

## Financial Aid 101

**Presented By:** 

**Gateway Technical College** 



#### **AGENDA**

• What is Financial Aid?

• How Do I Apply?

What Happens Next?





# WHAT IS FINANCIAL AID?







#### PURPOSE OF FINANCIAL AID

To assist a student in paying for higher education

 To provide greater access and opportunity for higher education

 To help narrow the gap between what the family can pay and the cost of education





#### THREE PRIMARY SOURCES

#### US Dept of Education

The federal agency that provides grant, work study, and loan funding

#### State

- Higher Educational Aids Board (HEAB) manages aid for Wisconsin.
- Administers state scholarships, grants, loans, and college savings and prepaid tuition programs.

#### Colleges & Universities

- May offer their own scholarships, grants, and loan programs
- Availability and eligibility varies WIDELY between schools





## Types of Financial Aid

- Grants
- Federal Work Study
- Scholarships
- Loans



## **Grants (FREE)**

- Federal
  - Pell Grant
  - Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG)
  - TEACH Grant (\*not all schools participate)
- State
  - WI Grant (WG)
  - WI Tuition Grant (WTG)
- Institutional





## **Employment**

- Federal Work Study Program
- Institutional Work Programs
- Off campus/summer employment

\*\*Studies show that students who work part-time while in school also perform better academically\*\*





## **Scholarships**

- Colleges/Universities
  - academic, athletic or other talent
- Civic organizations
  - Churches, PTA, Elks, Kiwanis, cultural leagues, etc
- Private businesses
- Parental affiliations
  - Employers & labor unions
- Online scholarship searches (fastweb.com)





#### **Other Resources**

- AmeriCorps
- Veteran's benefits and tuition waivers
- ROTC scholarships and/or stipends
- Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Grants
- State Divisions of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)
- Health and Human Services loan and scholarship programs





## Loans (Paid Back)

- Typically repaid with interest
- Federal Perkins Loan\*
- William D Ford Federal Direct Loan Program
  - Subsidized/Unsubsidized options, Sub eligibility based on financial need
- Federal PLUS (for parents)
- State Loans
- Institutional Loans \*
- Private/Alternative Loans



<sup>\*(</sup>not available at Gateway Technical College)



### **Direct Loans Interest Rates**

Student Grade Level	Loan Type	2018-19 Fixed Interest Rate
Undergraduate	Direct Subsidized & Unsubsidized	5.05%
Graduate & Professional Students	Direct Unsubsidized	6.6%
Parents of Dependent Undergrads AND Graduate/Professional Students	Parent or Grad PLUS	7.6%





#### **PLUS Loan**

- Program for parents of dependent undergrads as well as grads and professional students (GradPLUS)
- Must pass a basic credit check
- Annual loan limit: COA minus other accepted aid
- 2018/19 fixed interest rate 7.6%
- Origination fee (2018-19) 4.248%
- 60 day grace period "opt-in" to in-school deferment
- Compare to private/alternative loans





#### **Federal Direct Loan Amounts**

#### Annual Loan Limits

- Freshmen \$5,500 (\$3,500 max subsidized)
- Sophomore \$6,500 (\$4,500 max subsidized)
- Junior/Senior \$7,500 (\$5,500 max subsidized)
- Grad Student \$20,500 (Unsub ONLY!)

#### Lifetime Maximums

- Dependent Undergrads \$31,000 (\$23,000 max subsidized)
- Independent Undergrads \$57,500 (\$23,000 max subsidized)
- Grad & Law \$138,500
- Med, Vet Med, Pharm, Dentist \$224,000





## HOW DO I APPLY?







#### **Income Information**

Have available all income information for the base year.

 If applying for the 2018/19 year, you will need income information for 2016.





#### **Income Documentation**

- Copy of Federal Tax return if filed or use the IRS DATA RETRIEVAL TOOL (IRT) in the application
  - 2018/19 (Available October 1, 2017 using 2016 tax return information).
  - Allows Tax information to be imported into application from the IRS
  - Cannot Use if
    - Married but filed separate returns
    - Filed an Amended Tax Return
    - Both Parents info required but not married

(see: Who is a Parent?)





## Income Documentation(cont'd)

- 2016 W2's/1099-G (Student and Parent)
- Untaxed income
  - Workman's Compensation
  - Child Support Paid/Received
  - Payments to pensions or savings plan
  - Veterans Non-Educational Benefits
  - Other





## Income Documentation(cont'd)

- Investments
  - real estate (but not the home you live in), trust funds, UGMA/UTMA accounts, money markets, mutual funds, stocks, bonds, other securities, installment and land sale contracts, etc
  - Qualified educational benefits or education saving accounts such as Coverdell savings accounts, 529 plans.





### **Dependency Status**

- Students:
  - Were you born before 1/1/1995?
  - Are you married?
  - Do you have children who receive more than half their support from you?
  - Are you in the military?
- Parent(s) may still need to provide information even if...
  - You do not live with parents.
  - Parent(s) do not claim you on taxes.
  - Parent(s) do not support you financially





#### Parent Information

#### Beginning with the 14/15 FAFSA - Who is considered a parent?

- Two biological or adoptive parents REGARDLESS of marital status
   OR gender, if those parents live together
  - Both parents information will be included on the FAFSA
- Divorced or Separated parents
  - Will use information for whichever is determined to be the custodial parent or whom the student <u>lived with more</u> in the past 12 months.
- Step-parents



<sup>\*</sup>Adoptive parents DOES NOT include legal guardians, even those that are relatives



#### **FAFSA Process**

- 1. Student and Parent should apply for a Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID) at <a href="https://fsaid.ed.gov">https://fsaid.ed.gov</a>
- Never Share your FSA ID with anyone
- 2. Complete the <u>FREE</u> APPLICATIONFOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)
- Apply Online at <u>www.fafsa.gov</u>



#### Need money for college?

Complete the FAFSA® (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form to apply for financial aid for college, career school, or graduate school.

#### **NEW TO FAFSA.GOV?**

Submitting the FAFSA form is quick, and most importantly, it's FREE. Get started today.

START HERE >

#### **RETURNING USER?**

- · Make a correction
- Add a school
- · View your Student Aid Report (SAR)

LOG IN >

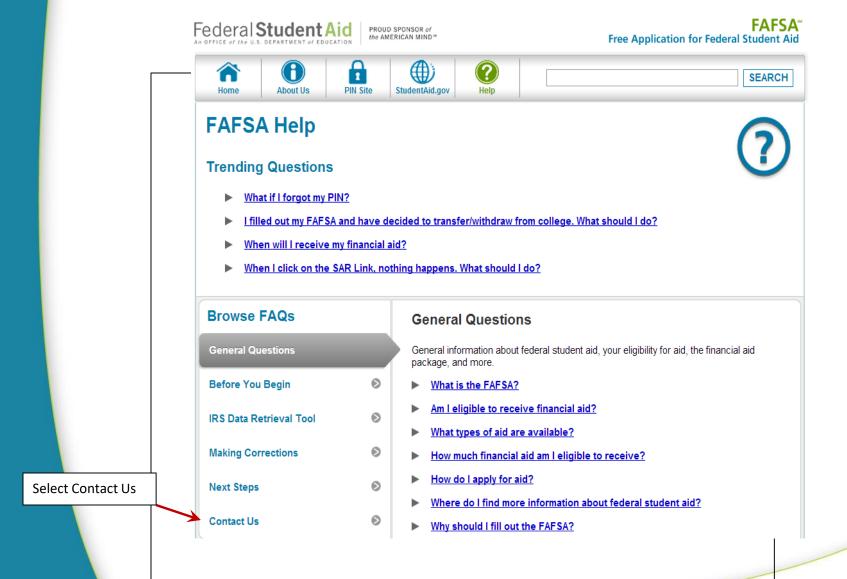
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navailable every Sunday from 3 a.m. to 11 a.m. (Eastern Time). We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.





#### FAFSA HELP LIVE







## FAFSA (cont'd)

#### After completion of the FAFSA

- Confirmation Page
  - Confirms application has been submitted
  - Lists Estimated Expected Family Contribution (EFC) used to determine Award (next slide).
- Look for an e-mail from Federal Student Aid
  - Within 3-5 business days



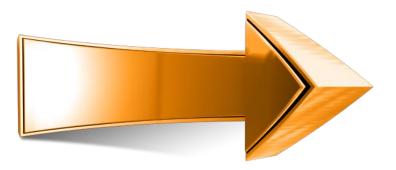
## **Expected Family Contribution (EFC)**

- Determined by filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Ways to describe purpose of the EFC
- An index number used to calculate eligibility for aid
- Is NOT an estimate of "extra" cash available
- Is NOT what family will pay to school
- Stays the same regardless of college/university





## WHAT NEXT?







## College

- School's Financial Aid Office
  - Import Application and process
  - Verify Eligibility
    - Program Acceptance
    - Citizenship
    - Other
  - Request Additional Information
  - Determine Award





#### **Student and Parent**

- Submit all documentation requested
  - IRS Tax Transcript
  - High School Transcript
  - Proof of Child Support Paid/Received
  - W2's
  - Verification of High School Graduation
  - Etc...
- Complete Admissions Process





## Awarded – Now What? Student

- Follow instructions for Award
  - Log in to Schools Website
  - View and Accept (if required) Award Offer
- Loans (do not have to accept or can reduce amount)
  - Complete the Loan Entrance Counseling\*
    - Login to <u>www.studentloans.gov</u> (Complete Counseling)
  - Complete the Subsidized/Unsubsidized Master Promissory Note (MPN) \*
    - Login to <u>www.studentloans.gov</u> (Complete MPN)

\*Need FSA ID (Username and Password to login)





## Awarded – Now What? Parent

- PLUS loan
  - Complete PLUS Request Process
  - Follow up with School on Application process

#### Federal Regulations

- Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
   (FERPA)-Information cannot and will <u>NOT</u> be released to you regarding your child's information without written consent on file
- Documentation must be completed and signed by the student





#### Remember

- Submit all documents requested by the Financial Aid Office as soon as possible.
- Complete process by deadlines.
  - Check with your school of choice.
- Set a budget.
- Monitor your loan debt.
- Stay in contact with your school's Financial Aid Office.
- Apply every year!





#### Websites

- www.studentaid.gov
  - Helpful information on Financial Aid
- www.fsaid.ed.gov
  - Apply for Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID)
- www.fafsa.gov
  - Complete <u>FREE</u> Financial Aid application
- www.studentloans.gov
  - Helpful information on Financial Aid
  - Complete Loan Entrance Counseling and MPN





## **College Goal Wisconsin**

- Receive FREE & Professional on-site assistance completing the FAFSA
- Attend an event and you may win a scholarship





#### **Dates**

#### **Gateway Technical College**

- Kenosha 3520 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue Monday, October 29<sup>th</sup> @ 6PM Student Commons
- Racine 1001 S. Main St
   Wednesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 6PM
   Racine Building Conference Center

#### **Badger High School**

- Lake Geneva 220 E. South Street
- Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup> @ 6PM
   Park in Wells St. Lot Enter at Door I (Commons)







## **College Goal WI**

## For More Locations and Dates visit: collegegoalwi.org







## **THANK YOU!**

Justin Kehring

Gateway Technical College

