### National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

# What You Need to Know about Financial Aid





#### What is Financial Aid?

Financial aid consists of funds provided to students and families to help pay for postsecondary educational expenses







#### Grants and Scholarships

- Money that does not have to be paid back is GIFT AID; grants & scholarships
- Scholarships awarded on the basis of merit, skill, or unique characteristic
  - Most require an application

- Foundations, businesses, charitable/ religious organizations,
- Guidance Office at HS
- Employers
- Free Scholarship Search at

www.fastweb.org



#### Federal Government Aid Programs

- Largest source of financial aid
- Awarded primarily on the basis of financial need
- General financial aid information on-line
  - @ www.studentaid.ed.gov
- Must apply <u>every year</u> using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)





#### Common Federal Aid Programs

#### **GRANTS** (aid typically not paid back)

- Federal Pell Grant
- Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant (IASG)
- Teacher Education
   Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH)
   Grant
- Federal Supplemental
   Educational Opportunity
   Grant (FSEOG)

#### **WORK & LOANS**

- Federal Work-Study (FWS) earned by student
- Subsidized and
   Unsubsidized Federal
   Direct Student Loans
   (Direct Loans) repaid by
   student
- PLUS Loans repaid by parent



#### State of Michigan Aid Programs

#### www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid

- Sign up for email news letter
- Facebook
- Twitter

- Tuition Incentive Program (TIP)
- Michigan uses the first school listed on the FAFSA for purposes of
  - Michigan Tuition Grant
  - Michigan CompetitiveScholarship
  - March 1, 2017 deadline





## What is the FAFSA... Free Application for Federal Student Aid

- FAFSA is: A standard form that collects demographic and financial information about the student and family
- FREE do not pay to file the FAFSA or pay someone else to file it for you!
- FAFSA information used to determine a student/family's Expected Family Contribution (EFC)





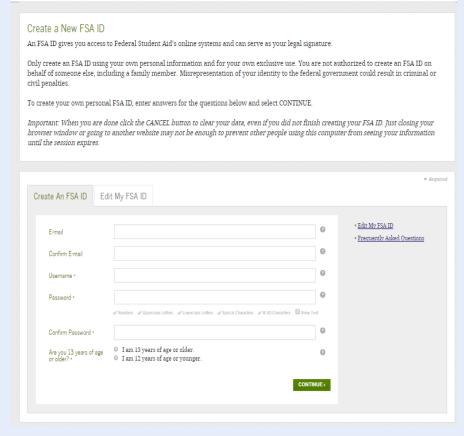
### How to Apply for Aid - Step One: Must Have a Federal Student Aid Identification (FSA ID)

Federal Student Aid

How to File

Apply at: www.fsaid.ed.gov

- ID used to sign FAFSA electronically by <u>BOTH</u> student and parent
- May be used throughout aid process, including subsequent school years
- Only the owner of an FSA ID should create or use the account!



PROUD SPONSOR of



#### Step Two: Where to File FAFSA on the Web

your FAFSA.

- Website: www.fafsa.gov
- FAFSA on the Web available on: October 1, 2016 for 2017-2018!!!
- Carefully follow the instructions on each page



Use FAFSA4caster to see how

federal student aid can help you pay

### Whose Information Do I Report on the FAFSA?

 For most entering freshmen, students will enter their information as well as that of their parent(s)

 My parents are separated or divorced, how do I report their information?





#### **FAFSA** Deadlines and Awarding

 Colleges set their own FAFSA filing deadlines for awarding of their institutional funds (UM-Flint preferred filing deadline, December 1st)

 Most colleges and universities will begin awarding in December 2016 to mid-April 2017





#### How Colleges Determine Need for Aid

Cost of Attendance

Expected Family Contribution

Financial Need







#### What is Cost of Attendance (COA)

- The cost of attendance (COA), also known as the budget, is an <u>estimation</u> of what it costs to go to school for a specific period of enrollment.
  - tuition & fees
  - room & board
  - books & supplies
  - personal/miscellaneous expenses
  - transportation
- Varies widely from college to college





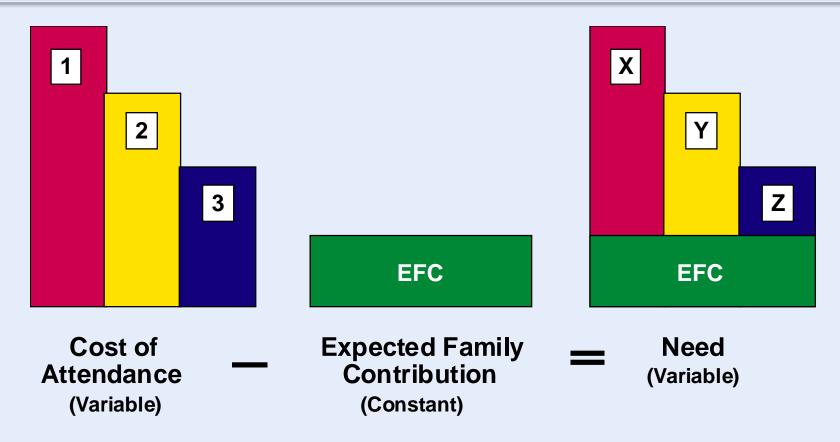
# What is the Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

- Amount family can reasonably be expected to contribute towards the cost of the student's education for an academic year
- Stays the same regardless of college
- Two components
  - Parent contribution
  - Student contribution





#### **Need Varies Based From School to School**







#### Let's Talk Federal Loans

- Money that students and parents borrow to help pay college expenses
- Repayment usually begins after education is finished
- Only borrow what is really needed
- Look at loans as an investment in the future





### Annual Borrowing Maximums of Federal Student Loans

| Year in College                            | Initial Loan<br>Amount | Additional Unsubsidized Loan for <b>Dependent</b> Undergraduates |  |
|--|------------------------|--|--|
| First Year                                 | \$3,500                | \$2,000 (\$5,500 total)  |  |
| Second Year                                | \$4,500                | \$2,000 (\$6,500 total)  |  |
| Third Year & Fourth Year                   | \$5,500                | \$2,000 (\$7,500 total)  |  |
| Undergraduate<br>Loan Maximum Debit Limit: |                        | \$31,000 (only \$23,000 can be<br>Subsidized Loan)               |  |

This table shows the maximum yearly amount that a dependent student can be offered in Federal Direct Stafford Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans. It also states the maximum aggregate limit a dependent student is allowed to have for their entire undergraduate career.





#### Federal Student Loans

| Year in College                | Maximum<br>Yearly Loan<br>Amount |  |          |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|----------|
| First Year                     | \$5,500                          | Max Loan Debt:                             | \$31,000 |
| Second Year                    | \$6,500                          | - 4 Year Loan Debt:                        | \$27,000 |
| Third Year                     | \$7,500                          | Loan Remaining for 5 <sup>th</sup> year:   | \$4,000  |
| Fourth Year                    | \$7,500                          |  |          |
| Total Loan Debt After 4 Years: | \$27,000                         | Estimated repayment amount:<br>\$350/month |          |



If a student takes out the maximum amount of loan each year for the first four years of college they will rapidly approach the \$31,000 limit. More importantly, they will only have \$4,000 remaining for the 5<sup>th</sup> year of college (if necessary).



### How to Help Cover Gaps in Educational Costs

Payment Agreements

Federal Direct PLUS Loan

Private Loans







#### Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

- To be eligible to receive federal student aid, you must meet and maintain your college's standards of satisfactory academic progress toward a degree or certificate.
- Each college has a policy students need to be aware of the policy whether you receive financial aid or not.





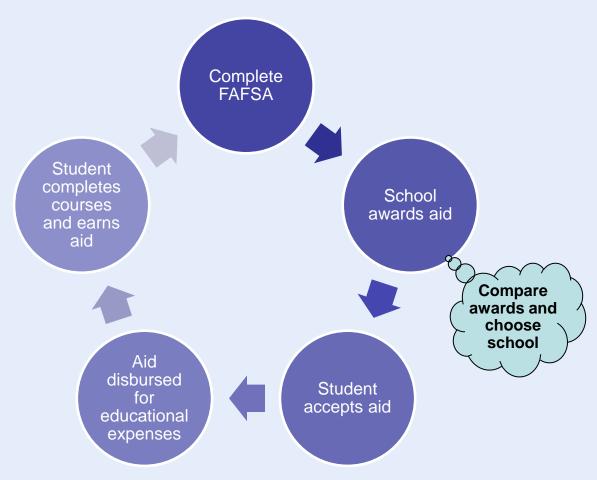
#### **Special Circumstances**

- Send written explanation to financial aid office at each college; do not report on FAFSA
  - Change in employment status
  - Change in parent marital status
  - Unusual dependent care expenses





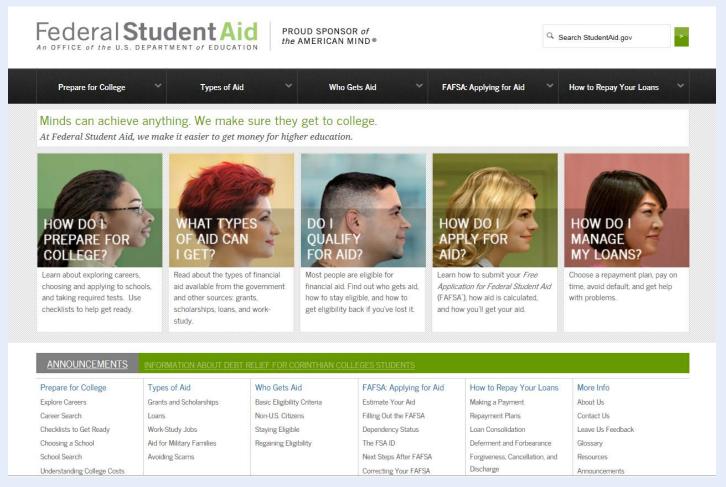
#### Let's Recap: Financial Aid Yearly Cycle







### For More Information Visit: Federal Student Aid







### National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators



THANK YOU!
UM-Flint Office of Financial Aid
810-762-3444

