WHAT IS FINANCIAL AID?

Financial Aid is money provided by the federal and state governments to help students pay for college. Financial Aid can be given to students (grants), earned by working on or off campus (work study) or borrowed by the student (loan).

MAJOR FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

Grants
• Federal Pell Grants- up to $5,645 per academic year
• Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant-per academic year based on availability of funds
• Cal Grant A- up to $9,708 per academic year
• Cal Grant B- up to $11,259 per academic year
• Cal Grant C- up to $3,156 per academic year

Federal Direct Loans
There are four types of Federal Direct Loans, 1 subsidized and 3 unsubsidized.
- Subsidized loans are need based
- Unsubsidized loans are non-need based

Federal Direct PLUS Loans for Parents
Parents must pass credit check in order to receive this non-need based loan for their undergraduate students

Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loans for Graduate and Professional Students-
Student must pass a credit check in order to receive this non-need based loan

Private Student Loans
Can help cover the gap between Financial Aid and the cost of education

Job
Federal Work Study- earn from $10.00 per hour

Scholarships
A student might also qualify for CDU and private scholarship for academic achievement, community activities, artistic talents, leadership potential, field of study.

Scholarship search engines, such as, also offer scholarship opportunities for students.

WHO CAN GET FINANCIAL AID?

Eligibility for most financial aid programs is based on financial need rather than academic achievement. To be eligible for financial aid a student must:
• Be enrolled in good standing at least half-time (6 units) status
• Be a U.S. citizen, permanent resident or eligible non-citizen
• Have a valid ID and Social Security card
• Make satisfactory academic progress as per CDU established guidelines
• Male student age 18-25 must register for Selective Service
• Not be in a financial aid overpayment status or default on a student loan

HOW TO APPLY?

Apply for a Personal Identification Number (PIN) at www.pin.ed.gov

The PIN can be used to electronically sign the FAFSA application on-line. Parents of dependent students may also apply for their own PIN to sign the FAFSA application.

The preferred method of submitting the application is through FAFSA on the Web. The address for FAFSA on the Web is www.fafsa.gov. The federal school code for Charles Drew University is 013653.

The paper FAFSA application is also available for students who would rather submit an application by regular mail.

The Form can be downloaded at www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov or by calling toll free at 1-800-433-3243

WHEN TO APPLY

The FAFSA processing cycle lasts 18 months.
For the applicable award year, applications may be completed on or after January 1st. Applications will be accepted until June 30, of the following year.

California residents are encouraged to apply by March 2nd to be considered for a Cal Grant, which is the state grant.

Students should submit all required forms, if applicable such as tax transcripts, proof of permanent residency, etc, needed to process their application by the priority deadline date of July 1st.
HOW THE FAFSA IS PROCESSED

FAFSA information is transmitted to the Department of Education who uses the information to calculate an Expected Family Contribution (EFC).

In addition, the Department of Education compares the FAFSA information against the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Social Security Administration (SSA), Department of Homeland Security, National Student Loan Data System, Selective Service and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs records. If discrepancies arise, the student’s record is flagged and the Financial Aid Office is notified to resolve the conflicting information.

WHO GETS THE FAFSA INFORMATION?

Within 72 hours after the Department of Education receives a completed application and signature, schools listed on the student’s FAFSA will have electronic access to the student’s information. The Department of Education will also send the student’s information to the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) for Cal Grant processing and to the student in the form of the Student Aid Report (SAR) Acknowledgement.

Students can check the status of their FAFSA application on-line at www.fafsa.gov. A student without internet access can check the status of the FAFSA by calling 1-800-4FED-AID (1-800-433-3243).

FEDERAL STAFFORD LOAN TERMS

**Dependent**
- Freshman-$5,500 (Annual loan limit $3,500 between subsidized and unsubsidized, plus additional $2,000 unsubsidized)
- Sophomore-$6,500 (Annual loan limit $4,500 between subsidized and unsubsidized, plus an additional $2,000 unsubsidized)
- Junior or Senior-$7,500 (Annual loan limit $5,500 between subsidized and unsubsidized, plus an additional $2,000 unsubsidized)

**Independent**
- Freshman-$9,500 (Annual loan limit $3,500 between subsidized and unsubsidized, plus an additional $6,000 unsubsidized)
- Sophomore-$10,500 (Annual loan limit $4,500 between subsidized and unsubsidized, plus an additional $6,000 unsubsidized)
- Junior or Senior-$12,500 (Annual loan limit $5,500 between subsidized and unsubsidized, plus and additional $7,000 unsubsidized)
- Post Baccalaureate-$12,500 as determined by grade level
- Graduate or professional-$20,500 (Annual loan limit $20,500 unsubsidized)

**Lifetime Limits**
- Undergraduate dependent lifetime limit- $31,000 (up to $23,000 may be subsidized)
- Undergraduate independent lifetime limit- $57,500 (between subsidized and unsubsidized)
- Graduate or Professional lifetime limit- $138,500

HOW NEED IS DETERMINED?

A student’s financial need is determined by calculating the difference between the Cost of Attendance (COA) (enrollment fees, books transportation etc.) and the amount the family is expected to contribute to the student’s education.

To determine the Expected Family Contribution (EFC), the student must complete and file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The student’s income and asset information is entered into the Department of Education’s computer system, which then calculates the student’s official EFC.

Cost of Attendance–Expected Family Contribution=Financial Need.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **January 1** – Students may begin to submit a FAFSA for the following academic year
- **March 2** – Cal Grant deadline
- **July 1** – Financial Aid priority date: Students who complete their application and turn in all required documents by this date will be considered for CDU Campus Based aid.

USEFUL WEBSITES

- **Student Aid on the Web**- www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov
  - The site offers college-bound students and their families a single source of free information on choosing a career, selecting a school, and indentifying resources to pay for school.
- **FAFSA on the Web**- www.fafsa.gov
  - The official on-line financial aid application
- **PIN Site**- www.pin.ed.gov
  - Students can apply for the personal identification number needed to sign the on-line FAFSA.
- **California Student Aid Commission**- www.csac.ca.gov
  - on available state grants for eligible California residents

TELEPHONE HELP

- Federal Student Aid Information Center (FSAIC)-1800-4FED-AID- to check on the processing status of the FAFSA
- CDU Financial Aid Office-323-563-4839-general questions about financial aid programs
- California Student Aid Commission-1-888-CA-GRANT-questions about the status of Cal Grant and/or other state aid program
- Inspector General Hotline-1800-MIS-USED-reporting student aid fraud (including identity theft), waste, or abuse of US Department of Education funds

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