Applying for Financial Aid 2024-2025 Academic Year



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Senior Assistant Director of Financial Aid Services

Is College affordable?

- Go to each college's website to use their Net Price Calculator (NPC).
- Will help you determine your <u>estimated</u> (especially for 2024-25)
 Family Contribution <u>CALCULATION FOR ONE YEAR</u>
- <u>REMEMBER</u>:
 - This is a ball park estimate not a guarantee for an award or admissions.
 - This does not include Merit/Athletic Scholarship determination <u>only need based aid eligibility.</u>
 - Ask the Financial Aid office to check your results.
 - Check websites for important packaging policies, application requirements & deadlines.

NET PRICE CALCULATOR TIPS

- Use prior-prior year data:
 - for 2024-25 use 2022 income.
 - Using exact amounts will give you a more accurate outcome.
 - If using estimates, it is OK to use calculator more than once with different income scenarios *results will not be completely accurate*.
- Read the NPC instructions carefully to avoid missing anything.
- Be careful when answering asset questions
 - no retirement funds or primary residence home equity.
- Divorced parents can do two separate calculations and then combine the parent contributions for an *estimate*.

How do we support students with the cost of college?

- The family's ability to pay (determined by financial aid application and supporting documentation)
- Federal and State government funding
- Other Resources, for example:
 - outside scholarships from your community?
 - Employer Tuition Benefit?
- College funding: depending on endowment size & awarding policies
 - Does the college award 100% of demonstrated need?
 - Is the institutional funding issued on a first come first served basis?
 - Types of Scholarships: Need-Based, Merit, Athletic

Cost of Attendance

- Tuition & Related Fees
- ➤ Housing & Meals





- ➤ Books, Course Materials, Supplies, & Equipment
- > Transportation



➤ Miscellaneous & Personal Expenses



health expenses, personal necessities, dorm room items, etc.)

Definition of Financial Need

Cost of Attendance

MINUS

Family Resources calculated demonstrated ability to pay

MINUS

Other financial resources

i.e. employer tuition benefits, contributions from others

EQUALS

Demonstrated need



Comparison of Need by Cost

	4 Year Private	4 Year Public	2 Year Public
Cost of Education	\$85,000	\$50,000	\$ 10,000
FC may be different for private colleges	\$15,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
how much of this will the College fund	\$70,000	\$38,000**	0

Meeting the Full Need or Gapping

College	A meets full need	B cannot meet full need
Cost of Education	\$85,000	\$85,000
EFC	\$15,000	\$15,000
Need	\$70,000	\$70,000
Aid Amount Offered	\$70,000	\$40,000
Unmet Need	O	\$30,000 Added family responsibility!

Major factors in family contribution calculation

• INCOME

- Some schools will not allow losses and certain other paper write-offs on your tax return in the calculation.
 - ASSET BALANCES
 - NUMBER IN THE HOUSEHOLD

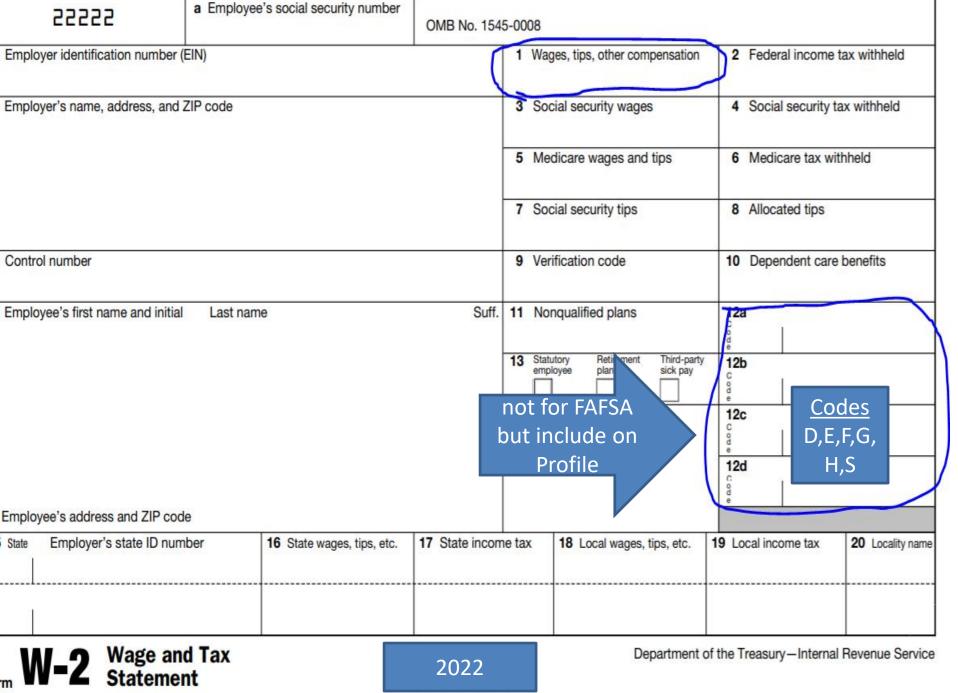
being supported by the parents (more than 50% support provided)

Any changes in the above data in following years
 (and changes from Dept. of Education)
 WILL IMPACT your financial aid eligibility.

What information is used?

☐ "PRIOR PRIOR" YEAR INCOME INFORMATION
☐ Use: Parent(s)' and Student's 2022 income
☐ What are considered parent assets?
☐ NO: do not include: retirement account balance or primary residence home equity
> YES: include: trusts(for parent), equity value of investment properties, business and farm net worth, as well as savings, checking & regular investment balances
> YES: include: 529 plans set up by parents (NOT UGMA/UTMA* accounts)
> YES: include: child support received (new in 2024-25) (It is better here than in income.)
☐ What are considered student assets?
☐ YES: include trusts where the student is a beneficiary, UGMA/UTMA* accounts, as well as savings, checking and regular investment balances
NO: do not include: parent 529 plans in student asset section
☐ # of household members: Parent(s) must provide at least 50% support

*UGMA/UTMA: uniform gift/transfer to minors act: the student owns the account but the parent is the "custodian" or "administrator" of the account. These must be listed in student asset balances.



py 1-For State, City, or Local Tax Department

2022 IRS form 1040 pg. 1

£1040		rtment of the Treasury—Internal Revenue Serv S. Individual Income Tax		turn 20 2	OMB No. 1545	i-0074 IRS Use Only	-Do not	write or staple in this space.		
Filing Status Check only one box.	If yo	Single Married filing jointly under the n	ame c				spo	alifying surviving buse (QSS) s name if the qualifying		
Your first name		on is a child but not your dependent ddle initial	ent: Last name Your social security number					ocial security number		
If joint return, sp	ouse's	first name and middle initial	Last	name			Spouse	e's social security number		
						Laure				
Home address	numbe	r and street). If you have a P.O. box, see	instru	ctions.		Apt. no.		ential Election Campaign here if you, or your		
City, town, or po	ost offic	ce. If you have a foreign address, also co	mplete	spaces below.	State	ZIP code	spouse to go t	e if filing jointly, want \$3 o this fund. Checking a		
Foreign country	nama			Foreign province/state	/occupts	Foreign postal code		elow will not change ax or refund.		
Foreign country	name			Foreign province/state	a/county	Foreign postal code	your te	You Spouse		
Digital Assets		y time during 2022, did you: (a) rec ange, gift, or otherwise dispose of								
Standard		eone can claim: You as a de			se as a dependent					
Deduction		Spouse itemizes on a separate retur	n or y	ou were a dual-status	s alien					
Age/Blindness	You:	Were born before January 2, 1	958	Are blind Sp	ouse: Was bor	rn before January	2, 1958	Is blind		
Dependents	(see	instructions):		(2) Social securit		nip (4) Check the b	ox if qua	lifies for (see instructions):		
If more	(1) Fi	rst name Last name		number	to you	Child tax c	redit	Credit for other dependents		
than four dependents,										
see instructions								<u> </u>		
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here	4-	Total amount from Famo(a) W.O. b		(Same -		- 1		#12 22000
Income	1a b	Total amount from Form(s) W-2, b Household employee wages not re					1			#1a wages
Attach Form(s)	c	Tip income not reported on line 1s		the state of the s			1		•	
W-2 here. Also attach Forms	d	Medicaid waiver payments not rep			instructions)		1			
W-2G and	е	Taxable dependent care benefits	rom F	orm 2441, line 26			. 1	e		
1099-R if tax was withheld.	f	Employer-provided adoption bene	fits fr	om Form 8839, line 29	9		. 1	f		
If you did not	g	Wages from Form 8919, line 6 .					. 1	g		
get a Form W-2, see	h	Other earned income (see instruct	ions)				. 1	h		
instructions.	i	Nontaxable combat pay election (see in	structions)	<u>l 1i</u>					
	z	Add lines 1a through 1h					. 1			
Attach Sch. B if required.	2a		2a	B	b Taxable interes		. 2			
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Deduction for-	6a	and the second of the second o	6a		b Taxable amoun		. 6			
Single or Married filing	С	If you elect to use the lump-sum e		n method, check here		[
separately, \$12,950	7	Capital gain or (loss). Attach Sche	dule [if required. If not red	quired, check here	[7			
 Married filing 	8	Other income from Schedule 1, lin	e 10				. [8	3	4	
jointly or Qualifying	9	Add lines 1z, 2b, 3b, 4b, 5b, 6b, 7	and	B. This is your total in	ncome		. 9			
surviving spouse, \$25,900	10	Adjustments to income from Sche					. 1			
Head of household,	11	Subtract line 10 from line 9. This is					. 1			#11 AGI
\$19,400	12	Standard deduction or itemized					1	·		
If you checked any box under	13	Qualified business income deduct					. 1			
Standard Deduction	14	Add lines 12 and 13					1			
see instructions.	15	Subtract line 14 from line 11. If zer	o or l	ess, enter -U This is	your taxable incom	10	. 1	0		
For Disclosure	Privacy	Act, and Paperwork Reduction Act N	otice	see separate instruction	ons.	Cat. No. 11320B	1888	Form 1040 (2022)		

*Possible untaxed income indicated in circle

*section A – section B

2022 IRS form 1040 pg. 2

Form 1040 (2022	2)								Page
Tax and	16	Tax (see instructions). Check	if any from Form	(s): 1 881	4 2 4972	3 🗌		16	
Credits	17	Amount from Schedule 2, lin	ne3			·		17	
	18	Add lines 16 and 17						18	
	19	Child tax credit or credit for	other dependen	ts from Sched	ule 8812			19	
	20	Amount from Schedule 3, lin	ne 8					20	
	21	Add lines 19 and 20						21	
	22	Subtract line 21 from line 18	B. If zero or less.	enter -0				22	
	23	Other taxes, including self-e	employment tax.	from Schedule	2. line 21			23	
	24	Add lines 22 and 23. This is						24	
Payments	25	Federal income tax withheld							
aymonto	а	Form(s) W-2				25a			
	b	Form(s) 1099				25b		1	
	c	Other forms (see instruction	s)			25c		1	
	d	Add lines 25a through 25c						25d	1
	26	2022 estimated tax paymen		pplied from 20	21 return			26	
you have a unalifying child,	27	Earned income credit (EIC)		Taller and the received race.		27			
ttach Sch. EIC.	28	Additional child tax credit from				28		1	
	29	American opportunity credit				29		1	
	30					30		1	
	31	Amount from Schedule 3. lin				31		1	
	32	Add lines 27, 28, 29, and 31		total other pa	nyments and refu			32	1
	33	Add lines 25d, 26, and 32. T		the second secon				33	
	34	If line 33 is more than line 24						34	
Refund	35a	Amount of line 34 you want						35a	
Direct deposit?	b	Routing number		1 1 1			Savings	000	
See instructions.	d	Account number				I I	carmigo		
	36	Amount of line 34 you want	applied to your	2023 estimate	d tax	36			
Amount	37	Subtract line 33 from line 24						3333	
You Owe	3,	For details on how to pay, g						37	
	38	Estimated tax penalty (see in			\$25 E S \$25 E	38			
Third Party		you want to allow another							
Designee		 In the second control of the se				. Yes. C	omplete b	elow.	□ No
Designee	De	signee's		Phone Persona			onal identi	ication	
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Sign		der penalties of perjury, I declare t							
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	Yo	ur signature		Date	Your occupation				nt you an Identity IN, enter it here
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#21 taxes paid

Federal Aid Eligibility Determined Using the

FAFSA (FREE Application for Federal Student Aid)

for U.S. Citizens and Eligible Non Citizens

☐ FAFSA is on studentaid.gov
□ 2024-2025 FAFSA available maybe in DECEMBER (Do not complete the 2023-24 application.)
☐ State of Connecticut deadline is 2/15/2024 (for CT residents)
A parent & the student MUST create an FSA user name and password to be used <i>all 4 years</i> **If you don't have one, FAFSA will prompt you to create one.
☐ Parents with no SSNs are now able to get an FSA user name and password.
☐ Students will have to "invite" their parents online to complete their section of the FAFSA.
Students and Parents must provide consent for the IRS to upload their income into the FAFSA – referred to as FTI – Federal Tax Information
☐ If they don't do this, they will not be eligible for federal subsidized financial aid — including federal grants, loans, and workstudy.
□ EXCLUDE on FAFSA only:
☐ Information about the noncustodial parent
☐ INCLUDE INFORMATION FROM:
Stepparent (who is married to the custodial parent) must be included.
☐ Parents: Unmarried but living together: info from both must be included.
□ ***Custodial Parent will now be the parent that provides the most support regardless of where the student lives.

An official website of the United States government.

Loan Forgiveness V

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Log In | Create Account

Get Money to Pay for School

Use the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form to apply for financial aid for college or graduate school.

2024-25 FAFSA Form

Start a New Form

Edit Existing Form

Need to access last year's form? Start or Edit a 2023-24 Form



Check FAFSA® Deadlines for the State You Live In

Some states and colleges use FAFSA information to award their own grants, scholarships, and loans. Check your state's deadlines here!

School Year

State

State of Residence

Find Deadlines

View All FAFSA Deadlines



Who Should Complete This?

Any student, regardless of income, who wants to be considered for federal, state, and school financial aid programs, which includes scholarships, grants, loans, and Federal work-study.



How Long Will it Take?

It takes most people less than an hour to complete, including gathering any documents or data needed.



What Do I Need?

- Verified StudentAid.gov account
- Social Security Number
- Parent or spouse contributor email addresses
- Income and asset information, if required

CSS Profile

Determines Institutional Grant Eligibility -- (not used by all schools)

- > CSS Profile: at https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org cost: \$25 + \$16 @school
 - They provide a list of schools that use the CSS Profile
 - > Using student & custodial parent (include stepparent) data.
- The non-custodial parent (ncp) will also complete a separate profile application on College Board website with their information.
- The school will use the data from the custodial parent + either the ncp or the step parent not all three
- Items that may be used in the calculations:
 - Primary residence net home equity (value debt)
 - Filtems such as losses and certain deductions on the tax return may be added back to the income total (i.e. business loss, depreciation, business use of home credit, earned income credit)
- Parent contribution might not be divided equally for # in college:
 - ➤ It will be up to each Institution if they will still give credit for additional depends in college and what that credit will be. Everyone is waiting for the final FAFSA before deciding.
 - > no allowance for dependents in **graduate school**
 - reduced allowance for a lower cost institution (i.e. community college)
 - > Reduced or no allowance for siblings receiving substantial merit/athletic aid
- > <u>USE COMMENT SECTION</u> to relay special circumstances

CSS Profile



Federal Aid Includes:

State Grants

- ☐ For CT residents attending a college in CT ohe.ct.gov/SFA/Default.shtml
 - Or ohe.ct.gov
 - ➤ Up to \$4,500 Funding not determined for 2024-25 YeT
 - Some schools may be getting little or no funding for this grant
 - Roberta B. Willis Scholarship Program:
 - FAFSA required must file by February 15, 2023
 - Need based: EFC less than \$11,000 (may change)
 - ► Each school gets different funding as determined by the State of CT.

Outside Resources

- ☐Outside Resources such as:
 - Employee Tuition Benefit
 - Contributions from relatives
 - >529 College Savings plans set up by other than parents
 - **≻Outside Scholarships**:
 - >usually from civic and community foundations/businesses
 - >Use High school guidance office as a resource
 - Ask companies that are in the field of your major
 - Search: www.finaid.org
 - > chesla.org
 - ► <u>fastweb.com</u>

finaid.org



Parent Information



- My parents are divorced/separated -- which parent goes on the FAFSA as the custodial parent?
 - The parent that contributes the most support for the student regardless of living arrangements. May even be tied to parent who claims student on tax return. (2024-25) (More information pending)
- If the custodial parent used on the FAFSA has **remarried**, you <u>must</u> include information about the <u>stepparent</u> on the FAFSA.
- On the CSS Profile (<u>not FAFSA</u>): The Non Custodial Parent will also fill out a Profile application.
- <u>Biological/Adoptive parents who are together but unmarried:</u> combine income and asset balances of both on the FAFSA and CSS Profile
- Parent information <u>is always required</u> unless the student is determined by the Department of Education to be independent there are very specific and strict guidelines for qualifying for independent status *being over 18 is not one of them*.

COLLEGE FINANCING PLAN & FINANCIAL AID PACKAGE



- Required by State of CT for CT colleges/universities.
- Purpose: a uniform tool to compare cost between schools before considering student/parent loans and work study.
- Net Price/Cost means
 Cost of Attendance grants/scholarships
- After Net Price/Cost, you will see loan and work study options as other resources to consider.
- Includes FAFSA SAI and Institutional family contribution & resources.
- Also reports: loan default rate, graduation rate, average total loan balances and other payment options.

\$X,XXXX / yr

\$X.XXXX / Vr

University of the United States (UUS) Student Name, Identifier

Expected Family Contribution

Based on FAFSA As calculated by the institution using information reported on the FAFSA or to your institution.

Based on Institutional Methodology

\$X,XXXX

\$X.XXXX

\$X,XXXX

\$X,XXXX

\$X,XXXX / yr

\$X,XXXX / yr

\$X,XXXX / yr

\$X,XXXX / yr

On Campus Residence

\$X,XXXX

\$X,XXXX / yr

Grants

Institutional Grants

State Grants

Work Options

Other Campus Job

Total Work Options

For More Information

Financial Aid Office

Telephone: (123) 456-7890

E-mail: financialaid@uus.edu

123 Main Street Anytown, ST 12345

Hours Per Week

(Federal, state, or institutional)

University of the United States (UUS)

Work-study

Total Grants

Used by most private institutions in addition to FAFSA. Total Cost of Attendance 2020-2021



Other education costs **Estimated Cost of Attendance**

Scholarship and Grant Options

Scholarships and Grants are considered "Gift" aid - no repayment is needed.

Scholarships

Merit-Based Scholarships Scholarships from your school Scholarships from your state

Tuition and fees Housing and meals

Transportation

Books and supplies

Other scholarships **Employer Paid Tuition Benefits Total Scholarships**

College Costs You Will Be Required to Pay **Net Costs** (Cost of attendance minus total grants and scholarships)

Loan and Work Options to Pay the Net Costs to You You must repay loans, plus interest and fees.

Loan Options*

Federal Direct Subsidized Loan (X.XX% interest rate) Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan (X.XX% interest rate)

Private Loan (X.XX% interest rate)

Institutional Loan \$X,XXXX / yr (X.XX% interest rate) Other Aid That Must Be Repaid \$X,XXXX / yr

In addition to the loans above, parents may also apply for the following: \$X,XXXX / yr

Parent Plus Federal Loan (X.XX% interest rate) **Total Loan Options** \$X,XXXX / yr

Off Campus Residence \$X.XXXX \$X,XXXX \$X,XXXX \$X,XXXX

\$X,XXXX

Need-Based Grant Aid Federal Pell Grants Other forms of grant aid

\$X,XXXX / yr

\$X,XXXX / yr

\$X,XXXX / yr

\$X,XXXX \$X.XXXX

\$X,XXXX

\$X,XXXX

\$X,XXXX / yr

XX / wk

\$X,XXXX / yr \$X,XXXX / yr

What if my family contribution seems unreasonable?

If the family contribution is significantly different from what you expected, *ask the financial aid office* to help clarify how the contribution was determined.

- ► Is there a contribution expected from the <u>non-custodial parent</u>?
- Were <u>losses</u> reported on the tax return added back?
- What is the minimum student contribution?
- How were number of family members in college treated? if at all.
- Was home equity included in the analysis?
- You may have incorrectly answered a question on the application and a talk with them might clear that up.
- ***If you have special circumstances or a change in your income/financial situation, request instructions and deadlines for an "Appeal" or "Review".

Aid Award in Subsequent Years "The Four Year Plan"

☐ Most Colleges ask you to apply every year for financial aid.
But ask: <i>Is this offer for just this year?</i> If need based award: maybe YES, if merit scholarship only award: NO.
☐ Loan amounts increase as the student advances to the next
grade level (causing grants to decrease).
There may be pending changes in the student loan program from Congress.
SOME OTHER REASONS your financial aid may change:
☐ Increases/decreases in the family <u>income</u>
☐ Increases/decreases in the family <u>asset balances</u>
☐ Change in number of dependents enrolled in college (if used in calc.)
☐ Change in the <u>number in family</u> (i.e. eldest child moves out or new household member)
☐ Change in amount of reported losses, untaxed income or tax
deferred pension contributions

Other Payment Sources to Consider

☐ Withdrawals from Savings / Investments / 529 Plans ☐ The College's Installment Payment Plan (not a loan) ☐ Home Equity loans, 401K loans, Stock loans Alternative Student Loans through private lenders (i.e. banks, credit unions, state institutions and national student loan lenders) ☐ Federal PLUS program (Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students) ☐ Interest rate: 8.05% Dept. of Education Origination fee: 4.228% ☐ Apply for outside scholarships ☐ Check with your financial planner or CPA for other options open to you specifically. ☐ Earnings from student's summer or campus job.

For more Information and Resources

- High School Guidance Office
- Financial Aid Offices
- Colleges' Websites
- www.studentaid.ed.gov
- www.finaid.org



Proposed 2024-25 FAFSA Changes Summary due to FAFSA Simplification Act of 2021

- Student Aid Index (SAI) replaces Expected Family Contribution (EFC),
- Fewer questions on the FAFSA (by far),
- "Custodial" parent now is the parent that provides most support regardless of living arrangements,
- Eliminate credit for multiple dependents in college,
- Child Support received moved to parent assets,
- Pell is determined by AGI and family size as that compares to the poverty level (instead of EFC) -- other factors are involved.
- Eliminate use of tax deferred pension contributions <u>on</u> <u>FAFSA.</u>
- Inclusion of all family farm and small business net values in assets.
- IRS direct data exchange required no longer an option.
- No longer reported: Military/Clergy housing or Non Educ VA benefits.

What is this Student Aid Index (SAI) (2024-25)?

- Replacing the expected family contribution,
- Does not signify the dollar amount a family is expected to pay for college costs --
 - more of an eligibility index for distributing federal subsidized financial aid (grants, loans, work study),
 - Based on the household size and the household income as it relates to the federal poverty level,
- Increased income protection allowance,
- Possible elimination of asset protection allowance,
- & other details yet to be determined by Dept of Ed
- FAFSA is supposed to be available sometime in December, 2023 – most likely January 2024.



RECAP

- 1. Visit College websites for deadlines & requirements
- 2. Use each College's Net Price Calculator
- 3. Complete FAFSA by 2/15/24 for CT (if available by then)
- 4. Compare awards by the Net Price -- not by total offer.
- 5. Remember this is only an award for the first year consider what year 2, 3 & 4 might look like.
- 6. Explore all other potential resources for payment (outside scholarships, payment plans, loans, etc.)
- 7. Stay tuned for more information regarding FAFSA changes (hopefully coming soon).

Thank you for your attention.

What questions can I answer for you?

Good luck in your College search journey!

