

Do the UC applications count as 1 school submission or do all of the UC schools applied to each count?

*Each UC must be entered individually on FAFSA.*

Is the cost of attendance the yearly expense or does it represent the entire four years?

*Cost of attendance (COA) is determined each year.*

Does the FAFSA application process factor in cost of living based on city/region? (E.g. \$200k/year in Bay Area is much different than Missoula, MT)

*Not really, it takes some demographics into account, but it does factor in your particular zip code.*

Does the FAFSA have a limited amount of money and is there a reason to fill it out sooner than later? Why did some people stay up till 1:00 am the day it opened?

*It can vary by state and school. California has a deadline of March 2<sup>nd</sup> for Cal Grant. All students who are eligible for Pell Grant and federal loans will be awarded regardless of how early the FAFSA was submitted. Schools may award on a first come first serve basis for some types of financial aid. Make sure to review all deadlines for the schools you are interested in.*

I will have two kids in college next year. Is the FAFSA a family contribution or what a family is expected to pay for each child?

*The EFC is a measure of your financial strength not an indicator of how much you will pay. The EFC is provided for each student that submits a FAFSA.*

What if a child withdraws during the college year, do you have to pay back grants?

*If a student withdraws mid-term they could have some or all of their financial aid returned depending on their withdrawal date. For more specific information you would want to speak to the school's financial aid office.*

\$150,000/year HERE is much different than \$150,000/year in Ohio.

*Yes, this is very true and FAFSA is not good at taking that into account. Please speak with your Federal and State representatives to advocate for change.*

What is the maximum amount awarded?

*A student can receive up to their entire Cost of Attendance (COA) total in all types of financial aid. Maximums will vary by scholarship, grant, or loan. The maximum Pell Grant is currently \$6,495.*

Do students AND parents need to set up separate FAFSA accounts?

*Both the student and parent need to create an FSA ID in order to sign the **student's FAFSA**. Undocumented parents will not be able to create an FSA ID and will need to print the signature page and mail it in.*

Is there a certain salary a single parent can make that would exclude them from financial aid?

*Not really. The EFC formula is too complex to determine simply by salary. However, for Cal Grant there are income and asset ceilings that if you exceed you will not be eligible. See attached document*

We may have completed a FAFSA for an older student and it says to use the same FSA ID. How do we find out if we already have an ID?

*If you have signed a FAFSA previously then you will already have an FSA ID. Contact FSA support if you need further assistance.*

"Unsubsidized student loan" - so that would be a higher interest rate?

*Both the Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans for undergraduate students will have the same fixed interest rate, which is currently 3.73% and is set yearly by Congress. The difference between the two types of loans is that subsidized loans do not accrue interest while the student is enrolled at least half-time and for a six month grace period after college graduation, while unsubsidized loans begin accruing interest as soon as they are disbursed.*

How many schools can be listed on FAFSA? I read conflicting info. Should I put top picks or most expensive schools?

*You can list 10 schools on the FAFSA. If the student needs to list more than 10, then they can log back in once they receive confirmation that their FAFSA has been processed. They would log back in to the FAFSA to make a correction and swap out some schools. The order of schools should not make a difference. We recommend listing at least one California school on the initial application to ensure Cal Grant eligibility is reviewed.*

How exceptional do you have to be to get a merit based scholarship?

*This will vary from school to school. Dominican's merit scholarships for first year students start at a 3.0.*