Drive, Suite 150  
Minnetonka, MN 55343  
mifinancialaid@national.edu  
www.national.edu

**National American University, Rochester #004057**

(507) 286-1650  
3906 East Frontage Road NW/Hwy 52  
Rochester, MN 55901  
rochfinancialaid@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

**Normandale Community College #007954**

(952) 358-8250  
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  
cladell.nelson@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  
finaid@ntcmn.edu  
www.ntcmn.edu

**Northwest Technical Institute #008267**

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

**Northwestern Health Sciences University #012328**

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

**Nova Academy of Cosmetology**

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

**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 #041756**

(218) 732-2962 or (877) 244-8013  
1919 South 6th Street  
Brainerd, MN 56401  
park.avenue.school@hotmail.com  
www.parkavenuecosmetology.com

**Park Avenue School of Cosmetology #041756**

(218) 732-2962 or (877) 244-8013  
306 Main Avenue South  
Park Rapids, MN 56470  
park.avenue.school@hotmail.com  
www.parkavenuecosmetology.com

**Park Nicollet Methodist Hospital School Of Radiologic Technology #009961**

(952) 993-6201  
W115 Meadowbrook Building  
6500 Excelsior BLVD  
St Louis Park, MN 55426

**PCI Academy # 021609-01**

(763) 536-0772  
4315 Peony Lane N  
Plymouth, MN 55446  
financialaid@tspanewhopermn.com  
www.pci-academy.com

**PCI Academy**

(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) 229-8429 or  
(800) 437-6060 x429  
115 South Park Street, Suite 117  
Fairmont, MN 56031  
financialaid@presentation.edu  
www.presentation.edu

**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  
scott.riley@rainyriver.edu  
www.rainyriver.edu

**Rasmussen College, Blaine #E01864**

(763) 795-4720 or (877) 265-3209  
3629 95th Avenue Northeast  
Blaine, MN 55014  
amber.borsch@rasmussen.edu  
www.rasmussen.edu

**Rasmussen College, Bloomington #011686**

(952) 545-2000 or (800) 852-0929  
4400 78th Street, Floor 6  
Bloomington, MN 55435  
Kristen.peterik@rasmussen.edu  
www.rasmussen.edu

**Rasmussen College, Brooklyn Park #E01193**

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

**Rasmussen College, Eagan #004648**

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

**Rasmussen College, Lake Elmo #E01264**

(651) 259-6600 or (888) 813-2358  
8565 Eagle Point Circle  
Lake Elmo, MN 55042  
wade.kesteloot@rasmussen.edu  
www.rasmussen.edu

**Rasmussen College, Mankato #016845**

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

**Rasmussen College, Moorhead  
#E01382**

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

**Regency Beauty Institute, Blaine  
#010490**

(800) 787-6456  
1351 113th Avenue Northeast  
Blaine, MN 55434  
kswanberg@regency.edu  
www.regency.edu

**Regency Beauty Institute, Burnsville  
#010490**

(800) 787-6456  
14350 Buck Hill Road  
Burnsville, MN 55306  
kswanberg@regency.edu  
www.regency.edu

**Regency Beauty Institute, Duluth  
#010490**

(218) 727-1198 or (800) 787-6456  
5115 Burning Tree Road, Suite 307  
Duluth, MN 55811  
kswanberg@regency.edu  
www.regency.edu

**Regency Beauty Institute, Maplewood  
#010490**

(651) 773-3951 or (800) 787-6456  
3000 White Bear Avenue, Suite 37  
Maplewood, MN 55109  
kswanberg@regency.edu  
www.regency.edu

**Regency Beauty Institute, Ridgedale  
#010490**

(952) 697-3000 or (800) 787-6456  
12293 Ridgedale Drive, Suite 103  
Minnetonka, MN 55305  
kswanberg@regency.edu  
www.regency.edu

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

(320) 251-0500 or (800) 787-6456  
110 2nd Street South, #116  
Waite Park, MN 56387  
kswanberg@regency.edu  
www.regency.edu  
Minnesota Office of Higher Education

**Ridgewater College, Hutchinson  
#005252**

(320) 234-8600 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,  
Willmar, MN 56201  
jim.rice@ridgewater.edu  
www.ridgewater.edu

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

(507) 433-0511 or (800) 247-5039  
2200 Riverland Drive  
Albert Lea, MN 56007  
linda.wasmeen@riverland.edu  
www.riverland.edu

**Riverland Community College,  
Austin #002335**

(507) 379-3323 or (800) 247-5039  
1900 8th Avenue Northwest  
Austin, MN 55912  
patty.hemann@riverland.edu  
www.riverland.edu

**Rochester Community & Technical  
College #002373**

(507) 285-7271 or  
(800) 247-1296 x7271  
851 30th Avenue Southeast  
Rochester, MN 55904  
financialaid@rctc.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 & Community  
College #005534**

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

**Saint John's University #002379**

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

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

(507) 457-1437 or (800) 635-5987  
700 Terrace Heights  
Winona, MN 55987  
financialaid@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) 846-1386 or (800) 227-6029  
235 Marshall Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55102  
financialaid@saintpaul.edu  
www.saintpaul.edu

**Salon Professional Academy #E01054**

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

**San Diego Christian College #012031**

(619) 201-8730  
6820 Auto Club Road Suite T  
Bloomington, MN 92019  
www.sdcc.edu

**South Central College, Faribault  
#005537**

(507) 332-5803 or (800) 422-0391  
1225 3rd Street Southwest  
Faribault, MN 55021  
jayne.dinse@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  
financialaid@smsu.edu  
www.smsu.edu

**Summit Academy Opportunities  
Industrialization Center #015950**

(612) 278-5280  
935 Olson Memorial Highway  
Minneapolis, MN 55405  
wbutler@saoc.org  
www.saoc.org

**Transportation Center for Excellence**

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

**The Travel Academy # 009958**

(651) 683-8383 or (866) 253-4823  
3140 Neil Armstrong Blvd #220  
Eagan, MN 55121  
Office.manager@thetravelacademy.com  
www.thetravelacademy.com

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# 009973**

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Rice, MN 56367  
www.trailsendschooloftaxidermy.com

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

(952) 487-7226  
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St. Louis Park, MN 55426  
www.phoenix.edu

**University of Minnesota, Crookston  
#004069**

(218) 281-8569 or (800) 862-6466  
2900 University Avenue  
Crookston, MN 56716  
umc-fa@umn.edu  
www.umcrookston.edu

**University of Minnesota, Duluth  
#002388**

(218) 726-8000 or (800) 232-1339  
1049 University Drive  
Duluth, MN 55812  
umdhelp@d.umn.edu  
www.d.umn.edu

**University of Minnesota, Morris  
#002389**

(320) 589-6046 or (800) 992-8863  
105 Behmler Hall  
600 East 4th Street  
Morris, MN 56267  
ummonestop@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  
333 Science Teaching & Student Svcs  
222 Pleasant Street Southeast  
Minneapolis, MN 55455  
onestop@umn.edu  
www.umn.edu/twincities

**University of Northwestern #002371**

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

**University of St. Thomas #002345**

(651) 962-6550 or (800) 328-6819  
2115 Summit Avenue,  
Mail #5007, MHC 152  
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  
financial\_aid@vcc.edu  
www.vcc.edu

**Vesper College #009976**

(612) 750-9538  
201 6th Street Se  
Minneapolis, MN 55414  
www.vespercollege.org

**White Earth Tribal & Community  
College #039214**

(218) 935-0417 x304  
Waadookoodaading (Student Services)  
107 East Jefferson Avenue  
Mahnomon, MN 56557  
meredith.mcarthur@wetcc.edu  
www.wetcc.edu

**William Mitchell College of Law  
#G02391**

(651) 290-6403 or (888) 962-5529  
875 Summit Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55105  
patty.harris@wmitchell.edu  
www.wmitchell.edu

**Winona State University #002394**

(507) 457-5090 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 2013 policies, rules and available funds as of June 2012. 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.



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# Need help paying for school?

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## SELF Loan<sup>®</sup>

A Minnesota Student Loan program

### 2014-2015 Academic Year STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM LOAN COMPARISON CHART

LOAN PROGRAM TYPE	FEDERAL LOAN PROGRAMS				MN LOAN PROGRAM
	PERKINS LOAN	STAFFORD LOAN	GRADUATE PLUS LOAN	PARENT PLUS LOAN	SELF LOAN
<b>BORROWER</b>	Student	Student	Student	Parent	Student
<b>COSIGNER REQUIRED</b>	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES. Cosigner must pass credit check.
<b>LOAN DESCRIPTION</b>	Need-based. School determines eligibility	Half time attendance required. Loans can be subsidized (need-based) or unsubsidized (non need-based)	Student must be enrolled at least half time at an eligible postsecondary institution in a graduate program.	Non-need-based. Parent may not have adverse credit history.	Non-need-based loan for participating schools. School determines eligibility. Cosigner must be credit worthy.
<b>INTEREST RATE</b>	Fixed rate No interest accrues while student is in school.	Fixed rate	Fixed rate Interest accrues while student is in school.	Fixed rate Interest accrues while student is in school.	Variable rate, adjusted quarterly. Fixed rate option available. Interest accrues while student is in school.
<b>CURRENT INTEREST RATE</b>	0.0 % In-school 5.0% Repayment	4.66% Unsubsidized and Subsidized Undergraduate 6.21% Unsubsidized Graduate	7.21% Certain reductions during military service	7.21% Certain reductions during military service	3.2% (as of July 1, 2014). Fixed rate option of 6.9%. Certain reductions during military service.
<b>INTEREST RATE MAXIMUM</b>	5.00%	6.21% Unsubsidized and Subsidized Undergraduate 6.21% Unsubsidized Graduate	7.21%	7.21%	Variable rate cannot change more than 3% in one year.
<b>FEES</b>	None	1.073% of loan - default fee	4.292% (default and origination)	4.292% (default and origination)	None
<b>ANNUAL LOAN LIMITS</b>	\$5,500 (Undergraduate) \$8,000 (Graduate)	\$5,500 (1st Year) \$6,500 (2nd Year) \$7,500 (3rd-5th Year) \$20,500 (Graduate) Independent students or dependent students whose parents don't qualify for a PLUS loan eligible for \$4,000-\$5,000 more per year.	None Annual eligibility limited to cost of education less any other financial aid.	None Annual eligibility limited to cost of education less any other financial aid.	\$7,500 Undergraduate short programs \$10,000 Undergraduate 4-year programs; Graduate
<b>AGGREGATE LIMITS</b> *UG= Undergraduate Level **Grad= Graduate Level	\$27,500 (Undergraduate) \$60,000 (Graduate)	\$31,000 (Undergraduate) \$138,500 (Graduate) Independent students and dependent students whose parents are turned down for PLUS may have higher limits.	None	None	2-yr or < UG 4-yr* UG+**Grad 1st year \$ 7,500 \$10,000 2nd year \$15,000 \$20,000 3rd year \$22,500 \$30,000 4th year \$30,000 \$40,000 5th year \$37,500 \$50,000 Agg. \$50,000 \$70,000
<b>REPAYMENT - IN SCHOOL</b>	Not required	Interest payments may be deferred for unsubsidized loans	Deferred while student is in school, attending at least half time.	Begins 30-60 days after final disbursement made. Up to 10 years to repay. May be deferred while student is in school at least half time	Quarterly interest payments required.
<b>REPAYMENT - OUT OF SCHOOL</b>	Begins 9 months after student graduates or drops below half-time status. Repayment term of up to 10 years.	Begins 6 months after student graduates or drops below half-time status. Repayment term of up to 10 years. Extended, graduated and income-sensitive repayment options available.	Begins 6 months after student graduates or drops below half-time status. Repayment term of up to 10 years. Extended, graduated and income-sensitive repayment options available.	Begins 6 months after student graduates or drops below half-time status. Repayment term of up to 10 years. Extended, graduated and income-sensitive repayment options available for students only.	Monthly interest payments required for 12 months after borrower terminates studies. Repayment length increases with aggregate balance. Extended interest only plan available.
<b>DEFERMENT, CANCELLATION, FORGIVENESS OPTIONS</b>	Deferment for college attendance, financial hardship, active military service. Forbearance available if deferment terms not met. Discharged for death/permanent disability. Cancellation provisions for teachers and other designated public service professions.	Deferment for college attendance, financial hardship, active military service. Forbearance available if deferment terms not met. Discharged for death/permanent disability. Cancellation provisions for teachers and other designated public service professions.	Deferment for college attendance, financial hardship, active military service. Forbearance available if deferment terms not met. Discharged for death/permanent disability.	Deferment for college attendance, financial hardship, active military service. Forbearance available if deferment terms not met. Discharged for death/permanent disability.	Short-term forbearance period for financial hardship. Discharged for borrower death/permanent disability.
<b>ELIGIBILITY FOR FEDERAL LOAN CONSOLIDATION PROGRAMS</b>	YES	YES	YES	YES, but only with other PLUS Loans or parent's own federal student loans.	NO

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www.ohe.state.mn.us

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

# 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 website allows you to apply for financial aid online, make changes online, and check the status of your application. [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.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.ohe.state.mn.us](http://www.ohe.state.mn.us).

The U.S. Department of Education website provides information for students and families about pursuing education beyond high school. [www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov)

The FinAid website 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 website 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)

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## 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.

# Paying for College

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## Minnesota Office of Higher Education

1450 Energy Park Drive, Suite 350  
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Tel: 651.642.0567 or 800.657.3866  
TTY Relay: 800.627.3529  
Fax: 651.642.0675

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

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