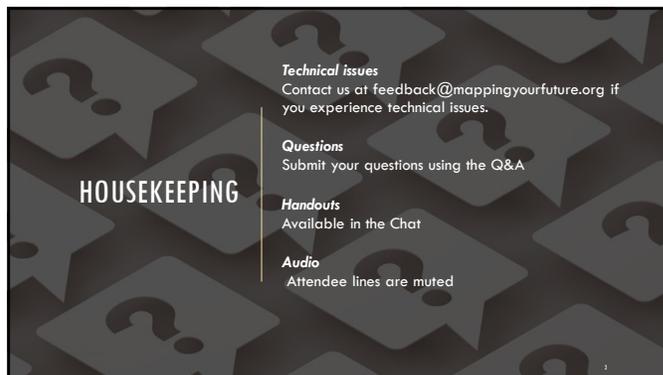




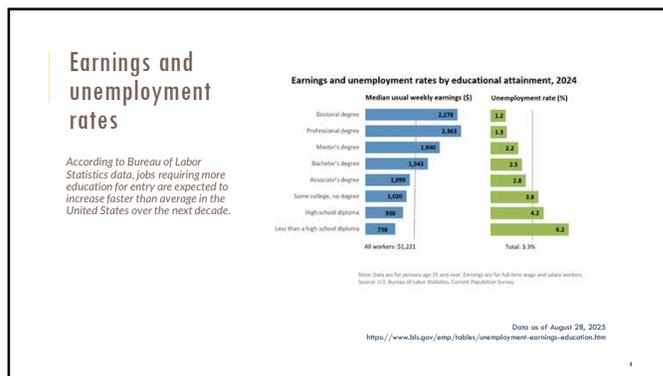
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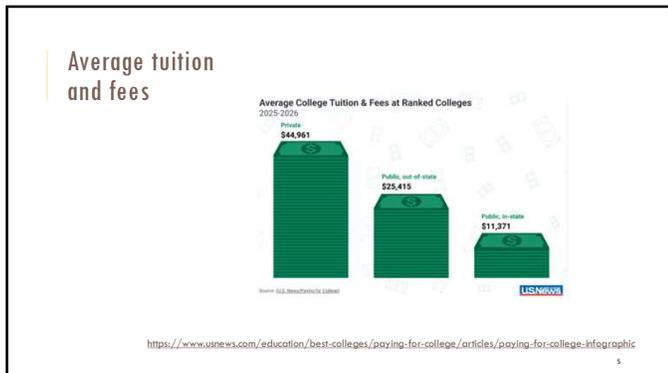
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3



4



5

Budge Reconciliation Impact

- Limited direct impact on most full-time undergraduate students
- Pell program funded, expanded, and limited
- Parent borrowing limited
- Part-time student borrowing limited
- Graduate student borrowing limited
- Student loan repayment changes
- Institutional accountability

6

Successful scholarship strategies

- Make it meaningful by knowing where to look and how to look for scholarships
- Align the search to your characteristics and to your college and career goals
- Be strategic with your plans, research, organization, applications, and awards

7

Scholarship tracking sheet

<https://bit.ly/41fq8vN>

8

Types of scholarships

Academic merit	Athletic ability	Field of study
Ethnic background	Religious affiliation	Special interests

9

Institutional scholarships

Institutions may have different scholarships for entering, returning, transfer students. Students should:

- Research deadlines
- Understand the steps involved
- Plan for the future



10

Why students don't complete applications

- Time constraints
- Don't perceive the benefit
- Doubt ability to receive/Won't qualify
- Too much work

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Scholarship myths

- Unclaimed money
- Free ride
- Only high school seniors should apply
- Small scholarships aren't worth pursuing

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Scholarship foundations and AI

- Streamline the application process
- Identify high-risk applicants
- Personalize
- Predict future needs

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Applicants and AI

- Research opportunities
- Generate ideas
- Structure outlines
- Complete entire paragraphs
- Develop content and set tone
- Proof and edit
- Can be used to cheat
- Can be used as a crutch that diminishes creativity and work ethic



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PLAN



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Plan

- Know the cost of college
- Develop a goal based on cost
- Consider your talents/traits
- Create an email address for scholarship search/applications



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Understand college costs and financing

Determine cost of attendance

Financial resources

- 529 plans/prepaid tuition
- Savings
- Current earnings

Financial aid

- Scholarships
- Grants
- Loans

Cost of Attendance – Student Aid Index – other financial aid = need. The financial aid office will award as much as they can to meet need. The amount remaining is unmet need.

Set a goal to cover at least the unmet need with scholarships.



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Cost of college

Determine cost of attendance

Cost of Attendance – Student Aid Index – other financial aid = need. The financial aid office will award as much as they can to meet need. The amount remaining is unmet need.

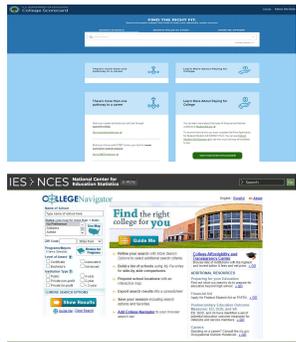
Financial resources

- 529 plans/prepaid tuition
- Savings
- Current earnings

Financial aid

- Scholarships
- Grants
- Loans

Set a goal to cover at least the unmet need with scholarships.



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Student Aid Estimator

Good news! The student may be eligible for federal student aid.

Estimates

These results are based on a model – the Student Aid Index (SAI) – a number used by a college's financial aid office to determine federal student aid eligibility.

Estimated Federal Student Aid
\$12,281

Federal student aid from the U.S. Department of Education helps cover expenses such as tuition, fees, books, supplies, and housing. It's important to understand that the only source of funding for the estimated college costs listed above is the "Other Factors To Consider" section to see some additional options that may help decrease your total college costs.

Estimated Federal Pell Grant: \$4,800
Maximum Available Direct Loans: \$5,500
Average Work-Study Earnings: \$1,981

Federal Student Aid Estimator

Your Federal Student Aid Estimator provides an estimate of how much federal student aid the student may be eligible to receive. These estimates are based on the Federal Student Aid Index (SAI) a number used to determine federal student aid eligibility.

This is Not the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Form

With this tool, students can find out how much federal student aid they may be eligible for in the 2023-24 school year. To apply for federal aid, [complete the FAFSA form](https://studentaid.gov).

Begin Estimate of Federal Student Aid

This estimator may want to use the Federal Student Aid Estimator before filling out the FAFSA form to help them understand their options for going to college or career school by providing them an early estimate of how much federal student aid they may be eligible for.

<https://studentaid.gov/aid-estimator/>

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Develop a scholarship application plan

Components

- Self profile
- Accomplishments
- Draft essay
- Scholarship Tracking Sheet

Next steps

- Research possible scholarships
- Brainstorm essay topics
- Complete the FAFSA and, if required, CSS Profile



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Get organized

- Transcripts
- Standardized test scores
- Tax returns and financial information
- FAFSA Submission Summary
- Financial aid forms and applications
- Résumé
- Essays
- Letters of recommendation
- Any other proof of eligibility
- Accomplishments portfolio



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Consider talents and traits

- Accomplishments portfolio
 - Résumé
 - High school transcript
 - ACT/SAT score
 - Awards
 - Writing samples
 - Articles from local paper
- Interests
 - Sports
 - Arts



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RESEARCH



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Research

- Begin your search early
- Look for scholarships
 - High school counselor
 - Library
 - Local community foundations
 - College or university
 - State
 - Employer scholarships
 - Professional or trade associations
- Use Internet search tools



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Scholarship search

<https://www.careeronestop.org/Toolkit/Training/find-scholarships.aspx>

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Internet scholarship searches

- [Big Future](#)
- [FastWeb](#)
- [Unigo](#)
- [apply](#)
- [Scholarships.com](#)
- [Niche.com](#)
- [Dollars for Scholars](#)

Mapping Your Future offers this list of websites as a resource and a convenience to you. Mapping Your Future does not endorse these sites and is not responsible for the privacy practices or the content of these sites.

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Scholarship application tracking

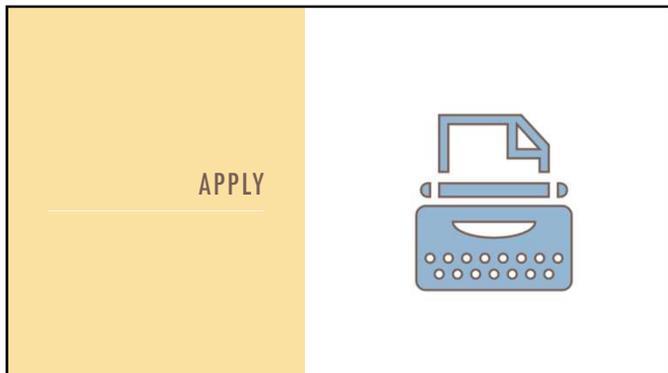
Scholarship Name	Application Deadline	Amount	Renewable	Status	Action needed	Contact/Contact Information	Date Submitted
University Leaders of College A	3/15/2024	\$1,000	Yes	Application granted by 3/15/2024	Financial aid office		1/15/2024
Local Electric Cooperative	1/15/2024	\$1,000	No	None	None	jan.bryce@localelectric.com	1/15/2024
Alvarez	1/15/2024	\$500	No	Application started, need to finish			
Charter of Commerce	1/15/2024	\$700	No	Complete application			
Local Business Foundation	1/15/2024	\$500	No	Complete application			
High School Senior Achievement	1/15/2024	\$200	No	Complete application			

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Avoid scholarship scams

- Read the fine print
- Understand the terms and conditions
- Beware of "guarantees"
- Protect personal information
- Never pay to submit a scholarship application
- Learn more at the scholarship scams website: Federal Trade Commission – <http://www.ftc.gov/scholarshipcams>

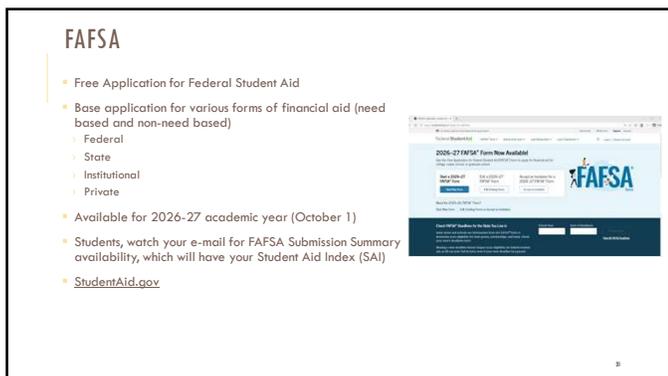
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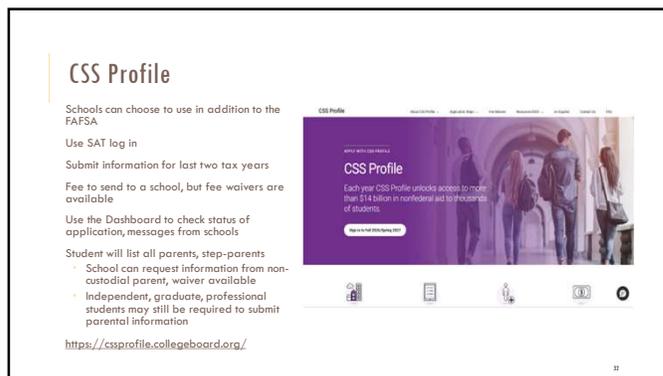
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Prepare the applications

- Follow directions
- List all activities and honors
- Neatness and grammar count
- Make a copy
- Meet deadlines
- Choose references that know you well
- Proof your application and essay



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References

- 1**
Select those who can provide specific examples of your character and participation in activities
- 2**
Give the reference:
 - Some suggestions of things to talk about
 - The deadline to complete
 - A copy of your resume
- 3**
Send a nice follow-up reminder(s) to make sure the letter is completed/sent

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Write the essay

- 1**
Prepare to answer questions on a variety of topics
 - Academic plans
 - Current events and social issues
 - Personal history
 - Achievements
 - Future plans
- 2**
Make a strong impression, use a personal example
- 3**
Showcase the positive
- 4**
Make sure to revise the essay to match the essay requirements

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Essay tips

- Read the directions carefully
- Brainstorm
- Make an outline
- Brainstorm some more
- Write a rough draft
- Write a better draft
- Don't be afraid to start over
- Ask for help
- Use spell check and proofread carefully
- Save your essay
- Don't be too generic
- Target your essay
- Give examples
- Watch vocabulary

<https://mappingyourfuture.org/prepare-for-college/admissions-essay>

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Interview/presentation

- Bring accomplishments portfolio
- Dress professionally
- Practice
 - Prepare to answer questions in different ways, while staying true to yourself
 - Show the broadness of your thoughts, while staying on track
 - If interview will be online, practice and adjust lighting, items in background
- Know the audience
 - Choose appropriate topics
 - Be knowledgeable about the organization

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TRACK



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Track

- Understand all terms and conditions
- Accept the award
- Follow the requirements of the scholarship program
- Understand how scholarship may impact other aid
- Some scholarships will go directly to the student, others to the school
- Send thank you notes



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Scholarships received tracking sheet

Scholarship Name	Amount	Fall Semester Amount	Spring Semester Amount	Action needed	Contact/contact information	Thank you sent
University leaders for College B	\$2,500	\$1,250	\$1,250	Maintain 3.0 GPA		<input type="checkbox"/>
Electric Cooperative	\$1,000	\$500	\$500	Submit fall grades and spring schedule late December	Joe Smith joe@electriccoop.com	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kwanza	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	None		<input type="checkbox"/>
Chamber of Commerce	\$1,200	\$600	\$600	Submit fall grades and spring schedule late December	Sue Jones sue@chamber.com	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local foundation	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	None		<input type="checkbox"/>
Total	\$6,700	\$4,350	\$2,350			

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Financial aid offers

- Also known as award letters
- Student information
- Cost of attendance information
- Aid known by the Financial Aid Office
 - Scholarships
 - State aid
 - Federal aid
- Accept or reject aid and return/submit
- May complete electronically

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Tax implications

Scholarships are considered:

- Tax-free: If used for tuition and fees
- Taxable: If used for living expenses (housing and food), travel, and optional equipment

Institutions issue the 1098-T Tuition Statement that lists payments and scholarships received

Topic Number 421: Scholarships, Fellowship Grants, and Other Grants
<https://www.irs.gov/taxtopics/tc421>

Mapping Your Future provides this information as a service to you. Every tax situation is different, and the regulations are complex. If you are uncertain about your rights and responsibilities, contact a qualified tax advisor or visit the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) website.

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Additional insight for current college students

- Apply for: Scholarships in field of study, Departmental scholarships, Institutional scholarships
- Watch deadlines
- Complete the FAFSA
- Comply with renewal criteria for existing scholarships

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Manage money

Use available dollars as efficiently as possible

- Stretch funds to future terms

Manage your money page: <https://mappingyourfuture.org/manage-your-money>

- Start budgeting <https://mappingyourfuture.org/manage-your-money/budget/>
- Calculators
 - Budget
 - Savings
 - Student loan repayment
- [12-step guide to financial success](#)

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Resources

Federal Student Aid:
StudentAid.gov
StudentAid.gov/aid-estimator

College Navigator
CollegeScorecard.ed.gov
MappingYourFuture.org

- Scholarship Plan: <https://bit.ly/4sh1rem> 
- Scholarship Tracking Sheet: <https://bit.ly/41fa8tN> 

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Mapping Your Future

Mission to help students succeed by providing:

- College Access Services
 - Financial Aid Events
 - FAFSA Assistance
 - College Planning and Financial Aid Resources
- Communications
 - Publications
 - Curriculum
 - Strategic Communications Planning
- Education and Training
 - Webinars
 - Blog posts
 - Newsletters



<https://MappingYourFuture.org>

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Customer service



1-800-374-4072
(8-5 Central time)

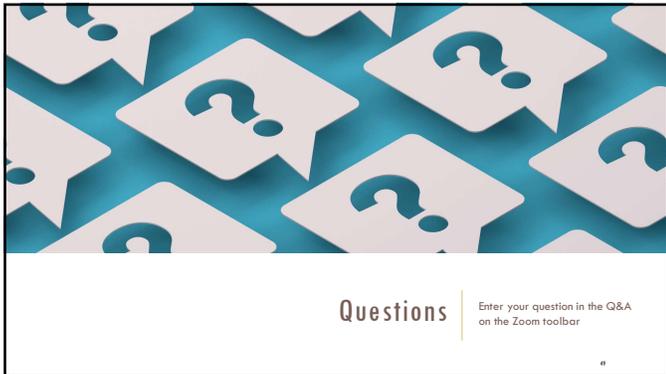


feedback@mappingyourfuture.org



Contact Us links on MappingYourFuture.org

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