

ALL ABOUT FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

1) **Net Price Calculator:**

- This simple online tool helps families forecast their expected family contribution (EFC). Every college is required to provide this tool, which you can find by searching online for the school by name plus the term "Net Price Calculator." Enter some basic financial information to see the cost to your family (before any merit aid you may receive).

2) **FAFSA:**

- The backbone of ALL financial aid is the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) which became available on Oct. 1, found here: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa>
- Each student will apply for his/her own Federal Student Aid identification number (FSA ID) and password and will need custodial parent(s)/guardian(s) Tax information to complete this application.
- Enter up to **10 schools** into the FAFSA in order for your aid application to reach each college's financial aid office. If you are applying to more than 10 colleges, you can submit the FAFSA to those 10 schools, then delete those and replace the recipient list with other schools. Make sure that you are selecting the FAFSA for the **2019-20** school year!
- In order to proceed, male applicants over 18 must be registered for the [selective service](#).
- The Brebeuf College Counseling department will be hosting a **Financial Aid information event on October 23 at 7pm** in the Large Group Instruction Room (LGI).
- There is also a free event, **College Goal Sunday**, hosted at various locations throughout Indianapolis on Sunday, October 28, from 2-4pm where you can complete the FAFSA with assistance: <http://www.collegegoalsunday.org/index.php/locations/indianapolis-area>

3) **CSS Profile:**

- In addition to the FAFSA, many of the most selective/expensive colleges will require you to complete the CSS Profile, which is administered by the College Board and which asks for additional information in order for those schools to access higher levels of funding for your financial aid package. There is an administrative fee for this service. Fee waivers are available to students from low income families and/or those who have qualified for standardized testing fee waivers. To see which schools require the CSS Profile, and for application information, see this link: <https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/>

4) **Merit Scholarships/Institutional funds:**

- Please be diligent about researching the specific criteria and application information to qualify for merit scholarships at each school to which you will apply.
- Many schools automatically consider all applicants who meet priority application deadlines. Other schools offer scholarship opportunities that require a nomination from

ALL ABOUT FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

your college counselor or additional application materials (sometimes by invitation) or acceptance into an Honors program.

- You should be sure to look for EACH college's financial aid/tuition/scholarships online to seek these opportunities. The stronger your academic profile is when compared to the majority of that school's applicants, the more likely you are to receive merit aid. Some scholarships are offered through specific academic departments. This information is available on the school's website, or by conducting an internet search (for example, use Google and enter the school's name and "scholarship"). Search the database in your Naviance account: "Colleges," then "Scholarships and Money," then "Scholarships List."
- Once you have applied to a college, make sure to stay vigilant with incoming emails that may inform you of or invite you to apply for institutional scholarships.

5) **Outside/ non-institutional scholarships:**

- Search for these through our Naviance scholarship database and other FREE scholarship search tools and websites (Scholarships.com, Cappex.com, Niche.com, CICF.org, UNCF.org, hsf.net, and more).
- Non-institutional scholarships (funded by foundations and nonprofits) are for specific demographic groups or areas of interest, are often need-based, and will be sought by students from around the region and often the nation. Competition for these is intense, so these are the least likely scholarships to acquire and should not be counted on to fund your college costs.