

Frequently Asked Questions about College Financial Aid for Latino Families: FAFSA and SCHOLARSHIPS

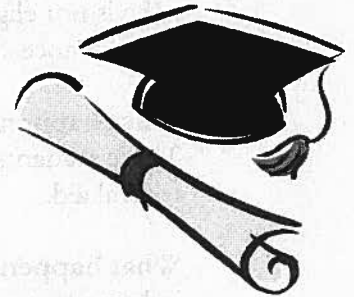
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Federal Aid for Students

The United States federal government through its Department of Education offers opportunities to receive help to pay for higher education. There are various types of help available, including, grants, loans, and work study. For more detailed information in Spanish, view this summary: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sites/default/files/2014-15-do-you-need-money-spanish.pdf>.

What is FAFSA?

FAFSA is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. It is an application that determines the financial need of a family. It is free, easy, and available in Spanish.



Can students fill out the form if they or their parents do not have papers? Yes, undocumented students and students who are citizens with undocumented parents can still complete FAFSA.¹ But only students that are citizens, permanent residents, or within certain eligible immigrant categories can receive federal student aid.² These categories do not include recipients of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).

Why should a student or family without papers complete FAFSA? For undocumented students, including those with DACA, it is important that they receive a report to show the family's need for financial support. Private scholarships or universities can accept it in order to determine if they can provide financial help.

How can I complete it? You can complete it online in Spanish at by creating an account at https://fafsa.ed.gov/es_ES/. You can also print it in Spanish at https://fafsa.ed.gov/es_ES/options.htm.

If a student has a social security number (SSN): You can create an account online using your SSN. If your parents do not have a SSN they can put all zeros in place of it and then print it, sign it, and mail it.

If a student does not have a social security number: You can fill out the form by hand and do not need to fill in the space with the social security number.

Who can help me fill it out? An academic counselor at a high school may be able to help

¹ Much of this information for undocumented students is from a presentation from the organization United We Dream: http://unitedwedream.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/I-have-DACA-and-I-can-use-the-FAFSA-Say-what_WebinarFINAL.pdf

² Here is a list of the noncitizen categories that are eligible to receive federal aid: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/es/eligibility/non-us-citizens>.



Paying for College

*Financial aid is money that can help you pay for college.
Most full-time college students receive some kind of financial aid.*

There are four major types of financial aid:

1. Grants

Grants are "gift aid" because they do not have to be paid back. Grants come from federal and state governments and from colleges. Most grants are need based which means they are usually given based on your or your family's financial circumstances.

2. Scholarships

Scholarships also do not need to be paid back. Scholarships come from governments, colleges, and private organizations. They may be awarded for academic or athletic ability, interest in a certain subject, or volunteer work. Some scholarships are given based on membership in an ethnic or religious group. Employers may also give scholarships to children of employees.

3. Loans

Borrowing money from a bank, government, or lending company is called taking out a loan. A loan must be paid back with an extra charge called interest. The federal government offers low-interest loans to students with financial need. Other lenders charge more interest.

4. Work-Study Programs

Federal Work-Study is a kind of financial aid and part of the financial aid package. When you fill out your FAFSA, you could earn a work-study award. Your college will guarantee you a paid, part-time job. The money will help you cover your college expenses. Work-study jobs can be found on- and off-campus.

How to Apply for Financial Aid:

FILE YOUR FAFSA

Completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.gov is required for any student seeking federal and state financial aid, including grants and loans at all colleges. Most Birmingham students are eligible for a Pell Grant of up to \$5,775 to pay for college.

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Scholarships

Scholarship/ Fellowship	Deadline	Contact Information	Award	Requirements
Breakthrough Nursing Scholarships for Ethnic People of Color-National Students Nurse's Association, Inc. (NSNA)	Jan. 01	www.nсна.org/foundation/ (212) 581-2215	Varies	Minority Undergraduate Student
Datatel Scholars Foundation Scholarship	Jan. 01	www.datatel.com/global/scholarships/ (800) 486-4332 (703) 968-4625	\$700- \$2,000	Currently attending a Datatel Client college or university
Scholarship for Prospective Educators	Jan. 01	www.pdkintl.org/awards/pros_edс.htm (812) 339-1156	\$1,000- \$5,000	Interest in Education
AAU Youth Excel Program Scholarship Amateur Athletic	Jan. 07	www.aasports.org	\$2000	HS SR
Discover Card Tribute Awards	Jan. 09	www.aasa.org/awards (703) 528-0700	\$2,500	High School Senior
Discover Card Tribute Award	Jan. 09	www.aasa.org/awards	\$2,500	HS SR
Scholarship for Prospective Educator	Jan. 15	www.pdkintl.org	\$1000	HS/College student
Society of Plastic Engineers Scholarship Grants	Jan. 15	www.4spe.org/awards/essaycontest.php	\$1,000- \$4,000	HS/College student Essay Contest
Adeline Rosenberg Memorial Prize	Jan. 15	www.fcsymphony.org	\$2000	HS/ College student
National Peace Essay Contest-United Institute of Peace	Jan. 22	www.usip.org/grants/index.html	Up to \$10,000	HS Student
Business and Professional Women's Club of Houston Scholarship	Jan. 31	Dana Chelette (713) 434-5678	\$500- \$1,000	Female Student
Architecture & Engineering Scholarship Program - Orange County Community Foundation	Feb. 01	www.oc-cf.org/Default.asp?Page=139 (949) 553-4202	\$2,000	Orange County Resident Architecture & Engineering Major
BMI Student Composer	Feb. 01	www.bmifoundation.org	\$1,000	HS/College Student

Scholarships

Award				
California Alliance for Arts Education	Feb. 01	www.artsed411.org (626) 817-6300	\$5,000	Arts-related Major
College NET Scholarship Search Engine	Feb. 01	www.collegenet.com	Varies	Varies
Frank Kazmierczak Memorial Migrant Scholarship-BOCES Geneso Migrant Center	Feb. 01	www.migrant.net/migrant/scholarships.htm (800) 245-5681	\$1,000	Call for more info.
Gloria & Joseph Mattera Scholarship for Migrants BOCES Geneso Migrant Center	Feb. 01	www.migrant.net/migrant/scholarships.htm (800) 245-5681	\$150-\$500	Visit Website for additional info
ISA Scholarship Program	Feb. 01	www.isa.org	\$1,000	College Student
Joe Francomano Scholarship - The Achievement Foundation, Inc.	Feb. 01	www.ja.org/programs/programs_schol.shtml (888)4-JA-ALUM	\$5000 for \$years	HS Student min. 3.0 GPA
Mike Corona Foundation: Law Enforcement Scholarship	Feb. 01	www.oc-cf.org (949) 553-4202	\$1000	Orange County HS Senior Interest in Law Enforcement
Newhouse Scholarship Program-NAHJ	Feb. 01	www.nahj.org (202) 662-7143 (888) 346-NAHJ	\$5,000/yr	College Junior Latino descent Summer Internship
Orange County Hispanic Education Endowment Fund (HEEF) Scholarship Program	Feb. 01	www.heef.org (949) 553-4202 ext.23	\$500-\$2,500	Orange County Hispanic Student
Standley E. Jackson Scholarship - Yes I Can! Foundation for Exceptional Children	Feb. 01	yesican@cec.sped.org (626) 250-2208	\$500	Disabled minority student
William Kappel International Piano Competition	Feb. 01	(301) 405- ARTS	\$1000	HS/College Student
Roothber	Feb. 02	www.roothberfund.org	\$2000-	HS/ College

Scholarships

Fund, Inc. Grants and Fellowships			\$3000	Student
Best Teen Chef Culinary	Feb. 14	www.aii.edu	\$2000	HS Senior
National Portfolio Review Competition	Feb. 14	www.aii.edu	\$2000	HS Student
Worldstudio AIGA Scholarship Foundation	Feb. 14	www.worldstudion.org/schol/index.hrml (212) 807-1990	\$100-\$5000	HS/ College Student Fine or Commercial Arts-related major
Academy of Motion Pictures Students Academy Awards	Feb. 15	www.oscars.org/saa	\$2000	HS/ College Student
Community College Scholarship Program - Orange County Community Foundation	Feb. 15	2801 Business Center Drive Suite 100 Irvine, CA 92612	\$1000	community college student
Helenic Times Scholarship	Feb. 15	www.htsfund.org	\$1000	HS/ College Student
Society for Physics Students Scholarships, Grants and Internships	Feb. 15	www.spsnational.org/programs/spsscholarships.htm	\$1000	College Student & member
The D.A.. Weber Scholarship Fund	Feb. 15	www.cta.org/insideCTA/TrainingHR/ScholarshipPrograms.htm (650) 697-1400	\$2,000	visit website for info
The EDSA Minority Scholarship-Landscape Architecture Foundation	Feb. 15	www.laprofession.org/financial.scholarships.htm (202) 216-2356	\$3,500	minority student
Helenic Times Scholarship	Feb. 15	www.htsfund.org	\$1000	HS/College student
Academy of Motion Pictures students Academy Awards	Feb. 15	www.oscars.org/saa	\$2000	HS/College student
Society of Physics Students Scholarship, Grants and internships	Feb. 15	www.spsnational.orgd	\$1000	college studnt & member
Wally David Legal memorial Scholarship	Feb. 16	(949) 553-4202	\$1000	call for info

Scholarships

Fund				
Miguel Velez Scholarship - UCLA Chicana/o Studies Department	Feb. 17	lute@chavez.ucla.edu	up to \$15,000	Resume UC Los Angeles Latina/o Student E-mail to inquire
Mable & Lawrence S. Cooke Scholarship	Feb. 28	www.scouting.org/nesa/scholar	Varies	Eagle Scout Member
Chicana/Latina Foundation Scholarship	Mar. 01	www.chicanalatina.org Lupe Fallegos-Diaz (650) 373-1084	\$1,500	Female student from Latino heritage Bay Area Countries
VM ball Program	Mar. 01	afe@endowment.org	\$3000	HS/College student
Chicano/Latino Faculty & Staff Association Scholarship - CSUF Chicano Resource Center	Mar. 01	(714) 278-4391	\$500-\$600	min. 3.0 GPA @ CSUF
Ellen Masin Persina Scholarship-National Press Club	Mar. 01	(202) 662-7500	\$5000 for 4 yrs	HS senior
Executive Women International Scholarship Program	Mar. 01	www.executivewomen.org	\$1000	HS Student
Japaneses American Citizen League Entering Awards	Mar. 01	www.jacl.org (415) 921-5225	\$1,000	HS Japanese Student
Robert S. Swan IPA Schlarship-Print & Graphics Scholarship Foundation	Mar. 01	www.ipa.org/about/scholarship.php3 (800) 255-8141	Varies	min 3.0 GPA
Foundation for Santa Barbara City College	Mar 03	www.sbcc.edu/wcholarshipapplication (805) 730-5157	Varies	SBCC Student
American Association of Blacks in Energy Scholarship	Mar. 04	www.aabe.org/mission.scholarships.html check website for AABE State Office	-	visit website for info
National Association of Patorial Musicians Scholarship	Mar. 05	npmsing@npm.org	\$2000	HS/College Student
Chicana Foundation of	Mar. 15	(510) 526-5861	\$500-\$1000	Female student of latino descent