



CHAPTER 9: FINANCIAL AID

Regardless of your current income level or need, you may qualify for a variety of student financial aid programs that can help offset your tuition costs. Learn more about the different types of financial aid by exploring the resources below. For an in-depth guide to financial aid, college tuition calculators, and “paperwork demystified,” visit the fine folks at FinAid at <http://www.finaid.org>.

Grants

Grants are based on need and do not have to be repaid. Examples of grants include Pell grants and Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants.

You can find more information about grants at:

- <http://www.thepell.com>
- <http://www.fseog.com>
- <http://www.ed.gov>

Loans

Loans are based on need and other criteria. Federal loans are either subsidized (government pays loan interest) or unsubsidized (borrower is responsible for loan interest). Loan amounts vary and repayment can be deferred until after graduation. Loans can come from the government or private lenders.

You can find more information about loans at:

- <http://www.staffordloan.com>
- <http://esfweb.com>
- <http://www.salliemae.com>

Scholarships

Scholarships are based on merit. They are available through the colleges, private individuals, and community groups, and usually do not have to be repaid.

You can find more information about scholarships at:

- <http://www.fastweb.com>
- <http://www.freschinfo.com>

Work-Study Programs

Work-study programs offer students the option to work while attending school and may be subsidized by the state or college.

You can find more information about work-study programs at:

- <http://www.ed.gov>
- <http://www.ceiainc.org>