



I Applied...What's Next?

Congratulations! You have taken the very important first step to going to college – you've applied! Once you have submitted your online application, colleges should be in touch with you to inform you of the status of your application. Make sure to check your email! If you have questions about your application status, contact the admissions office.

Follow up

Even though you've already filled out the online portion, there is still more to do to finish your application. You may need to submit:

- High school transcripts—must be official (signed and with a school seal / electronic sent from high school registrar)
- You will also need to **send your official final transcript** after you graduate from high school
- Your application fee or waiver (if applicable)
- College transcripts from dual enrollment courses (if required)
- ACT/SAT scores (if required)
- Letters of recommendation (if required)
- Your essay (if required)

The next steps for financial aid

Even after you've applied and been accepted to college, there's still a lot of work to do to make your final decision and get ready. You'll want to consider what financial aid is available at the colleges you're considering, and you'll want to decide if you want to live on campus or commute. Of course, once you decide on a college, you'll need to register as a new student, attend orientation, and enroll in classes.

Paying for college

Beginning October 1st, you can complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online. You need to complete the FAFSA to be considered for grants, work-study funds, student loans, and many scholarships, so this is a very important step. You and/or your parents need to complete parts of the application, which will require data from either your or parents 2016 federal tax return. Complete the FAFSA as soon as possible, the earlier you submit the application the better chance you have of receiving your best financial aid award.

Resources for Completing the FAFSA

- You and a parent will need an FSA ID to complete your FAFSA from year to year. If you did not register for a FSA ID or have forgotten it, visit <https://fsaid.ed.gov>.
- College Goal FAFSA partners with high schools and postsecondary institutions statewide to host events for you and your family to get help with the FAFSA. To find the event nearest you, go to www.collegegoal.az.gov.
- The U.S. Department of Education has resources to help you understand the different types of financial aid, who qualifies, and how to apply. Learn more at <https://studentaid.ed.gov/>
- Speak with your family and your high school counselor about your financial aid options.

Resources for Finding Scholarships

Scholarships are a great way to pay for college, because they do not have to be repaid. Here are a few places to search for scholarships:

- Your school counselor or scholarship coordinator
- The financial aid & scholarships webpage of the college or university you plan to attend
- Online national scholarship search engines, such as:
 - Cappex: www.cappex.com
 - www.careerinfonet.org/scholarshipsearch
 - College Board: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search#>
 - Fast Web: www.fastweb.com
 - Hispanic Scholarship Fund: www.hsf.net
 - MALDEF Scholarship Guide for Latinos: www.maldef.org/leadership/scholarships
 - Sallie Mae: www.salliemae.com/college-planning/tools/scholarship-search
 - Scholarship Experts/Unigo: www.scholarshipexperts.com
 - Chegg: www.chegg.com/scholarships#
- Scholarship resources for Arizona students:
 - Arizona Community Foundation: www.azfoundation.org
 - College Depot: www.phoenixpubliclibrary.org/collegedepot
 - AZGrants: <https://azgrants.az.gov>
 - College Success Arizona: <https://collegesuccessarizona.org/college-success-services/our-scholarships/>
 - NAU Resource Center: www.nau.edu/ess-sites/northern-arizona-college-resource-center/
 - Office of Navajo Nation Scholarship & Financial Assistance: www.oonsfa.org
 - Pay4College: <https://collegegoal.az.gov/pay4collegearizona-0>
 - Metropolitan Education Commission Regional College Access Center: www.metedu.org/rcac

Although scholarships are “free money” that doesn’t mean they are easy to get. You need to dedicate time and energy to being a good candidate and to submitting scholarship applications. **Read all requirements** and instructions carefully and **adhere to all deadlines**. Don’t be afraid to ask for help from counselors, teachers, family members, and friends who have also applied for scholarships!

College Goal FAF\$A Events Near You!

Get assistance with your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Your high school may be hosting an event, or there may be one in your area. Talk to your counselor for more information, or for a complete calendar of events, check www.collegegoal.az.gov.

What to Bring:

The following items are what you should bring to the event.

- Your FSA ID.
- If you have previously completed a FAFSA Worksheet, please bring it with you.
- Your Social Security Number.
- Your resident alien registration or permanent resident card (if you are not a U.S. citizen).
- Your driver's license (if any).
- If you earned income in 2016, bring your 2016 W-2 forms.
- Your 2015 untaxed income records (e.g., Veteran's non-education benefit records, child support received, worker's compensation).
- Your and your parents' current bank statements and records of investments (if any).
- If you are a dependent student, you must provide your parents information on the FAFSA.