Welcome Students and Families

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID

Central Connecticut State University
FINANCIAL AID DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

OPEN HOUSE
FINANCING YOUR EDUCATION

- WHAT IS FINANCIAL AID
- COST OF ATTENDANCE (COA)
- WHAT AID IS AVAILABLE
- WHO IS ELIGIBLE
- HOW DO I APPLY
WHAT IS FINANCIAL AID

FINANCIAL AID consists of federal, state, and school funds, in addition to scholarships provided to students to help pay for postsecondary educational expenses.
WHAT IS COST OF ATTENDANCE

- Direct costs
- Indirect costs
- Direct and indirect costs combined into cost of attendance
- Varies widely from college to college
Types of Federal Financial Aid with FAFSA

- PELL Grant
- Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant
- Federal Work Study
- Perkins Loan 5% fixed interest rate
- Stafford Loans 4.29% subsidized and 4.29% unsubsidized
- Parent Loans 6.84% interest rate
WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR FINANCIAL AID

- US Citizen or Eligible non-Citizen
- High School graduate (GED, Home School)
- Full time or Part time student
- Must be a Matriculated student
- Males must be registered with Selective Service or consent to be registered
Avoid being charged a fee to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid

Completion and processing of the FAFSA is FREE

If filing via FAFSA on the Web, be sure to go directly to www.fafsa.ed.gov
Log on to STUDENTAID.GOV

An FSA ID gives you access to Federal Student Aid’s online systems and can serve as your legal signature.

Only create an FSA ID using your own personal information and for your own exclusive use. You are not authorized to create an FSA ID on behalf of someone else, including a family member. Misrepresentation of your identity to the federal government could result in criminal or civil penalties.

Student and Parent must obtain a FSA User ID.
Personal Identification Information
To apply for an FSA ID, complete the information below and select CONTINUE.

I understand that I will be required to certify that the information that I provide to obtain an FSA ID is true and correct and that I am the individual who I claim to be. If I am not that person who I claim to be, I understand that I am not authorized to proceed and that I should exit this form now. If I provide false or misleading information, I understand that I may be fined, sent to prison for not more than five years, or both.

- Identity
- Profile
- Review & Confirm
- Done

Social Security Number *
Date of Birth *
First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name *

CANCEL
PREVIOUS
CONTINUE
Challenge Question 1: What was the name of your elementary school?
Answer 1: 

Challenge Question 2: What was your high school's mascot?
Answer 2: 

Challenge Question 3: favorite sport
Answer 3: 

Challenge Question 4: favorite color
Answer 4: 

Challenge Question 5 (Used to access your information over the phone): Type a significant date in your life (MM/DD/YYYY)
Answer 5: 

Read before you proceed:
By submitting this application, you agree not to share your FSA ID with anyone. The security of your FSA ID is important because it can be used to:
- electronically sign Federal Student Aid documents
- access your personal records, and
- make binding legal obligations.

If your FSA ID is lost or stolen, you also agree to:
- contact Federal Student Aid's Customer Service center at 1-800-4-FSA-FAX (1-800-433-3243)

☐ I certify that the above information is correct & accept the terms & conditions

CANCEL PREVIOUS CONTINUE
COMPLETING THE FAFSA

• Must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid for 2016-2017. Available **January 1, 2016**. May be filed at any time during an academic year. Colleges may set FAFSA filing deadlines

  www.fafsa.ed.gov

• Useful info to have available:
  - 2015 parent and student tax return information
  - Asset information, business investment worth
  - Child support receive/paid
  - Receipt of Food Stamps
  - Other untaxed income
  - Social Security Card
Web site: www.fafsa.ed.gov

2016-17 FAFSA available on or after January 1, 2016
ENTER FSA ID
WELCOME TO THE FAFSA!

Introduction Page - 2015-2016 FAFSA

Use the Next and Previous buttons to move from page to page in the form. If you use your browser's back and forward buttons to move from page to page, you may lose your data.

Additional information about FAFSA on the Web:

How can I get help completing my FAFSA?
How many steps does it take to complete?
How long will it take to complete?
Can I save my FAFSA if I can't finish it?
Documents needed to complete the FAFSA
Signing the FAFSA
FAFSA on the Web Security and Privacy

NEXT

Site Last Updated: Sunday, September 20, 2015
CCSU’s School Code 001378

- On Campus
- Off Campus
- With Parent
DEPENDENT OR INDEPENDENT?

Dependency Determination

Were you born before January 1, 1992?
- Yes  No

As of today, are you married?
- Yes  No

At the beginning of the 2015-2016 school year, will you be working on a master's or doctorate program (such as an MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, EdD, or graduate certificate, etc.)?
- Yes  No

Do you now have or will you have children who will receive more than half of their support from you between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016?
- Yes  No

Do you have dependents (other than your children or spouse) who live with you and who receive more than half of their support from you, now and through June 30, 2016?
- Yes  No

Are you currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training?
- Yes  No

Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?
- Yes  No

At any time since you turned age 13, were both your parents deceased, were you in foster care, or were you a dependent or ward of the court?
- Yes  No

As determined by a court in your state of legal residence, are you or were you an emancipated minor?
- Yes  No

As determined by a court in your state of legal residence, are you or were you in legal guardianship?
- Yes  No

On or after July 1, 2014, were you homeless or were you self-supporting and at risk of being homeless?
- Yes  No
PARENT FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Parent Tax Information

- Application was successfully saved.

For 2014, have your parents completed their IRS income tax return or another tax return?
- Already completed

For 2014, what is your parents' tax filing status according to their tax return?
- Married-Filed Joint Return

- You, the parents, may be able to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to view and transfer your tax information from the IRS.

- Did the parents file a Form 1040X amended tax return?
  - Yes
  - No

- Did the parents file a Puerto Rican or foreign tax return?
  - Yes
  - No

- Did the parents file taxes electronically in the last 3 weeks (or by mail in the last 11 weeks)?
  - Yes
  - No

Based on your response, we recommend that you, the parents, transfer your information from the IRS into this FAFSA. How you filed your taxes can affect whether your tax return information is available to transfer.

Enter your FSA ID and click Link To IRS.

Which parent are you?
- Select

What is your (the parent's) FSA ID?

FSA ID Username or Verified E-mail Address

FSA ID Password

Parent Financial Information

What type of income tax return did your parents file for 2014?
- Selected

What was your parents' adjusted gross income for 2014?

INCOME ESTIMATOR

How much did your Parent 1 (father/mother/stepparent) earn from working (wages, salaries, tips, etc.) in 2014?

How much did your Parent 2 (father/mother/stepparent) earn from working (wages, salaries, tips, etc.) in 2014?

As of today, is either of your parents a dislocated worker?
- Select

PREVIOUS NEXT
While completing FAFSA, applicants may submit real-time request to IRS for tax data.

IRS will authenticate taxpayer’s identity.

If match found, IRS sends real-time results to applicant and applicant chooses whether or not to transfer data to FAFSA.
Participation is voluntary (although most colleges encourage it)

- Reduces documents requested by financial aid office

Tips for Using IRS Data Retrieval Tool
It is easier to have your 2015 Tax Returns next to you while complete the link. You have to make sure everything matches. If you put street on your taxes but st. on the link it will not work.
IRS DATA RETRIEVAL

Some will be unable to use IRS DRT

Examples include:

• Filed an amended tax return

• No Social Security Number (SSN) was entered

• Student or parent married but filed separately

• NOTE that IRS retrieval is not available until early February
FREQUENT FAFSA ERRORS

- Social Security Numbers
- Divorced/remarried parental information
- Income earned by parents/stepparents/AGI
- U.S. income taxes paid
- Untaxed income
- Household size
- Number of household members in college
- Real estate and investment net worth
- Citizenship status
- Drug Convictions
- Selective service registration
- High School Completion question

Can transfer from IRS Data Link
INDEPENDENT STUDENT DEFINITION

- At least 24 years old by December 31 of award year covered by the FAFSA;
- Graduate or professional student
- Married
- Has children or dependents (other than a spouse) for whom the student provides more than half support;
- Orphan or ward/dependent of the court (docs required)
- Veteran of U.S. Armed Forces; or Active Duty
- Determined to be “independent” by financial aid administrator based on unusual circumstances
- “Homeless” students should seek advice from financial aid office on how to proceed
WHAT CAN THE CCSU FINANCIAL AID OFFICE OFFER YOU:

• In addition to the Federal funds:
  ▪ CT State University Grant
  ▪ CT Aid for Public Colleges

• Must meet our **March 1**\textsuperscript{st} deadline as an *incoming student*.

• Must meet our **April 15**\textsuperscript{th} deadline as a *continuing student*
Free Internet scholarship search engines:

- FinAid on the Web: www.finaid.org
- College Board: www.collegeboard.com
- FastWeb: www.fastweb.monster.com
- Scholarship Resource Network Express: www.srnexpress.com
- GoCollege: The Collegiate Websource: www.gocolege.com
- Scholarship.hispanicfund.org
- See your High School Guidance Office
FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES

- 1-800-4FEDAIID (1-800-433-3243)
- FAFSA4caster.gov
- FOTW Worksheet
- www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov/completefafsa
- www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov
- www.college.gov
Financial aid is not transferable

Financial aid awards will change from year to year

Cost will differ from 2 year institution to 4 year institution

in-state vs out of state will vary

Deadlines will vary. Check with individual schools to confirm

Freshmen deadline is March 1, 2016 at CCSU