

Financial aid resources for students and families

Web sites

AmeriCorps. AmeriCorps is a network of national service programs that connects more than 70,000 Americans each year in intensive service to meet our country's critical need in education, public safety, health, and the environment. Full-time AmeriCorps members who complete their service are eligible to receive an education award. Members who serve part-time receive a partial award. www.americorps.org.

College Board. Here you'll find a scholarship search, and various tools in the Financial Aid Easy Planner. You will also be able to apply online for CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE®, which is required by some colleges: www.collegeboard.com.

FAFSA on the Web. The Web site for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. This form must be submitted in the senior year (after January 1) for families applying for need-based aid. Students may complete it electronically: www.fafsa.ed.gov.

FastWeb. This site provides extensive information on merit- and need-based scholarships and aid: www.fastweb.com.

FinAid! This is a good site for information about types of financial aid and about applying for financial aid: www.finaid.org.

Funding Your Education. This site provides general information about the U.S. Department of Education's financial aid programs and how to apply for them. You can download this publication for free: Click on Publications on Student Aid in the Student section of www.ed.gov.

Internal Revenue Service. Get information on Hope and Lifetime Learning tax credits: www.irs.gov.

Mapping Your Future. Here you'll find general information about scholarships, financial aid, planning a career, selecting a college, and paying for it: www.mapping-your-future.org.

Sallie Mae. This site provides information about planning for college, applying for loans, managing your loans, finding a job, and using financial aid services: www.collegeanswer.com.

Student Aid on the Web. Get general information from the U.S. Department of Education: www.studentaid.ed.gov.

The Student Guide. This is a comprehensive resource on financial aid from the U.S. Department of Education. Grants, loans, and work-study are the three major forms of aid available through

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the department's Federal Student Aid office. Updated annually. Go to www.studentaid.ed.gov and type Student Guide into the search engine.

Books

College Board Guide to Getting Financial Aid. New York: The College Board. Published annually. Fully explains the financial aid process and the types of aid available; gives information on costs and available aid (including special merit scholarships) at each college; provides worksheets.

College Board Scholarship Handbook. New York: The College Board. Updated annually. A no-nonsense guide to more than 2,100 college scholarships, internships, and loan programs for undergraduate study at U.S. colleges.

The College Money Handbook. Lawrenceville, NJ: Peterson's Guides. Published annually. Contains an overview of the financial aid process and how to apply, and a state-by-state description of financial aid programs.

Meeting College Costs. New York: The College Board. Published annually. A workbook that guides families through the complexities of funding a college education.