



Helping your family save money on the cost of college.

The mission of College Financial Prep is to help your family save money on the cost of college. The below Frequently Asked Questions were prepared to help answer your initial questions and concerns. Please contact College Financial Prep with additional questions based on your family's specific needs so that we may be of best service to you and your family. We look forward to sharing in your family's success!

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

How Can I Find The Most Money In Free Scholarships?

It is best to start strategizing in the Junior year of High School. It is important to find and apply to those colleges and universities that are most likely to offer your student large amounts of financial aid. College Financial Prep works with clients to find those colleges that are a wonderful academic, social and financial fit for the student.

What is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)?

This is a form completed by current and prospective college students (undergraduate and graduate) in the United States to determine their eligibility for student **financial aid**. Some schools also use the FAFSA form to award merit scholarships that are not based on financial need.

Why Should I Complete a FAFSA form? My Family May Not Qualify.

There are four main reasons to complete a FAFSA form? They are:

1. For the student to be eligible for federal student loans. This is not income based.
2. For the student to be considered for need based aid.
3. For the student to be eligible for work/study programs.
4. For the student to be eligible to receive merit scholarships (not income based). FAFSA is used to award merit aid at a large percentage of universities.

When Can The FAFSA Form Be Submitted?

The form is available starting on October 1 for the following academic year. So, on October 1, 2020, students may submit their FAFSA form for the 2021-2022 school year.

Do I Need To Pay To Submit The FAFSA Form?

No. But if you need professional assistance, College Financial Prep is available to answer your questions, prepare your form and maximize your savings for a fee.

How Often Do I Need To Submit A FAFSA form?

The FAFSA form is submitted once for each year of college and graduate school.

What Is The CSS Profile? Will I Need To Fill That Out Too?

The CSS PROFILE is used by primarily private colleges and universities to determine your eligibility for their non-government financial aid, such as grants, loans and scholarships. Not all schools require the submission of the CSS Profile but all schools do require the submission of FAFSA.

When Is The Best Time For My Family To Begin Working With College Financial Prep?.

Many families begin their college research with College Financial Prep during the Junior year of High School. The goal is to locate schools that are a great fit for the student, including possible merit aid, that might not have yet been presented to the student and his/her parents. It is imperative to know about these schools ahead of time so that the child has time to visit and consider these additional schools. Other families begin working with College Financial Prep in either the summer before Senior Year or after October 1 when the financial aid forms open. We then work with our clients/families throughout Senior year and for each of the following academic years, including through graduate school.

I Do Not Live In New York. Can My Family Work With College Financial Prep?

Yes, College Financial Prep works with clients both within and outside of New York state. Meetings are held either in person, by phone or through zoom.

I Am Recently Divorced. Can You Help Me And My Child Save Money On The Cost Of College?

Yes! Divorce, separation, widowhood, job loss, medical expenses and other extenuating circumstances are our specialty! College Financial Prep was founded by a divorced Mom, with her MBA. Additionally she has a college age son and knows exactly how to help your family save money (having been through it herself)!

What Services Does College Financial Prep provide?

College Financial Prep provides the following services:

- Planning and Consultation
- Financial Aid Form Preparation
- Merit and Need Based Scholarship Research
- Verifications
- Financial Awards Analyses
- Net Price Calculations
- Appeal Letters
- Current Changes In Household Income
- Divorce and Other Extenuating Circumstances
- Student Loan Guidance and Credit Repair
- Financial Literacy

How Do I Begin Working With College Financial Prep?

College Financial Prep offers no cost, confidential, 30 minute consultations. Call today to schedule your appointment. 516-225-5224. We're here to help!