



SECURING FUNDING

Financial Aid Checklist

Make it All the Way Through to Ensure Funding for Your Education is Secure



BEGIN FINANCIAL AID PROCESS

All students should complete a FAFSA or WASFA application! This is required for most sources of aid across the college, and allows the Financial Aid Office to evaluate your eligibility for all financial aid programs offered.

NOTE: Submit your FAFSA or WASFA as soon as you know you want to attend Central.

- Determine whether you fill out the FAFSA or WASFA application

NOTE: You will only fill out one or the other

[*Check FAFSA Eligibility](#) || [*Use the WASFA Questionnaire](#)

- Complete the FAFSA or WASFA as soon as possible

- [FAFSA](#) || [WASFA](#)

*[*Use the Financial Aid resource webpage for tips for completing the applications!](#)*

ONCE SUBMITTED

- Check your email for confirmation from FAFSA or WASFA
- Read the "Welcome" email from financialaid.central@seattlecolleges.edu for next steps
 - *Expect this email within 7-10 days *after* you've been admitted to Seattle Central*
- [Complete all tasks from the Financial Aid Office emails by the quarterly deadline](#)
 - [*Submit forms in the Financial Aid tile of ctclink](#)*
- Read the email from BankMobile Disbursements, a technology solution, powered by BMTX, Inc. for instructions on how to select a refund preference.
 - *If you receive a refund, you can use it on books and supplies*
- Read the email from Financial Aid Office with eligibility notification
 - *This is also available in your ctclink account*

FAFSA / WASFA

FAFSA / WASFA

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

NOT ALL PROGRAMS QUALIFY FOR FINANCIAL AID. CONFIRM YOUR PROGRAM IS ELIGIBLE.

- Confirm that your program is financial aid eligible
 - [Eligible Programs](#)
 - *All two-year degree programs including AA or AS*
 - *Certificate program of at least one year (three quarters)*
 - [Ineligible Programs](#)
 - *Certificate or program that is 1-2 quarters long*
- Still not sure? Contact the Financial Aid Office to ask.

ELIGIBILITY

ELIGIBILITY

EXPLORE MORE OPTIONS

- [Review and apply for scholarships](#)
 - [Review and consider Work Study opportunities](#)
 - [Explore other potential funding sources on the Financial Aid & Funding webpage](#)
 - [Review Workforce Service and see if you are eligible for funding](#)
 - [Review Veteran Services benefits and see if you are eligible for funding](#)
 - [Understand payment plans as a monthly payment option](#)
 - Explore employer vouchers and/or 3rd party payment options
 - *Contact the Financial Aid Office right away if you will use these options*
- OTHER FINANCIAL SUPPORT PROGRAMS
- [Consider applying for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program \(SNAP\) benefits](#)
 - [Consider applying for ORCA Lift for reduced fare on regional transit](#)
 - [Review tax credits available to students regardless of employment status \(no income required\)](#)

EXPLORE

EXPLORE

HEALTHY HABITS

BEFORE EVERY QUARTER STARTS AND BEFORE EVERY QUARTER ENDS:

- Estimate all your costs for the quarter
*[*Use the net cost calculator](#)*
- Understand your Financial Aid award
**Read the eligibility notification carefully*
How much money were you awarded? _____
For which quarters did you receive funding? _____
Are there requirements to remain eligible (ex: # of credits, GPA)? _____
- Check your Financial Aid portal days *before* the beginning and end of every quarter
 - If anything changes or you see something unexpected, contact the Financial Aid Office
Note: Financial Aid always awards the maximum amount of funds possible
- Calculate what costs remain
**Student portal in ctLink should show if there are any remaining tuition and fee costs*
**Remember to consider other costs (expenses that won't be in the ctLink student portal)*
- Explore options to cover the remaining costs
- Know what deadlines apply to your situation
 - tuition deadlines (pay before deadline to prevent being dropped from your classes)
 - drop/refund deadlines (when can you drop classes and still receive a refund?)

If interested in paying remaining tuition in installments- apply for a payment plan early on

HABITS

HABITS

CONTACT US

Have a Question or Concern regarding:	Department to Contact:
Tuition + fee amounts and deadlines	Tuition Office 206.934.4108
Tuition refund deadlines	Cashier.Central@seattlecolleges.edu
Payment plan (pay it off over time)	
FAFSA / WASFA application	Financial Aid Office 206.934.3844
Financial Aid eligibility process	FinancialAid.Central@seattlecolleges.edu

CONTACT

CONTACT

ANTICIPATE DEADLINES

- [Learn about refund periods](#)
- For employer vouchers and 3rd party payments: contact Financial Aid ASAP
- If you have received any financial aid award, the remaining tuition and fees need to be received by "end of 100% refund period"
- [Learn about deadlines for payment plans early you're using one](#)

DEADLINES

DEADLINES

FINANCIAL AID GLOSSARY

FAFSA

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid is the application used by most students for federal grants, work-study, and loans. This application is used as a baseline for most types of financial aid.

WASFA

The Washington Application for State Financial Aid is for students who do not file a FAFSA. A student should complete the WASFA if they are undocumented or do not qualify for federal financial aid because of their immigration status.

Portal

An online account access page which requires a login and contains personal information.

GLOSSARY

GLOSSARY