

Focus on Financial Aid 2007-2008



Your Guide to Paying for College

How will I pay for college?

College is costly. But the lifetime benefits of being a college graduate are worth the investment. If you think you cannot afford to attend college, think again. Financial aid has helped millions of students pay for their education beyond high school. Many students are surprised to find that they qualify for some assistance.

What Is Financial Aid?

Financial aid takes many forms and comes from several sources. Your eligibility for various types of aid is determined by the cost of attendance and your financial needs.

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.

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.

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:

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

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

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Financial Aid Estimator

Use this online financial aid estimator to estimate your eligibility for a Federal Pell Grant, Minnesota State Grant and federal education tax benefits.

Go to www.getreadyforcollege.org and click on *Financial Aid Estimator*.

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 Federal Pell Grant program. Other need-based grant programs are also available through the federal government. 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 most of its 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 students 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 Institutional Sources

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
- general institutional funds used for financial aid

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

Aid from Private Sources

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

Qualifying for Aid

Most financial aid programs are designed with the assumption that students and parents have a responsibility to pay a share of educational costs.

The amount you and your family are expected to pay will vary based upon factors including:

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

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

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. The school uses this to identify your financial need:

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{Price of Specific School} \\ - \text{Expected Family Contribution (EFC)} \\ \hline = \text{Financial Need} \end{array}$$

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

How Do I Apply for Financial Aid?

In order to receive financial aid, or determine your eligibility, 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 a Minnesota State Grant, a Federal Pell Grant, a Stafford Loan 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.

The financial aid office at the college can help you complete the FAFSA and answer questions.

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

Each college you are considering will use funds from all available sources to create an aid package for you based on your financial need. Applying for financial aid does not cost anything. By applying, you do not commit yourself to attend any school.

When Do I Apply for Financial Aid?

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

Application Procedures

You may apply online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. The paper FAFSA becomes available in early winter, and may be obtained from high school counselors, financial aid offices at post-secondary institutions, public libraries and from the Office of Higher Education. You may also request a copy by calling the Federal Student Aid Information Center at (800) 433-3243.

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

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

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

School codes needed to complete the FAFSA are available at www.fafsa.ed.gov or see the list of Minnesota schools at the back of this guide. Save all your records used to prepare your application in case you are asked to verify that it is correct.

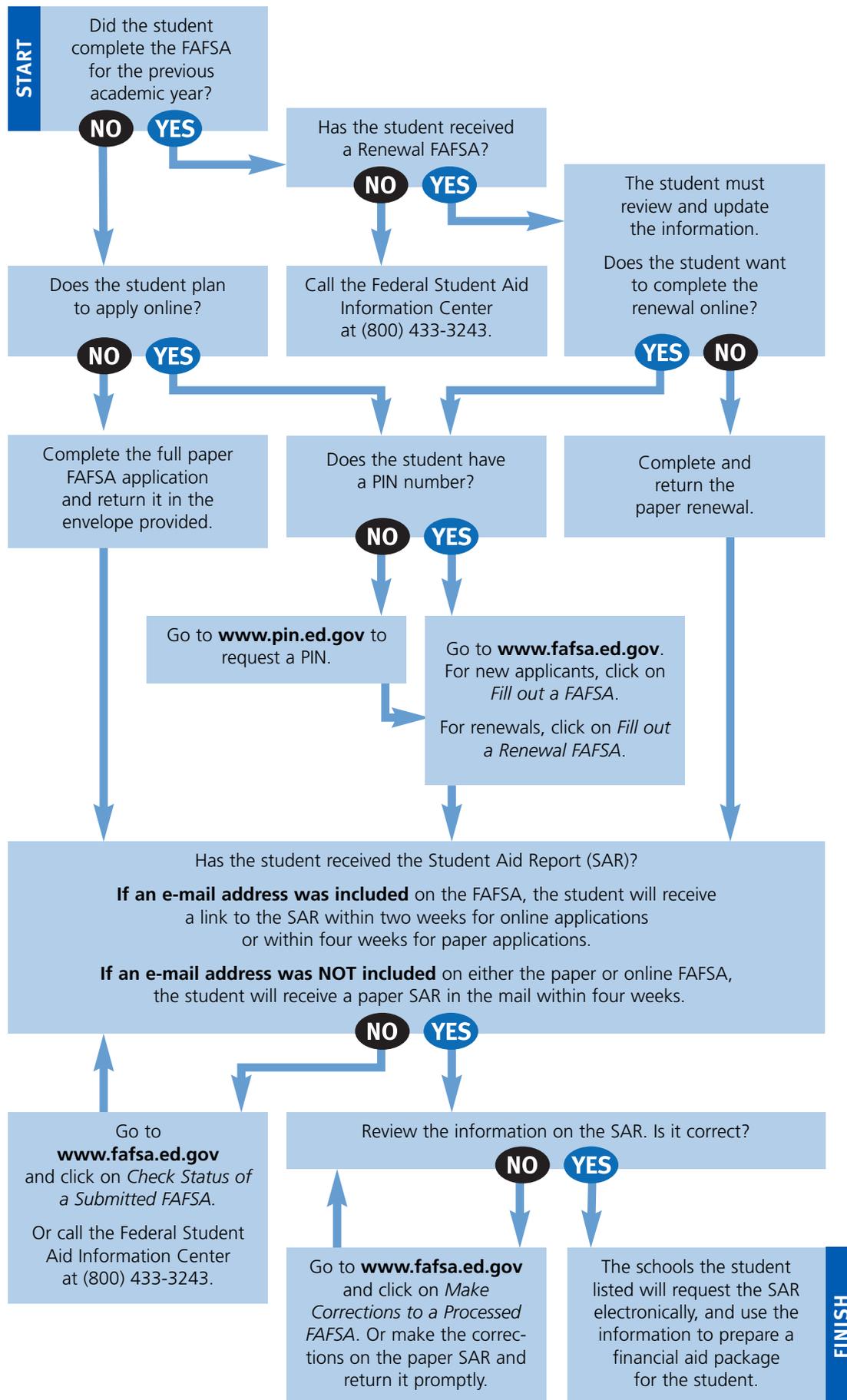
Your FAFSA will be analyzed and an electronic report will be sent to the schools you designate. This report will confirm the information you provided on the FAFSA and contains your expected family contribution. If you estimate your federal income taxes on the FAFSA, many schools will hold off awarding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

Tips on Completing the FAFSA

To learn more about how to complete the FAFSA correctly, visit www.studentaid.ed.gov/completfafsa.

Check the status of your FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov by clicking on the FAFSA follow-up.

Completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)



Factors That Affect Eligibility

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

Dependent or Independent Status

All students are considered either **dependent** (on their parents) or **independent** (self-supporting).

Dependent students must submit financial information about their parents on the FAFSA. This information is required even if the parents do not intend to help pay for the student's education, because the student is then responsible for the parent's share as well.

You are automatically considered an independent student for the 2007-2008 school year if you are 24 or older as of December 31, 2007. If you are under 24, you will be considered independent if you are:

- a graduate or professional student
- married
- a student with legal dependents other than a spouse
- on active duty military service
- a veteran of U.S. Armed Forces
- an orphan or ward of the court
- classified by your financial aid administrator as independent because of unusual circumstances

Appeals: If you think you should be independent because of unusual circumstances, even though you normally would be considered dependent, talk to the financial aid administrator at your school. 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

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

Eligible Online Students

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

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

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

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

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

Class Load

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

School Transfer

Financial aid does not automatically transfer with the student to a new institution. Students must contact the financial aid administrator at the new school to determine what actions should be taken to receive aid. Students with federal aid must be sure to have an electronic version of the FAFSA results sent to the new institution. In many cases, the new institution will be able to access the federal application system electronically. Students with a Stafford, PLUS or SELF Loan will need to reapply. Students participating in work study or the Minnesota Post-Secondary 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.

Family Financial Status

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

Contact the financial aid administrator at the institution you attend or plan to attend and explain your circumstances. In special instances, the aid administrator can adjust the information used to calculate your expected family contribution which may result in increased financial aid eligibility based on your revised level of financial need.

Funding Education Beyond High School: The Guide to Federal Student Aid, 2007-2008

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 studentaid.ed.gov/students/publications/student_guide/index.html.

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: grants or scholarships, loans and work study. Other ways to help you pay for college include community service benefits, military service education benefits, reduced tuition programs and government tax benefits.

The school you attend or plan to attend may use funds from all available sources to create an aid package for you based on your financial need.

Grants

Grant funds are awarded on the basis of financial need. Most colleges encourage you to apply for both a Pell Grant and state aid by completing the FAFSA and any other form required by the institution's financial aid office. Financial aid packages prepared for undergraduates make maximum use of the Federal Pell Grant Program and the Minnesota State Grant Program.

Federal Pell Grant

Federal Pell Grants assist about 5.3 million undergraduate students nationally who are attending college full time or part time.

Of all Federal Pell Grants awarded, 90% go to families with incomes below \$45,000.

In 2007-2008, Pell Grants range from \$400 to \$4,310. The average grant is projected to be approximately \$2,500. 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 \$55,000 may be eligible for a Federal Pell Grant although most awards go to students with lower family incomes.

Eligibility Requirements: You may receive a Pell Grant for your undergraduate study until you complete a bachelor's degree, and may use it at almost any school. 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 institution 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) or that you are not required to register. You must register if you are a male born on or after January 1, 1960, are at least 18, and not currently on active duty in the Armed Forces
- maintain satisfactory academic progress. If you are receiving federal student aid and are enrolled in a program that is longer than two years, you must have a "C" average by the time you are halfway through your course of study or have an academic standing consistent with your institution's graduation requirements
- sign a statement stating that you do not owe a refund on a Pell Grant and are not in default on a federal loan and that you agree to use your student aid only for educational purposes
- not be convicted for the possession or sale of illegal drugs while receiving federal financial aid
- be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen

You are an **eligible non-citizen** if you:

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

Application Process: You apply for the Federal Pell Grant by completing the FAFSA. You may apply for the 2008-2009 school year after January 1, 2008 and until June 30, 2008 to receive a Pell Grant for the 2007-2008 school year. Students must apply each year to renew their grants.

Minnesota State Grant

The Minnesota State Grant program is among the largest state-sponsored need-based programs in the country. This year, about 77,000 Minnesota residents will receive grants totaling about \$155 million.

The maximum combined Pell and State Grant in 2007-2008 ranges from about \$5,403 at a public two-year college to \$8,577 at a private four-year college. The average State Grant award is about \$1,696. The minimum award is \$100 per year.

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

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

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

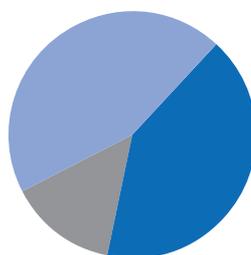
- graduate from a Minnesota high school while residing in Minnesota
- receive a GED in Minnesota after living in the state for at least one year
- live in Minnesota for at least one year for other than educational purposes (not enrolled for more than five credits in any term during that time)
- the dependent student's parents reside in Minnesota when the financial aid application was submitted
- the independent student originally met the resident definition as a dependent applicant, and has not moved from the state since that time
- relocated to Minnesota as a refugee and continue to reside in Minnesota

- stationed in Minnesota as a member (spouse or dependent) of the U.S. armed forces on active federal military service
- relocate to Minnesota within 12 months of a presidential disaster declaration if the disaster interrupts the student's postsecondary education

Students and their families are not penalized for leaving the state to serve in the military, for missionary service or to attend college in another state if they retained 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.



Family Incomes of State Grant Recipients

- 44% incomes below \$20,000
- 41% incomes between \$20,000 and \$50,000
- 14% incomes over \$50,000

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

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

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

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 price of attending the institution they choose. From this calculation is derived an amount that represents the financial expectation

What Types of Financial Aid Are Available?

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 make up the difference between the price of attendance and your expected family contribution.

Application Process: Apply by completing the FAFSA. The FAFSA must be received within 30 days after the start of the term for your school. 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 2008-2009 school year after January 1, 2008. You must apply each year to renew the grant.

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

How It Works

Example: *A student attending a Minnesota public four-year institution in 2007-2008*

State University (\$0 expected family contribution)

Price of Attendance:

Actual Tuition & Fees	\$6,175
Living & Misc. Allowance	\$5,900
Total	\$12,075

Source of Funds:

Student share	\$5,555
Parent share	\$0
Pell Grant	\$4,310
State Grant	\$2,210
Total	\$12,075

The student is assigned responsibility for 46 percent of the price, or \$5,555. The remaining 54 percent of the price is covered by the student's parents and, if necessary, federal and state grants.

In this example, the student's parents are not expected to help pay for their child's education. The student would be eligible for federal and state grants totaling \$6,520, or the 54 percent share not assigned to the student.

A student who chooses to attend a private four-year college must pay actual tuition and fees averaging \$25,237. Of this, only \$9,838 is recognized in the award calculation for the State Grant program in

2007-2008. This means the student will need to provide \$15,399 in tuition and fees that is not recognized by the state.

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.

ACHIEVE Scholarship

The new ACHIEVE Scholarship program awards a \$1,200 scholarship to high school graduates who successfully complete a series of college-preparation courses while in high school. To be eligible to receive the one-time scholarship, a student must:

- Graduate from a Minnesota public or private high school in spring 2008 or later
- Be a student from a family with an adjusted gross income of less than \$75,000 for the previous tax year (this limit applies to dependent and independent students)
- Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen
- Complete the FAFSA
- Attend a public or private postsecondary institution in Minnesota
- Successfully complete a set of college preparatory courses
- Enroll in postsecondary education within four years after high school graduation
- Complete a series of designated courses while in high school

To see course requirement options or for additional questions, visit www.getreadyforcollege/achieve or call the Minnesota Office of Higher Education at (651) 341-0567.

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant

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

Eligibility Requirements: Undergraduate students who are enrolled at least half time are eligible. Priority is given to students already receiving a Pell Grant. Students must be U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens (see page 8).

Application Process: You must apply through the financial aid office at your school, which will use your FAFSA results to determine the size of your award. Different schools set different deadlines so apply as early as possible.

Academic Competitiveness Grant

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

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

- be eligible to receive a Pell grant
- be enrolled in college full time in a degree-granting program
- demonstrate completion of a rigorous academic curriculum in high school as defined in Minnesota
- have completed their high school curriculum after January 1, 2005
- maintain at least a 3.0 GPA in college-level coursework
- be a U.S. citizen

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

SMART Grant

The federal SMART grant (Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent Grants) provides up to \$4,000 per year for college juniors and seniors majoring in physical, life, or computer sciences; mathematics; technology; engineering; or foreign languages determined critical to national security.

Eligibility requirements: Students must be admitted to a qualifying science, mathematics or language program and:

- be eligible to receive a Pell Grant
- be enrolled in college full time
- have completed the first two years of a degree
- be a U.S. citizen

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

Minnesota Postsecondary Child Care Grant

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

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

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

What Types of Financial Aid Are Available?

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

- are a resident of Minnesota (see page 9)
- have a child 12 years of age or younger (14 years of age or younger if disabled), who is receiving or will receive care on a regular basis from a licensed or legal non-licensed care giver
- meet the program's income guidelines
- are not receiving Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) 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)
- are enrolled at least half time (six or more credits) in an eligible institution
- have not earned a baccalaureate degree or have enrolled full time fewer than eight semesters, 12 quarters or the equivalent (an additional term of eligibility is available for students who have withdrawn from school for active military service January 1, 2003 or later)
- are pursuing a nonsectarian program or course of study that applies to an undergraduate degree, diploma or certificate
- are in good academic standing and making satisfactory progress toward a degree, diploma or certificate
- are not receiving tuition reciprocity
- are not in default on any educational loan or, if in default, have made satisfactory arrangements to repay the loan with the holder of the note
- are a U.S. Citizen or eligible non-citizen (see page 8)

MFIP recipients 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 you reside to inquire about the Basic Sliding Fee child care program. Eligibility for Basic Sliding Fee Child Care assistance will depend on the family size, annual income of the family and the availability of funding. Other requirements and standards may vary by county.

Financial Aid Estimator

Use this online financial aid estimator to estimate your eligibility for a Federal Pell Grant, Minnesota State Grant and federal education tax benefits.

Go to www.getreadyforcollege.org and click on *Financial Aid Estimator*.

Average Federal and State Need-Based Grants by Income and Sector

The figures below are only estimates of eligibility for federal and state need-based grants for dependent undergraduates! You may be eligible for more or less need-based assistance based on your family size, number of students in college, eligible assets and other factors. This chart in no way guarantees the grant amounts shown. Results are based on the average dependent student's expected family contribution for the 2005-2006 financial aid year for Minnesota residents completing the FAFSA.

	2-Year Public Colleges	State Universities	University of Minnesota	4-Year Private Colleges	Private Career Schools
Estimated Average Annual Tuition and Fees²	\$4,432	\$6,175	\$10,084	\$25,237	\$11,520
Average Institutional Grant/Scholarship for Sector³ (includes need and merit-based scholarships)	\$682	\$1,357	\$3,147	\$6,674	\$785
Percent of First-Time, Full-Time Freshmen Receiving Institutional Grant/Scholarship	11%	35%	45%	90%	25%

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

Pell Grant	\$4,310	\$4,310	\$4,310	\$4,310	\$4,310
State Grant	\$1,269	\$2,210	\$4,189	\$4,189	\$2,187
Average SEOG	\$442	\$685	\$2,044	\$1,716	\$483

Family Income \$40,000 (\$2,424 Expected Family Contribution)

Pell Grant	\$1,860	\$1,860	\$1,860	\$1,860	\$1,860
State Grant	\$1,392	\$2,333	\$4,312	\$4,312	\$2,301
Average SEOG	\$442	\$685	\$2,044	\$1,716	\$483

Family Income \$60,000⁴ (\$6,003 Expected Family Contribution)

Pell Grant	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Grant	\$0	\$757	\$2,736	\$2,874	\$725
Average SEOG	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Family Income \$80,000⁴ (\$12,843 Expected Family Contribution)

Pell Grant	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Grant	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Average SEOG	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

¹Two federal grants, not shown here, may provide some Pell-eligible students with additional financial assistance. See page 11.

²Tuition and fees represent the average tuition and fees for a student taking 30 semester or 45 quarter credits during the 2007-2008 academic year.

³Institutional grants and scholarships are based on the average amount of institutional funds awarded to students for fall term 2004-2005 as reported to the Office of Higher Education. Both need and merit-based scholarships are included. Average institutional grants and scholarships could not be segregated by income level.

⁴Some families in these income categories who have specific circumstances qualify for significant 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. You often need to complete scholarship application forms in addition to the FAFSA. Most colleges in Minnesota offer their own scholarships.

Be sure to check with your school's financial aid office to determine if scholarship awards will affect your eligibility for other types of financial aid. The following are some statewide scholarship programs. For a partial list of institutional scholarships in Minnesota, visit www.getreadyforcollege.org/mnscholarships.

Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship

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

About 120 awards each year are distributed across the eight Minnesota Congressional districts. Awards can be renewed for three additional years of undergraduate study upon request and continued eligibility.

Eligibility Requirements: Nominees must demonstrate outstanding academic achievement. Up to one student is selected from each Minnesota high school.

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

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

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

For more information, contact:

Sarah K. Smith
Minnesota Department of Education
1500 Highway 36 West
Roseville, MN 55113
Tel: (651) 582-8629
E-mail: Sarah.K.Smith@state.mn.us
Web: education.state.mn.us

Minnesota Academic Excellence Scholarship

Students who demonstrate outstanding ability, achievement and potential may be eligible for the Minnesota Academic Excellence Scholarship.

At public institutions, the scholarship may cover up to the price of tuition and fees for one academic year. At private institutions, the scholarship may cover up to the actual tuition and fees charged by the institution or the tuition and fees at comparable public institutions, whichever is less.

Eligibility Requirements: High school graduates must be admitted full time in a nonsectarian, baccalaureate degree-granting program at the University of Minnesota, a Minnesota state university or a Minnesota private bachelor's degree-granting college or university. Students must be enrolled the same year they graduated from high school. The scholarship can be renewed annually for up to three additional academic years if the student continues to meet the program's academic standards.

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

Presidential Freedom Scholarship

The Presidential Freedom Scholarship recognizes high school students for outstanding community service. The principal of each school can nominate up to two students.

Each scholarship is at least \$1,000, which includes at least \$500 from local business, community or civic organizations and a \$500 match from the Corporation for National Service.

Eligibility Requirements: You must be a high school junior or senior, in public or private school, who has performed at least 100 hours of community service in the year prior to applying.

Application Process: Students are nominated by their high school principal in the spring of each year. For more information, visit www.nationalservice.org/scholarships/ or contact your high school principal.

Where to Find Private Scholarships

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

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

- inquire at community organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce
- check with churches, businesses, industries and veterans' posts
- check with your high school counselor
- review reference books in your high school guidance office or the library
- watch for announcements in your local news media
- search online
- 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.

Scholarship Resources

Scholarship Handbook, 2007

This guide helps students identify federal, state and private scholarships for which they meet eligibility criteria. More than 2,300 programs are surveyed annually. It can be purchased directly from the publisher at www.collegeboard.com, at bookstores or by calling (800) 323-7155, or by sending a check for \$26.95, plus \$5 for shipping, to:

College Board Publications
P.O. Box 869010
Plano, TX 75074-0998

Scholarship Search Sites

College Answer

www.collegeanswer.com

CollegeNet

www.collegenet.com

CollegeView

www.collegeview.com

FastWeb

www.fastweb.com

Minnesota Institutional Scholarships

www.getreadyforcollege.org/mnscholarships

Scholarship Experts

www.scholarshipexperts.com

Scholarship Resource Network Express

www.srnexpress.com

Scholarships.com

www.scholarships.com

See page 30 for a list of additional scholarship resources.

Beware of Financial Aid Search Companies

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

Following are some questions to consider if you use a search company:

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

Proceed with Caution

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

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

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

Where to File Complaints About Suspicious Financial Aid Companies:

Federal Trade Commission

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

Web: www.ftc.gov/scholarshipscams

Minnesota Better Business Bureau

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

Minnesota Attorney General's Office

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

Web: www.ag.state.mn.us/consumer/

State Attorney General's Office where the company is located

Web: www.naag.org/ag/full_ag_table.php

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

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

Loans

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

Federal student loans fall under two categories.

Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFEL)

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

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

Federal Direct Student Loans

These loans come directly from the federal government.

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

The state of Minnesota also provides loans to students and parents through the SELF Loan program.

How to Evaluate a Loan

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

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

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

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

Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loan Comparison

Subsidized Stafford Loan

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

Unsubsidized Stafford Loan

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

Federal Subsidized Stafford Loan

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

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

The chart on page 21 illustrates how much you may be eligible to borrow. Loan amounts are higher for independent (self-supporting) students.

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

Federal Subsidized Stafford Loans taken out on or after July 1, 2006 are at 6.8 percent interest. This interest rate is fixed and will not fluctuate with other interest rates tied to the economy.

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

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

What Types of Financial Aid Are Available?

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

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

You also pay an additional one-time 1.5 percent fee to the lender. This fee, set by the federal government, is called an **origination fee**. It is deducted proportionately from each disbursement of your loan amount. For example, for a loan of \$3,500, an origination fee of

\$52.50 will be deducted. The fee is kept by the lender to offset part of the federal interest subsidy that the government pays the lender for you.

Subtracting the two fees ($\$35 + \$52.50 = \$87.50$), a Stafford loan request of \$3,500 would therefore be reduced to a net disbursement of \$3,412.50.

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

Repayment of Stafford Loans: Interest rates on Federal Stafford and Direct loans taken out before July 1, 2006 varied each year, based on changes to the Federal 91-day Treasury Bill rate. Rates on loans taken out after July 1, 2006 cannot exceed 8.25 percent.

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 one, two or three payments. Disbursements can be sent electronically to the student's school to credit his or her school account.

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

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

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

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

Origination Fee: A fee that is deducted from the amount of a Stafford Student Loan.

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

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

What Types of Financial Aid Are Available?

The interest rate on loans taken out after July 1, 2006 is 6.8 percent both while the student is in school and in repayment. Interest rates on loans taken out after July 1, 2006 will not change.

Interest rates for repayment of prior loans vary depending on the date of the first disbursement. You will be informed of rate changes throughout the life of your loans.

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

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

Some borrowers may be eligible to repay their loans based on a “graduated” or “income sensitive” repayment. This option considers your financial situation when determining the monthly payment. For more information, ask your lender or servicer.

Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Loan

For students without demonstrated financial need, the *unsubsidized* Stafford Loan is available. The loan limits and interest rate for dependent, undergraduate students are the same as those of the subsidized Stafford Loan. Independent students enrolled in undergraduate, graduate or professional degree programs have higher borrowing maximums.

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

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

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

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

PLUS Loans

Loans to parents of dependent undergraduate and students in graduate and professional programs may be available from some private lenders and directly through schools participating in the Federal Direct Loan Program (see page 20).

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

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

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 each dependent child enrolled at least half time. There is no cap on annual or aggregate borrowing amounts. Borrowers must be U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens.

Application Process: Parents of undergraduate students or students in graduate or professional programs must complete a PLUS application that is available from the

10-Year Stafford Loan Monthly Repayment

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

What Types of Financial Aid Are Available?

school's financial aid office. A guarantee fee of one percent of the loan principal, plus an origination fee of three percent may be charged.

The combined annual total of PLUS loans and other financial aid cannot exceed the student's cost of attendance.

will determine the minimum monthly payment, but no payment will be less than \$50 per month.

Federal Direct Student Loans

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

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

Application Process: Applications are available at participating schools. You or your parents may pay an origination fee of three percent of the loan deducted proportionately from each loan disbursement. Once a Direct Loan is made, it is managed and collected by the U.S. Department of Education's Direct Loan Servicing Center. For more information, call (800) 848-0979 or visit www.dlservicer.ed.gov.

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

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

Federal Perkins Loans

The Federal Perkins Loan Program provides long-term, low-interest (five percent) loans to undergraduate and graduate students who demonstrate financial need and enroll in participating schools.

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

Loan amounts depend on the availability of funds at your school, your financial need, and the amount of other aid you receive.

Eligibility Requirements: You must be an undergraduate or graduate student enrolled at least half time at a participating school. Not all postsecondary institutions participate. Some schools may make loans available to part-time students and, in some cases, to students attending less than half time. For undergraduate students, priority is given to Federal Pell Grant recipients. You must be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen (see page 8).

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

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

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

What Types of Financial Aid Are Available?

SELF Loans

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

As of May 2007, 379 institutions participate in the program, including 166 in Minnesota and 213 out of state. To find out if an institution participates, visit www.selfloan.org or contact the school's financial aid administrator or the Minnesota Office of Higher Education.

The interest rate varies throughout the life of the loan and can change every three months. In June 2007, the SELF IV interest rates were 7.4 percent.

Eligibility Requirements: To be eligible, a student must:

- 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
- attend an eligible school in Minnesota
- be enrolled in an eligible school in Minnesota or be a Minnesota resident enrolled in an eligible school in another state, territory or Manitoba, Canada.

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 that the borrower is receiving. There are no guarantee fees.

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; then will begin repaying loan principal as well as interest monthly.

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

Comparison of Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Loan and SELF Loan

Both the unsubsidized Stafford Loan and SELF Loan programs have advantages and disadvantages. The student and family should learn the facts about each program, and decide which program best meets their needs. The school's financial aid office or local private lenders can help you learn the differences.

Alternative Loans

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

Maximum Federal Loan Amounts

Borrower's Academic Level	Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford		PLUS Dependent
	Dependent Annual	Independent Annual	
First-Year Undergraduate	\$3,500	\$7,500	Up to tuition, fees and the campus allowance for books, supplies, room and board and miscellaneous expenses.
Second-Year Undergraduate	\$4,500	\$8,500	
Third-Year and Beyond	\$5,500	\$10,500	
Graduate/Professional Student		\$18,500 aggregate	A parent may borrow an amount equal to the cost of education minus any financial aid received.
Undergraduate	\$23,000	\$46,000	
Graduate		\$138,500 combined	

NOTE: There is a maximum amount allowed in subsidized loans based on your financial aid eligibility.

Repayment of Student Loans

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

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

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

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

The job placement office at your school can give you some idea about the 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 different amounts of student loan debt. The chart assumes a fixed 6.8 percent interest rate, and a minimum of 120 monthly (or 10 years) payments.

For more information, check with your lender or a financial aid administrator.

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

Loan Consolidation

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

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

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

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

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

Advantages of Consolidation

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

Disadvantages of Consolidation

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

Defaulting on Your Loan

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

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

Work-Study Programs

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

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

Participating students work an average of 15 hours per week and may earn \$3,000 or more per year. Minimum wage laws are followed. The maximum hourly wage rate depends on the job and the student's qualifications. Your financial aid administrator will consider your work-study award amount, class schedule, job skills and academic program to determine how many hours you can work.

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

Work study is not considered income on the FAFSA.

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

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

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

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

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

What Types of Financial Aid Are Available?

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

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

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

Community Service Benefits

AmeriCorps

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

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

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

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

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

Financial Assistance for Military Service

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

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

Federal Military Education Benefits

Three federal programs provide educational benefits to students who have served or are serving in the United States military.

- Montgomery G.I. Bill for Active Duty and Selected Reserve
- Reserve Educational Assistance Program
- Army National Guard Tuition Assistance Program

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

To apply or learn more call (888) 442-4551 or visit www.gibill.va.gov.

AmeriCorps Service Commitment Chart

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

Federal - Montgomery G.I. Bill for Active Duty

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

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

To apply or learn more call (888) 442-4551 or visit www.gibill.va.gov or contact your school. Ask for VA Form 22-1990.

Federal - Montgomery G.I. Bill for Selected Reserve

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

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

To apply or learn more, call (888) 442-4551, visit www.gibill.va.gov or contact your unit. Your unit will provide you with a Notice of Basic Eligibility (DD Form 2384-1) once you become eligible for this program.

Federal - Reserve Educational Assistance Program

The Reserve Educational Assistance Program is a relatively new educational assistant program. It provides up to 36 months of education benefits to members of the Selected Reserves, Individual Ready Reserve and National Guard who are called or ordered to active service in response to a war or national emergency. The benefit is payable based on the number of days you were deployed to active duty. Your eligibility generally ends when you leave the Selected Reserves. REAP (Chapter 1607 of title 10, U.S. Code)

Once you find a program approved for training, complete the Application for Education Benefits (VA Form 22-1990), and send it to the Veterans Administration regional office that serves the state where you will train. Indicate on the form you are applying for REAP. Certain other eligibility criteria apply.

To apply or learn more, contact your unit administrator or visit www.virtualarmory.com.

Army National Guard Tuition Assistance Program

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

To apply or learn more, contact your unit administrator or visit www.virtualarmory.com.

Military Education Benefits Resources

Military College Help

www.todaysmilitary.com/app/tm/get/collegehelp

Military Scholarship Finder

www.military.com/Education

Minnesota Office Of Higher Education

www.getreadyforcollege.org/military

National Guard Virtual Armory

www.virtualarmory.com/education/

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

www.gibill.va.gov

What Types of Financial Aid Are Available?

Minnesota Tuition Reimbursement Grant

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

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

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

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

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:

Laurie Nagle
Minnesota Department Military Affairs
Veterans Service Building, 2nd Floor
20 West 12th Street
St. Paul, MN 55155-2098
Tel: (651) 282-4591
E-mail: education@mn.ngb.army.mil
Web: minnesotanationalguard.org/education/index.php

Minnesota G.I. Bill

The Minnesota G.I. Bill is a new program in 2007 established to provide postsecondary educational assistance to eligible Minnesota veterans who served on or after September 11, 2001. Full-time undergraduate or graduate students may be eligible receive up to \$1,000 per semester and part-time students can receive up to \$500 per semester.

Eligibility Requirements: You must be a Minnesota resident enrolled at a Minnesota institution who is a:

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

To apply or learn more, contact your institution's financial aid office or the Minnesota Office of Higher Education at (651) 642-0567. To determine eligibility, you may be required to provide documentation to your institution.

Minnesota Educational Assistance for Veterans

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

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

Financial Aid for Specific Populations

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

Financial Assistance for Survivors and Dependents of Military Veterans

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

Contact the U.S. Veterans Administration at www.va.gov or (800) 827-1000. You may also want to contact your county veteran's service officer. A listing of county veteran's service officers is available at www.mdva.state.mn.us/CSVODirectory.pdf. Also contact the Minnesota Department of Veteran's Affairs call (651) 296-2562 or visit www.mdva.state.mn.us.

Minnesota Educational Assistance for War Orphans

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

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

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

Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Service Building, 2nd Floor
20 West 12th Street
St. Paul, MN 55155
Tel: (651) 206-2562
Web: mdva.state.mn.us

Minnesota Educational Assistance to POW/MIA Dependents

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

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

Orphaned or Fostered Children

Orphans and those who were in foster care until age 18 may be eligible for an increased level of financial aid assistance. Qualifying students answer "yes" to question 53 on the FAFSA.

Orphans or wards of the court also are automatically considered independent students and are not required to submit financial information about their family. You may qualify for a larger Federal Pell Grant and Minnesota State Grant because of this.

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

Education Vouchers for Former Youth in Care

Education vouchers are federal funds made available to states through the Chafee Foster Care Independence Act. Education vouchers are intended to help students ages 18 to 23 pay for postsecondary education.

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

Eligibility Requirements: In order to receive an education voucher, you must meet the following requirements:

- experience a county-approved out-of-home placement after the age of 14 (this includes relative and kinship placements), or be adopted after age 16
- have a high school diploma or a GED
- begin a postsecondary program before age 21
- attend an accredited public or non-profit school that has been in existence for at least two years

What Types of Financial Aid Are Available?

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

To apply for an education voucher award, you must attach a copy of your FAFSA, apply for other sources of financial aid and submit two letters of recommendation. Students may reapply for education vouchers every year. Transcripts are required as evidence of progress in a postsecondary education program. Additional questions can be directed to:

Education/Training Vouchers
Minnesota Department of Human Services
444 Lafayette Road North, 3rd Floor South
St. Paul, MN 55155
Tel: (651) 431-4714

Native American Students

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

Minnesota American Indian Scholarship Program

Scholarships are available to eligible Indian students who are undergraduates enrolled full time and graduate students, enrolled either full or part time. The award amount is based on need.

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

- one-fourth or more Indian ancestry
- a resident of Minnesota and a member or descendent of a federally recognized Indian tribe
- a high school graduate (or have a GED)
- able to benefit from advanced education
- accepted by an approved college, university or vocational school in Minnesota

Application Process: Interested students should complete the FAFSA and contact their tribal education office, the school's financial aid office or download an application at www.getreadyforcollege.org. The priority deadline is July 1. Information and application forms also are available from:

Minnesota Indian Scholarship Program
Minnesota Office of Higher Education
1450 Energy Park Drive, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55108
Tel: (651) 642-0567 or (800) 657-3866
E-mail: 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 School founded in the 1800s. American Indian students admitted to the University of Minnesota, Morris, receive a full tuition waiver by supplying documentation of American Indian heritage.

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

- one-fourth or more Indian ancestry
- a resident of Minnesota and a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe
- a high school graduate (or have a GED)
- able to benefit from advanced education
- accepted by the university's admissions office

Application Process: Interested students should complete the FAFSA and contact their tribal education office or the financial aid administrator at their campus. The priority deadline is July 1.

Hearing or Visually Impaired Students

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 a tuition waiver at the public college or university to which they have been admitted. Contact the college's financial aid office to learn more.

Students of Farm Families

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

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

What Types of Financial Aid Are Available?

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. Awards are renewable for a maximum of eight semesters or 12 quarters or their equivalent.

Eligibility Requirements: To qualify for this award, you must be:

- a dependent less than 23 years old or a spouse of a public safety officer killed in the line of duty on or after January 1, 1973
- enrolled in an undergraduate or certificate program at one of the more than 132 public or private post-secondary institutions in Minnesota that participate in the State Grant Program

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

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

Nancy Reissner
Minnesota Department of Public Safety
445 Minnesota Street, Suite 100
St. Paul, MN 55101
Tel: (651) 201-7165
E-mail: nancy.reissner@state.mn.us

Adult Students

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

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

Alliss Opportunity Grant Program

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

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

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

Employer-Paid Tuition Assistance

Employers may provide up to \$5,250 per year in educational assistance to each employee on a tax-free basis for undergraduate or graduate courses, regardless of whether the education is job related.

Be sure to explore education tax credits and deductions to help offset your education costs.

This means you can exclude from your taxable income up to \$5,250 of tuition assistance you received from your employer. Your employer can tell you if the program is a qualified program, and will automatically treat the educational assistance as a tax-free benefit and not include it as wages on your W-2 form.

Limitations & Restrictions: Neither the Hope Tax Credit nor the Lifetime Learning Credit (see page 35) may be claimed for a student in the same tax year that the employer pays all the student's qualified tuition and related expenses.

Qualified Education Expenses: Educational assistance benefits include payments by the employer for tuition, fees and similar expenses, books, supplies and equipment. It does not include payments for meals, lodging, transportation or tools or supplies (other than textbooks) that you can keep after completing the course of instruction.

Employer Scholarship Programs

Some employers may provide scholarships for undergraduate or graduate study to their employees and the employee's spouse or children. Your employer can tell you if it has such a program available.

What Types of Financial Aid Are Available?

Assistance for Dislocated Workers

Dislocated Worker Programs serve individuals dislocated from long-held jobs. The goal is to help workers obtain new employment quickly. These programs focus on upgrading current job skills, retraining and providing support services. Inquire about Dislocated Worker Programs at local WorkForce Centers. Visit www.mnwfc.org/field/ to find the center nearest you.

Resources for Undocumented Students

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

State and Federal Grants

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

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

The federal Academic Competitiveness Grants and the SMART grants are awarded only to U.S. citizens.

Scholarships

Several organizations maintain online lists of scholarships for which undocumented students would be eligible. Visit www.getreadyforcollege.org/undocumented.

Tuition Policies

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

Scholarship Resources

American Indian College Fund
www.collegefund.org

American Indian Science and Engineering Society
www.aises.org/highered/scholarships

A Better Chance
www.abetterchance.org

Financial Aid for Native American Students
www.finaid.org/otheraid/

Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities' Scholarships:
scholarships.hacu.net

Hispanic College Fund
www.hispanicfund.org

Hispanic Scholarship Fund
www.hsf.net

Migrant Scholarship Fund
www.migrant.net

NCAA Scholarships and Internships
www.ncaa.org/about/scholarships.html

Scholarships for Hispanics
www.scholarshipsforhispanics.org

United Negro College Fund
www.uncf.org/scholarship/

Student Loans

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

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 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, such as the Faculty Loan Repayment and the Nursing Education Loan Repayment programs.

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

State Health Professions Loan Forgiveness

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

- Rural and urban physician: primary care residents or students (family practice, internal medicine, OB/GYN, pediatrics, psychiatry)
- Midlevel practitioner: nurse practitioner students, physician assistant students, certified nurse midwife students, nurse anesthetist students or advanced clinical nurse specialist students
- Nurse: licensed practical nurse students or registered nurse students
- Dentists: dental students or licensed dentists
- Pharmacists: students or residents in a pharmacy program or licenses pharmacists
- Allied Health Care Tech Faculty: students studying to become allied health care instructors or current allied health care technicians who want to teach in postsecondary programs (respiratory therapy, clinical lab technology, radiologic technology and/or surgical technology)
- Nurse Faculty: Students studying to become nursing instructors or nurses who want to teach in postsecondary nursing programs

Application Process: Applications are available after July 1, 2007 and due December 1, 2007, 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/cfh/orhpc/loan/home.htm

SMART Grants

Federal SMART grants provide up to \$4,000 per year for juniors and seniors majoring in physical, life, or computer sciences, mathematics, technology, engineering or foreign languages determined critical to national security. Visit www.ed.gov to learn more.

University of Minnesota Agricultural Food and Environmental Sciences

The University of Minnesota's College of Agricultural, Food, and Environmental Sciences (COAFES) awards over \$700,000 in need- and merit-based undergraduate scholarships each year. Awards range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 per year, and many are renewable for multiple years.

The College offers 11 majors that focus on food, agriculture and the environment, and span the business, communication, education, and science disciplines.

Eligibility Requirements: To be eligible, you must be a freshman, continuing or transfer student admitted and planning to enroll in one of the college's degree programs.

Application Process: Prospective students considering enrolling in the College are strongly encouraged to apply. More information is available from:

Jessica Krueger
University of Minnesota
190 Coffey Hall
1420 Eckles Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55108
Tel: (612) 625-9254 or (800) 866-2474
E-mail: krueg051@umn.edu
Web: www.coafes.umn.edu

TEACH (Teacher Education and Compensation Help)

TEACH is a scholarship program that helps child care providers earn a college degree in a related field.

Eligibility requirements: Students must be currently employed as a child care provider and have financial and other support from their employer. A complete list of requirements is listed at www.mnchildcare.org/providers/teach.php

Application process: Applications are available by contacting Valerie Peterson at (651) 290-9704 ext.107 or valeriep@mnchildcare.org.

Reciprocity & Reduced Tuition Programs

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

The Midwest Student Exchange Program provides a reduction to non-resident tuition in specific programs of study at participating institutions for residents of 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.

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

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

Minnesota Office of Higher Education
1450 Energy Park Drive, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55108-5227
Tel: (651) 642-0567 or (800) 657-3866
E-mail: info@ohe.state.mn.us
Apply online: www.getreadyforcollege.org

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

Minnesota/Wisconsin Reciprocity

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

Reciprocity Tuition Rate: Minnesota resident

undergraduate students enrolled in a Wisconsin public postsecondary institution generally pay tuition at the rate charged by a comparable Minnesota institution. For example, an undergraduate student from Minnesota enrolled at the University of Wisconsin-Madison pays approximately the tuition rate he or she would pay at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. An undergraduate student from Minnesota enrolled at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls pays a tuition rate similar to what he or she would pay at a Minnesota state university. A Minnesotan enrolled in a University of Wisconsin System College (two-year institution) pays the tuition rate charged at a similar Minnesota community college. And, a Minnesotan enrolled in a Wisconsin technical college pays the Wisconsin technical college resident tuition rate.

Wisconsin resident undergraduate students enrolled at Minnesota community colleges, Minnesota state universities, or a University of Minnesota campus pay tuition that is comparable to tuition at a similar Wisconsin institution. Wisconsin resident undergraduate students enrolled at a Minnesota technical college pay tuition at the Minnesota resident tuition rate. Wisconsin resident undergraduate students enrolled at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities pay tuition based on the resident undergraduate rate charged at the University of Wisconsin-Madison plus 25 percent of the difference between the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities undergraduate rate.

Reciprocity tuition rates and eligible programs are subject to change. For up-to-date information on tuition reciprocity, visit www.getreadyforcollege.org

Minnesota and Wisconsin residents enrolled in graduate education or in law school under the tuition reciprocity agreement pay the higher of the two state tuition rates at comparable institutions.

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

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

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

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

Minnesota/North Dakota Reciprocity

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

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

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

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

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

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

North Dakota University System
State Capitol Building, 10th Floor
600 E. Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 215
Bismarck, ND 58505
Tel: (701) 328-4113
E-mail: ndus.office@ndus.nodak.edu
Web: www.ndus.nodak.edu

North Dakota Board for Career and Technical Education
600 E. Boulevard Avenue, Dept 270
Bismarck, ND 58505
Tel: (701) 328-2288
E-mail: cte@state.nd.us
Web: www.state.nd.us/cte/

What Types of Financial Aid Are Available?

Minnesota/South Dakota Reciprocity

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

Reciprocity Tuition Rate: Minnesota resident

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

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

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

South Dakota residents who enroll in a Minnesota public postsecondary institution 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 request an application from:

Reciprocity Program
South Dakota Board of Regents
Box 2201, University Station
Brookings, SD 57007
Tel: (605) 688-4497
E-mail: joella_anderson@sdstate.edu
Web: www.sdbor.edu

Minnesota/Manitoba Reciprocity

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

Iowa Lakes Community College & Minnesota West Community and Technical College

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

Midwest Student Exchange Program

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

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

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

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

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

Midwest Higher Education Commission
1300 South Second Street, Suite 130
Minneapolis, MN 55454-1079
Tel: (612) 626-8288
Web: www.mhec.org

Are There Education Tax Benefits?

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

Limitations & Restrictions

The following tax incentives have different phase-in and phase-out periods, varying income eligibility requirements and definitions of qualified college costs. Students and families may need to choose among incentives since some tax preferred investment options and tax provisions cannot be used in combination with each other in the same tax year.

Hope Tax Credit

You may be able to claim a federal individual income Hope Tax Credit of up to \$1,650 for qualified tuition and related expenses for each eligible student. The Hope Tax Credit reduces the amount of federal individual income taxes you may have to pay.

Income Limits: The Hope Tax Credit is generally an option for you if your modified adjusted gross income is less than \$55,000 (or \$110,000 for joint filers). The full credit is available to single filers with adjusted gross incomes of less than \$45,000 (or joint filers with incomes less than \$90,000) and is phased-out as incomes increase.

Eligibility: You can claim the Hope Tax Credit for the first two years of an eligible student's postsecondary education when the student is enrolled at least half time in a program that leads to a degree, certificate or other recognized educational credential for one academic period. Generally, you can claim the Hope Tax 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 the Hope Tax Credit if your tax filing status is married filing separate returns.

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.

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

Focus on Financial Aid 2007-2008

Compatibility with Other Tax Benefits: You may be able to claim a Hope Tax Credit in the same year in which you received a distribution from either a Coverdell Education Savings Account (ESA) or a Qualified Tuition Program (QTP), but you cannot use expenses paid with a distribution from either a Coverdell ESA or a QTP as the basis for the Hope Tax Credit. You cannot claim the Hope and Lifetime Learning Tax Credits for the same student in the same year.

Application Process: The Hope Tax Credit is claimed on your income tax forms and 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 Lifetime Learning Tax Credit reduces the amount of federal individual income taxes you may have to pay.

Income Limits: The Lifetime Learning Tax Credit is generally an option for you if your modified adjusted gross income is less than \$55,000 (or \$110,000 for joint filers). The full credit is available to single filers with adjusted gross incomes of less than \$45,000 (or joint filers with incomes less than \$90,000).

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 Lifetime Learning Tax 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 separate 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.

Are There Education Tax Benefits?

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

Compatibility with Other Tax Benefits: You may be able to claim a Lifetime Learning Tax Credit in the same year in which you received a distribution from either a Coverdell Education Savings Account or a Qualified Tuition Program, but you cannot use expenses paid with a distribution from either a Coverdell account or a QTP as the basis for the Lifetime Learning Tax Credit. You cannot claim the Hope and Lifetime Learning Tax Credits for the same student in the same year.

Application Process: The Lifetime Learning Tax Credit is claimed on your income tax forms 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 \$50,000 or less (\$100,000 for joint filers). A partial deduction may be available for single tax filers with modified adjusted gross incomes up to \$65,000 and joint filers with incomes up to \$130,000.

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

Qualified Expenditures: Qualified expenditures are the total cost of attending an eligible educational institution, including graduate school, including tuition and fees, room and board, books, supplies, and equipment, and other necessary expenses such as transportation. 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 United States Department of Education.

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

Tuition and Fees Deduction

You may be able to deduct qualified tuition and related expenses even if you do not itemize deductions on Schedule A, Form 1040. This deduction may be beneficial to you if you cannot take either the Hope or Lifetime Learning tax credit because your income is too high. For detailed information, review the Internal Revenue Service special instructions for claiming the 2006 tuition and fee deduction.

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

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

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

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

Limitations: You cannot deduct any amount for qualified tuition and related expenses for a year in which the Hope or Lifetime Learning Tax Credits are claimed for the individual or you can deduct the expense under any other provision of the law.

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

Are There Tax-Advantaged Investment & Savings Options?

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

Minnesota College Savings Plan

The Minnesota College Savings Plan is a 529 Qualified Tuition Program. Earnings accumulate tax-free, and are exempt from federal and state taxes if used for qualified higher education expenses. For additional information on the Minnesota College Savings Plan or to open an account, visit www.mnsaves.org or call (877) 338-4646.

The Minnesota College Savings Plan is one of many 529 plans offered throughout the country.

Investment Options: Account owners have five investment options including a managed allocation option in which savings are invested more conservatively as the account beneficiary nears college age, an all-equities option and a guaranteed option with a minimum rate of three percent guaranteed. Account owners are assessed an annual plan manager fee for investments in the managed allocation option and the all-equity option. The fee is 0.65 percent (less than one percent) of the plan assets.

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

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

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

Coverdell Education Savings Accounts

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

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

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

Eligibility Requirements: If your 2006 adjusted gross income is less than \$110,000 (\$220,000 for joint filers), you may be able to establish a Coverdell ESA to finance the qualified education expenses of a designed beneficiary. When a Coverdell ESA is established, the designated beneficiary must be under age 18 or considered a special needs beneficiary.

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

Are There Tax-Advantaged Investment & Savings Options?

Education Savings Bonds

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

Income Eligibility: Your modified adjusted gross income in 2006 must be less than \$78,100 (\$124,700 for joint filers).

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

Eligibility: You must have paid qualified higher education expenses for yourself, your spouse or a dependent for whom you claim an exemption on your return. Your filing status cannot be married filing separate return. The bond must be issued either in your name (as the sole owner) or in the name of both you and your spouse (as co-owners). The owner must be at least 24 years old before the bond's issue date. The issue date is printed directly on the front of the savings bond.

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

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

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

Withdrawals from IRAs

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

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

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

Eligibility Requirements: None.

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

Other College Tax Provisions

Several other tax provisions may help families cover college costs.

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

For more information on tax benefits, visit www.irs.gov for access to Internal Revenue Service Publication 970.

Who Can Provide Additional Help?

Financial aid may seem confusing, but there are people who can advise students and parents on the best way to meet college costs, including high school counselors, financial aid administrators at postsecondary schools and the staff of the Minnesota Office of Higher Education.

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

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

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

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

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

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

E-mail: info@ohe.state.mn.us

Web: www.getreadyforcollege.org

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

Resources for Students with Disabilities

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

Vocational Rehabilitation Program

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

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

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

For information, visit www.mnwfc.org, consult the blue pages in your local phone book for the Rehabilitation Services Office nearest you, or call (651) 296-5616 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.

Most financial aid is made available to you through the college's financial aid office.

Who Can Provide Additional Help?

Services for the Blind or Visually Impaired

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

The Minnesota State Services for the Blind also transcribes textbooks and vocational materials to audio or into Braille for Minnesota students who are blind or visually impaired.

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

Federal Student Aid Audio Guide

The U.S. Department of Education has produced a guide, *Funding Education Beyond High School: Audio Highlights*, on federal student aid for visually impaired students. The guide describes eligibility requirements and application procedures for federal grant, loan and work-study programs; scholarships offered to visually impaired students; and the rights of students with disabilities under the Rehabilitation Act, which forbids disability bias in federally assisted institutions.

The Audio Guide is available on CD or online at www.studentaid.ed.gov/audioguide/.

The FAFSA in Braille

A Braille version of the FAFSA is available as a reference; however, it cannot be submitted. Visit www.fafsa.ed.gov for more information.

Disability Resources

FAFSA in Braille

Funding Education Beyond High School: Audio Highlights

Funding Your Education in Braille

Student Guide in Braille

Visit 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

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

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

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

College Students Who Have Chronic Diseases or Medical Conditions

College Students with Learning Disabilities

College Students Who Have ADHD

There is a small fee charged for each of these brochures. Visit www.ahead.org to learn more or contact:

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

Additional Sources of Information

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

The College Handbook 2007

This guide contains up-to-date information on more than 3,600 two- and four-year colleges and universities, housing, majors, special study options, financial aid and athletics. The guide can be purchased at bookstores, or directly from the publisher at www.collegeboard.com, by calling (800) 323-7155 or by sending a check for \$28.95, plus \$5 for shipping, to:

College Board Publications
P.O. Box 869010
Plano, TX 75074-0998

Funding Education Beyond High School: The Guide to Federal Student Aid 2007-2008

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.fafsapubs.org.

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

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

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

Guide to Getting Financial Aid 2007

This guide to obtaining financial aid breaks down the financial aid process and guides students and parents through the steps. It can be purchased at bookstores, or directly from the publisher at www.collegeboard.com, by calling (800) 323-7155 or by sending a check for \$19.95, plus \$4 for shipping, to:

College Board Publications
MDP0106A
P.O. Box 869010
Plano, TX 75074-0998

Need A Lift?

This 160-page handbook contains sources of scholarships, financial aid opportunities, loans, careers and employment opportunities for all students. A special section applies to veterans and their dependents. Copies are available by sending a check or money order (no cash) for \$3, plus \$.95 for shipping, to:

The American Legion
National Emblem Sales
P.O. Box 1050
Indianapolis, IN 46206

Peterson's College Money Handbook, 2007

This publication presents information on costs and nearly \$50 billion in financial aid opportunities at over 2,100 U.S. colleges and universities. The guide can be purchased at bookstores for about \$24.

Summary of Financial Aid Programs

Program	Apply to	Amount
Scholarships and Grants		
Minnesota State Grant	Complete the FAFSA within 30 days of start of term	Up to \$8,577 per year depending upon where you attend. Average state award is \$2,013
Federal Pell Grant	Complete the FAFSA	\$400 - \$4,310 per year
Federal Academic Competitiveness Grant	Complete the FAFSA and inquire at the college financial aid office	\$750 first year \$1,300 second year
Federal SMART Grant	Complete the FAFSA Inquire at college financial aid office	\$4,000 per year for 3rd- and 4th-year undergraduates
Federal Supplemental Opportunity Grant	Institution	Up to \$4,000 per year
Minnesota ACHIEVE Scholarship	Institution	\$1,200 one time
Minnesota Postsecondary Child Care Grant	Institution	Up to \$2,600 per child per academic year
Work-Study Programs		
Minnesota Work Study	Institution	Determined by institution
Federal Work Study	Institution	Determined by institution
Loan Programs		
Federal Perkins Loan	Institution	Up to \$4,000 per year for undergraduates or \$6,000 per year for graduate students

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

Summary of Financial Aid Programs (continued)

Program	Apply to	Amount
Loan Programs continued		
Federal Stafford Student Loan	Private lenders (a few schools make loans directly to students)	Up to \$3,500 per year for first-year undergraduate, \$4,500 per year for second-year undergraduates, and \$5,500 for undergraduates in third- and fourth-year status. \$23,000 cumulative. Loan limits are higher for graduate, professional and independent students.
PLUS Loan	Private lenders (a few schools make loans directly to students)	Up to annual price of attendance less other aid received for each dependent child
SELF Loan	Minnesota Office of Higher Education	Up to \$7,500 per year
Out-of-State Tuition Reduction and Reciprocity		
Minnesota-Wisconsin	Minnesota Office of Higher Education (application online) or the Wisconsin technical college you wish to attend	
Minnesota-South Dakota	Minnesota Office of Higher Education (application online)	
Minnesota-North Dakota	Minnesota Office of Higher Education (application online)	
Minnesota-Manitoba	Non-resident tuition waiver at participating Manitoba institutions	
Minnesota students attending in Kansas, Michigan, Missouri and Nebraska	School of attendance when application is submitted	Student pays up to 150 percent of resident tuition at certain public institutions or receives a 10 percent discount off tuition at certain private schools

Type of Award

Eligible Students

Subsidized and long-term, low-interest loans that must be repaid. Based on need, government pays interest while student is in school. Unsubsidized Stafford loan is available for students without financial need. Borrowers pay interest while in school.

Any student enrolled at least half time in an eligible school in Minnesota or another state, undergraduate, graduate, professional and vocational students. Must be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen, registered for Selective Service and cannot be in default or owe a refund on any Title IV Higher Education Act loan or grant.

Long-term, variable interest that changes annually, 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 registered for Selective Service. Must not be in default or owe a refund on any Title IV Higher Education Act loan or grant.

Long-term loans, must be repaid, variable interest

Undergraduate, graduate and vocational students enrolled at least half time in an eligible school in Minnesota, or Minnesota residents enrolled in an eligible out-of-state school or Canadian province of Manitoba. Co-signer must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident and be credit-worthy.

Students attending a public institution in Wisconsin pay approximately the average tuition they would pay at a comparable school in Minnesota. Technical college students pay the resident rate.

Nearly all public college students. Exceptions are students in the College of Medicine, Veterinary Medicine and Dentistry at the University of Wisconsin-Madison or Milwaukee. (Eligible professional programs are subject to change.)

Students pay the higher of the resident tuition and fee rate at the institution attended, or the average rate at a comparable home-state institution.

Nearly all Minnesota residents attending public institutions in South Dakota. Professional programs in law, pharmacy and medicine are excluded.

Students pay the higher of the resident tuition and fee rate at the institution attended, or the average rate at a comparable home-state institution.

Nearly all Minnesota residents attending public institutions in North Dakota. Professional programs in law, pharmacy and medicine are excluded.

Non-resident tuition waiver at participating Manitoba institutions.

Minnesota residents attending at University of Manitoba, University of Winnipeg, Brandon University, Red River Community College, Assiniboine Community College or College Universitaire de Saint-Boniface.

Non-resident tuition waiver at a limited number of institutions and programs. Visit www.mhec.org to learn more about the Midwest Student Exchange Program.

Minnesota residents enrolling in participating institutions and programs in Kansas, Michigan, Missouri and Nebraska. (Programs and institutions are limited so ask in advance.)

Financial Aid Contacts

Following are the addresses and phone numbers of contacts for financial aid offices at Minnesota postsecondary institutions. To find Title IV school codes used to complete the FAFSA that are not listed, visit www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Community & Technical Colleges

Alexandria Technical College #005544
320) 762-4540 or (888) 234-1222
1601 Jefferson Street
Alexandria, MN 56308
garym@alextech.edu
www.alextech.edu

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

Anoka-Ramsey Community College, Cambridge #002332
(763) 433-1878
300 Polk Street South
Cambridge, MN 55008
marykay.lavigne@anokaramsey.edu
www.anokaramsey.edu

Anoka-Ramsey Community College, Coon Rapids #002332
(763) 433-1254
11200 Mississippi Boulevard Northwest
Coon Rapids, MN 55433
karla.seymour@anokaramsey.edu
www.anokaramsey.edu

Central Lakes College, Brainerd #002339
(218) 855-8025 or (800) 933-0346
501 West College Drive
Brainerd, MN 56401
mbarnaby@clcmn.edu
www.clcmn.edu

Central Lakes College, Staples #002339
(218) 894-5157 or (800) 247-6836
1830 Airport Road
Staples, MN 56479
mbarnaby@clcmn.edu
www.clcmn.edu

Century College #010546
(651) 779-3305 or (800) 228-1978
3300 Century Avenue North
White Bear Lake, MN 55110
finaid@century.mnscu.edu
www.century.mnscu.edu

Dakota County Technical College #010402
(651) 423-8297 or (877) 937-3282
1300 East 145th Street
Rosemount, MN 55068
finaid@dctc.edu
www.dctc.edu

Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College #031291
(218) 879-0816 or (800) 657-3712
2101 14th Street
Cloquet, MN 55720
finaid@fdltcc.edu
www.fdltdcc.edu

Hennepin Technical College, Brooklyn Park #010491
(952) 995-1472 or (800) 345-4655
9000 Brooklyn Boulevard
Brooklyn Park, MN 55445
pat.berktold@hennepintech.edu
www.hennepintech.edu

Hennepin Technical College, Eden Prairie #010491
(952) 995-1472 or (800) 345-4655
13100 College View Drive
Eden Prairie, MN 55347
pat.berktold@hennepintech.edu
www.hennepintech.edu

Hibbing Community College #002355
(218) 262-7200 or (800) 224-4422
1515 East 25th Street
Hibbing, MN 55746
paulhatch@hibbing.edu
www.hibbing.edu

Inver Hills Community College #006935
(651) 450-8518
2500 East 80th Street
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076
finaid@inverhills.edu
www.inverhills.edu

Itasca Community College #002356
(218) 327-4228 or (800) 996-6422
1851 East Highway 169
Grand Rapids, MN 55744
nathan.wright@itascacc.edu
www.itascacc.edu

Lake Superior College #005757
(218) 723-4895 or (800) 432-2884
2101 Trinity Road
Duluth, MN 55811
s.olin@lsc.edu
www.lsc.edu

Mesabi Range Community & Technical College, Eveleth #002350
(218) 744-7496 or (800) 657-3860
1100 Industrial Park Drive
P.O. Box 0648
Eveleth, MN 55734
c.hill@mr.mnscu.edu
www.mr.mnscu.edu

Mesabi Range Community & Technical College, Virginia #004009
(218) 749-7753 or (800) 657-3860
1001 Chestnut Street West
Virginia, MN 55792
g.walters@mr.mnscu.edu
www.mr.mnscu.edu

Minneapolis Community & Technical College #002362
(612) 659-6240 or (800) 247-0911
1501 Hennepin Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55403
financial.aid@minneapolis.edu
www.minneapolis.edu

Minnesota State College-Southeast Technical, Red Wing #002393
(651) 385-6323 or (800) 657-4849
308 Pioneer Road
P.O. Box 409
Red Wing, MN 55066
adahlen@southeastmn.edu
www.southeastmn.edu

Minnesota State College-Southeast Technical, Winona #002393

(507) 453-2711 or (800) 372-8164
1250 Homer Road
Box 409
Winona, MN 55978
adahlen@southeastmn.edu
www.southeastmn.edu

Minnesota State Community & Technical College, Detroit Lakes #005541

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

Minnesota State Community & Technical College, Fergus Falls #005541

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

Minnesota State Community & Technical College, Moorhead #005541

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

Minnesota State Community & Technical College, Wadena #005541

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

Minnesota West Community & Technical College, Canby #005263

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

Minnesota West Community & Technical College, Granite Falls #005263

(320) 564-4511 x202 or
(800) 657-3247
1593 11th Avenue
Granite Falls, MN 56241
michelle.mcfarland@mnwest.edu
www.mnwest.edu

Minnesota West Community & Technical College, Jackson #005263

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

Minnesota West Community & Technical College, Pipestone #005263

(507) 825-6800 or (800) 658-2330
P.O. Box 250
Pipestone, MN 56164
loreen.sanke@mnwest.edu
www.mnwest.edu

Minnesota West Community & Technical College, Worthington #005263

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

Normandale Community College #007954

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

North 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) 773-4521 or (800) 451-3441
2022 Central Avenue Northeast
East Grand Forks, MN 56721
rhonda.hettervig@northlandcollege.edu
www.northlandcollege.edu

Northland Community & Technical College, Thief River Falls #002385

(218) 681-0867 or (800) 959-6282
1101 Highway One East
Thief River Falls, MN 56701
marie.sandsmark@northlandcollege.edu
www.northlandcollege.edu

Northwest Technical College, Bemidji #005759

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

Pine Technical College #005535

(320) 629-5100 x161 or
(800) 521-7463
900 4th Street Southeast
Pine City, MN 55063
financialaid@pinetech.edu
www.pinetech.edu

Rainy River Community College #006775

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

Ridgewater College, Hutchinson #005252

(320) 587-3636 or (800) 222-4424
2 Century Avenue Southeast
Hutchinson, MN 55350
dgassman@ridgewater.edu
www.ridgewater.edu

Ridgewater College, Willmar #005252

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

Riverland Community College, Albert Lea #002335

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

Financial Aid Contacts

Riverland Community College, Austin #002335

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

Rochester Community & Technical College #002373

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

South Central College, Faribault #005537

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

South Central College, North Mankato/Mankato #005537

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

St. Cloud Technical College #005534

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

Saint Paul College #005533

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

Vermilion Community College #002350

(218) 365-7211 or (800) 657-3608
1900 East Camp Street
Ely, MN 55731
financial.aid@vcc.edu
www.vcc.edu

State Universities

Bemidji State University #002336

(218) 755-2034 or (800) 475-2001
1500 Birchmont Drive Northeast
Bemidji, MN 56601
financialaid@bemidjistate.edu
www.bemidjistate.edu

Metropolitan State University #010374

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

Minnesota State University, Mankato #002360

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

Minnesota State University Moorhead #002367

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

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

Southwest Minnesota State University #002375

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

University of Minnesota

University of Minnesota, Crookston #004069

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

University of Minnesota, Duluth #002388

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

University of Minnesota, Morris #002389

(320) 589-6035 or (800) 992-8863
105 Behmler Hall
600 East 4th Street
Morris, MN 56267
beaureja@morris.umn.edu
www.morris.umn.edu

University of Minnesota, Rochester #003969

(507) 280-2831
855 30th Avenue Southeast
Rochester, MN 55904
stuserv@umn.edu
www.r.umn.edu

University of Minnesota, Twin Cities #003969

(612) 624-1111 or (800) 400-8636
210 Fraser Hall
106 Pleasant Street Southeast
Minneapolis, MN 55455
helpingu@umn.edu
www.umn.edu/twincities

Private Colleges & Universities

Academy College #013505

(952) 851-0066 or (800) 292-9149
1101 East 78th Street, Suite 100
Bloomington, MN 55420
finaid@academycollege.edu
www.academycollege.edu

Adler Graduate School

(612) 861-7554 x102
1001 West Highway 7, Suite 311
Hopkins, MN 55305
jeanette@alfredadler.edu
www.alfredadler.edu

Augsburg College #002334

(612) 330-1046 or (800) 458-1721
2211 Riverside Avenue South, CB309
Minneapolis, MN 55454
terriop@augzburg.edu
www.augsburg.edu

Bethany Lutheran College #002337

(507) 344-7328 or (800) 944-3066
700 Luther Drive
Mankato, MN 56001
jyoung@blc.edu
www.blc.edu

Bethel Seminary

(651) 638-6241 or (800) 255-8706
3900 Bethel Drive
St. Paul, MN 55112
finaid@bethel.edu
www.bethel.edu

Bethel University #002338

(651) 638-6241 or (800) 255-8706
3900 Bethel Drive
St. Paul, MN 55112
finaid@bethel.edu
www.bethel.edu

Cardinal Stritch University #003837

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

Carleton College #002340

(507) 646-4138 or (800) 995-2275
One North College Street
Northfield, MN 55057
financialaid@acs.carleton.edu
www.carleton.edu

College of St. Benedict #002341

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

College of St. Catherine #002342

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

College of Saint Scholastica #002343

(218) 723-6725 or (800) 447-5444
1200 Kenwood Avenue
Duluth, MN 55811
jerickso@css.edu
www.css.edu

College of Visual Arts #007462

(651) 224-3416 or (800) 224-1536
344 Summit Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55102
sant@cva.edu
www.cva.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) 641-8209 or (800) 333-4705
275 North Syndicate Street
St. Paul, MN 55104
heinemann@csp.edu
www.csp.edu

Crossroads College #002366

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

Crown College #002383

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

Globe University #004642

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

Gustavus Adolphus College #002353

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

Hamline University #002354

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

Herzing College #011017

(763) 231-3150 or (800) 878-3729
5700 West Broadway
Minneapolis, MN 55428
jrivero@mpls.herzing.edu
www.herzing.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) 291-0177 x2361 or
(800) 594-9500
19 Exchange Street East
St. Paul, MN 55101
jaalbers@mcnallysmith.edu
www.mcnallysmith.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

Financial Aid Contacts

North Central University #002369

(612) 343-4488 or (800) 289-6222
910 Elliot Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55404
finaid@northcentral.edu
www.northcentral.edu

Northwestern College #002371

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

Northwestern Health Sciences University #012328

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

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

Pillsbury Baptist Bible College #016117

(507) 451-2710 x214
315 South Grove Street
Owatonna, MN 55060
tomlawson@pillsbury.edu
www.pillsbury.edu

Presentation College #003467

(605) 229-8427 or
(800) 437-6060 x429
115 South Park Street, Suite 102
Fairmont, MN 56031
pcaid@presentation.edu
www.presentation.edu

St. John's University #002379

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

Saint Mary's University of Minnesota #002380

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

St. Olaf College #002382

(507) 786-3019 or (877) 235-8383
1520 St. Olaf Avenue
Northfield, MN 55057
finaid@stolaf.edu
www.stolaf.edu

University of St. Thomas #002345

(651) 962-6557 or (800) 328-6819
2115 Summit Avenue, Foley 100
St. Paul, MN 55105
financialaid@stthomas.edu
www.stthomas.edu

White Earth Tribal & Community College #039214

(218) 936-5731
202 Main Street South
Mahnomon, MN 56557
dstone@wetcc.org
www.wetcc.org

William Mitchell College of Law #G02391

(651) 290-6358 or (888) 963-5529
875 Summit Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55105
pharris@wmitchell.edu
www.wmitchell.edu

Private Career Schools

Allure School of Cosmetology

(651) 388-8224
1610 West 3rd Street
Red Wing, MN 55066

American Academy of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine

(651) 631-0204
1925 West County Road B2
Roseville, MN 55113
www.aaaom.org

American Indian OIC School of Business & Office Technology #016346

(612) 341-3358 x136
1845 East Franklin Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55404
michaelw@aioic.org
www.aioic.org

Argosy University #021799

(651) 846-3387 or (888) 844-2004
1515 Central Parkway
Eagan, MN 55121
lwerner@argosyu.edu
www.argosyu.edu

The Art Institutes International Minnesota #010248

(612) 656-6839 x139 or
(800) 777-3643 x6839
15 South 9th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55402
bburgoyne@aai.edu
www.aim.artinstitutes.edu

Aveda Institute #014847

(612) 378-7407 or (800) 274-6778
400 Central Avenue Southeast
Minneapolis, MN 55414
mdegaetano@aveda.com
www.aveda.com

Brainco: Minneapolis School of Advertising Design and Interactive Studies

(612) 822-1313
2900 Aldrich Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55408
prentiss@brainco.com
www.braincomsa.com

Brown College #007351

(651) 905-3400 or (800) 627-6966
1440 Northland Drive
Mendota Heights, MN 55120
hbetz@browncollege.edu
www.browncollege.edu

Centerpoint Massage and Shiatsu Therapy School & Clinic

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

Central Beauty School, Eagan

(651) 994-7881 or (888) 818-6735
3906 Cedar Grove Parkway
Eagan, MN 55122
centralbeauty@aol.com
www.centralbeautyschool.com

Central Beauty School, Cambridge

(763) 691-1431 or (888) 818-6735
538 South Main Street
Cambridge, MN 55008
centralbeauty@aol.com
www.centralbeautyschool.com

Cosmetology Training Center

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

DeVry University #010727

(952) 838-1860
7200 France Avenue South, Suite 575
Edina, MN 55435
cbollig@devry.edu
www.devry.edu/locations/
campuses/loc-edina.jsp

Duluth Business University #009892

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

Dunwoody College of Technology #004641

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

East Metro OIC #017116

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

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University #001479

(386) 226-6318
1365 Corporate Center Curve #104
Eagan, MN 55121
elena.phillips@erau.edu

Green River Dance for Global Somatics

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

Hastings Beauty School, Inc.

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

Healing Touch Therapeutic Massage School

(507) 536-4076
17 13 1/2 Street Northwest
Rochester, MN 55902
info@healingtouchschool.com
www.healingtouchschool.com

High-Tech Institute #015988

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

IC Beauty & Massage School

(612) 869-4073
33 West 65th Street
Richfield, MN 55423
www.icbeautyandmassageschool.com

Ingénue Beauty College #017055

(218) 236-7201
1024 Center Avenue
Moorhead, MN 56560
debmurray@cableone.net

Institute of Production and Recording #F00068

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

ITT Technical Institute #030875

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

LeCordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts #030226

(651) 675-4784 or
(800) 528-4575 x4784
1315 Mendota Heights Road
Mendota Heights, MN 55120
elundman@twincitiesculinary.com
www.twincitiesculinary.com

Miami Ad School Minneapolis

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

Midwest Beauty School

(763) 315-9333
7984 Brooklyn Boulevard
Brooklyn Park, MN 55445
midwestbeautyschool@yahoo.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 School of Massage & Body Work #034734

(612) 788-8907
81 Lowry Avenue Northeast
Minneapolis, MN 55418
mlee@mplsschoolofmassage.org
www.mplsschoolofmassage.org

Minnesota Commercial Diver Training Center

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

Minnesota Legal Assistant Institute

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

Minnesota School of Barbering #025831

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

Financial Aid Contacts

Minnesota School of Beauty

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

Minnesota School of Business, Blaine #017145

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

Minnesota School of Business, Brooklyn Center #017145

(763) 585-5213 or (800) 231-9157
5910 Shingle Creek Parkway
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430
kzakariasen@msbcollege.edu
www.msbcollege.edu

Minnesota School of Business, Plymouth #017145

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

Minnesota School of Business, Richfield #017145

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

Minnesota School of Business, Rochester #017145

(507) 536-9500 or (888) 662-8772
2521 Pennington Drive Northwest
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Minnesota School of Business, St. Cloud #017145

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

Minnesota School of Business, Shakopee #017145

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

Minnesota School of Cosmetology #015752

(651) 287-2190
7166 10th Street North
Oakdale, MN 55128
skronmiller@msbcollege.edu
www.msbcollege.edu

Model College of Hair Design #009831

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

Moler Barber School of Hairstyling #070404

(612) 788-4045
2500 Central Avenue Northeast
Minneapolis, MN 55418

Montessori Training Center of Minnesota

(651) 298-1120
683 Dodd Road
St. Paul, MN 55107
mtcm@mtcmn.org
www.mtcmn.org

Nail Tech and Beauty School

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

National American University, Bloomington #004057

(952) 883-0439
7801 Metro Parkway, Suite 200t
Bloomington, MN 55425
www.national.edu

National American University, Brooklyn Center #004057

(763) 560-8377 or (866) 628-6386
6120 Earle Brown Drive, Suite 100
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430
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National American University, Roseville #004057

(651) 855-6336
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Roseville, MN 55113
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New Horizons Computer Training Centers of Minnesota, Edina

(952) 896-6800
4510 West 77th Street, Suite 210
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www.newhorizons.com

New Horizons Computer Training Centers of Minnesota, Minneapolis

(952) 896-6800
5010 Cheshire Lane North, Suite 3
Plymouth, MN 55446
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www.newhorizons.com

Northern Cosmetology Institute

(218) 759-2135 or (877) 301-2135
118 3rd Street Northwest
Bemidji, MN 56601
cosmo@paulbunyan.net
www.ncionline.net

Nova Academy of Cosmetology

(507) 280-6910
1629 Broadway #7
Rochester, MN 55906

NTI School of CAD Technology #008267

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

Park Avenue School of Cosmetology

(218) 237-2260
306 Main Avenue South
Park Rapids, MN 56470
kristinewalsh@marykay.com

Professional Salon Academy

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

Pro-Image Beauty School

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

Rasmussen College, Brooklyn Park #E01193

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8301 93rd Avenue North
Brooklyn Park, MN 55445
www.rasmussen.edu

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Rasmussen College, Egan #004648

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3500 Federal Drive
Egan, MN 55122
www.rasmussen.edu

Rasmussen College, Eden Prairie #011686

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

Rasmussen College, Lake Elmo #E01264

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8565 Eagle Point Circle
Lake Elmo, MN 55042
jessica.crotty@rasmussen.edu
www.rasmussen.edu

Rasmussen College, Mankato #016845

(507) 625-6556 or (800) 657-6767
501 Holly Lane
Mankato, MN 56001
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Rasmussen College, St. Cloud #008694

(320) 251-5600 or (800) 852-0460
226 Park Avenue South
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Regency Beauty Institute, Blaine #010490

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40 Highway 10 Northeast
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Regency Beauty Institute, Burnsville #010490

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3000 White Bear Avenue, Suite 37
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Regency Beauty Institute, Minnetonka #010490

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12293 Ridgedale Drive, Suite 103
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www.regencybeauty.com

Rochester School of Hair Design

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

Salon Professional Academy

(320) 240-6985
136 Division Street
Waite Park, MN 56387

Scot Lewis School, Bloomington #009870

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Spa A School #E01054

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New Hope, MN 55428
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Summit Academy Opportunities Industrialization Center #015950

(612) 278-7354
935 Olson Memorial Highway
Minneapolis, MN 55405
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Touch of Life School of Massage

(952) 996-9655
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Transportation Center for Excellence

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University of Phoenix, Minneapolis/St. Paul #014593

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Disclaimer: Information about federal and state financial aid programs is based on 2007 policies and rules as of June 2007. The U.S. Congress and the Minnesota Legislature may change programs before the 2007-2008 school year.

Where Can I Get Help?

The most valuable source of information for you is the financial aid office at the college or colleges to which you apply. The office can help you complete the FAFSA and will suggest the types of aid best suited to your needs. Ultimately, it is the school's financial aid office that puts together a financial aid package for you, using funds from appropriate sources.

For information about federal student aid matters, call the Federal Student Aid Information Center at (800) 4-FED-AID or (800) 433-3243 or (800) 730-8913 TDD Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Central Standard Time.

The FAFSA Web site allows you to apply for financial aid online, make changes online, and check the status of your application. www.fafsa.ed.gov

College Goal Sunday is February 10, 2008. Students and parents are invited to one of several locations across the state to get help and advice from a financial aid professional on completing their FAFSA. Visit www.mncollegegoalsunday.org for more details on locations and times.

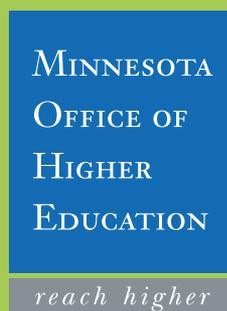
The Minnesota Office of Higher Education can provide you with information on the financial aid process, SELF loans, tuition reciprocity, Minnesota's 529 College Savings Plan and much more. The site includes a personal financial aid estimator to help you determine whether or not you may qualify for assistance. Materials and other resources are available at www.getreadyforcollege.org.

The U.S. Department of Education Web site provides information for students and families about pursuing education beyond high school. www.studentaid.ed.gov

The FinAid Web site provides links to sources of information about student financial aid and includes an online searchable database of more than 180,000 private sector scholarships, fellowships, grants and loans. www.finaid.org

The ISEEK Web site is a state-sponsored site with information on careers, training and education. ISEEK has over 500 career profiles, nearly 600 descriptions of educational areas of study at public and private colleges. www.iseek.org

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 administered by the agency, is a need-based tuition assistance program for Minnesota students. The agency also oversees tuition reciprocity programs, a student loan program, Minnesota's 529 college savings plan, licensing and an early awareness outreach initiative for youth.

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