

FEDERAL STUDENT AID PROGRAM SUMMARY

Most federal student aid is need-based, taking into account an expected family contribution (EFC). Need-based financial aid comes in three basic types:

1. **Grants and scholarships**, which are considered gift aid and generally don't have to be paid back (sometimes a repayment is required if a student withdraws);
2. **Work-study**, which is money that you earn by working part-time while in school; and
3. **Loans**, which are funds that you (or your parent) borrow and must be paid back, usually after you leave school.

The following chart details the main federal student aid programs administered by the U.S. Department of Education (ED). Not all schools participate in all of the programs listed.

Program	Description	Application	Annual/Aggregate Amounts	Eligibility*	Repayment Required
Federal Pell Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need-based grants based on highest financial need as expressed by lowest EFCs • Portable 	Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) required annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual minimum and maximum vary, as set by Congress • \$588 minimum for 2015–16¹ • \$5,775 maximum for 2015–16¹ • Receive for a maximum of 12 full-time semesters • Award amounts may be subject to reduction under sequestration in 2016–17 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undergraduate students without first baccalaureate or professional degree • Certain students enrolled in a post-baccalaureate teaching certification program • Students who qualify for Federal Pell Grant receive a zero EFC for Federal Pell Grant and for packaging of all other Title IV aid if their parent or guardian died as result of military service in Iraq or Afghanistan after 9/11/01, and if student was less than 24 years old or enrolled in college when parent or guardian died • Students with intellectual disabilities enrolled in comprehensive postsecondary transition programs • Individuals subject to involuntary civil confinement or civil commitment after completion of a period of incarceration for forcible or nonforcible sexual crime are ineligible 	No

*In addition to the General Student Eligibility Requirements.

¹Congress has not yet passed legislation determining award amounts for the 2016–17 award year.

Program	Description	Application	Annual/Aggregate Amounts	Eligibility*	Repayment Required
Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant (IASG)	Non-need-based grant program	FAFSA required annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same amount as maximum Federal Pell Grant applicable to award year is reduced by 6.8% due to sequestration. • \$5,382.30 maximum for awards first disbursed on or after October 1, 2015 and before October 1, 2016¹ • Payments adjusted like Federal Pell Grants for less-than-full-time enrollment • May not exceed student's cost of attendance (COA) • Limited to a maximum of 12 full-time semesters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At time of parent's or guardian's death, student must be less than 24 years of age, or, if 24 years of age or older, enrolled at an institution of higher education • Student must not be Federal Pell Grant eligible • Not considered estimated financial assistance (EFA) 	No

*In addition to the General Student Eligibility Requirements.

¹Congress has not yet passed legislation determining award amounts for the 2016–17 award year.

Program	Description	Application	Annual/Aggregate Amounts	Eligibility*	Repayment Required
Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant program • Conditional² • Portable³ 	FAFSA required annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$4,000 annual maximum reduced by 6.80% for awards first disbursed on or after October 1, 2015 and before October 1, 2016¹ • \$16,000 undergraduate aggregate limit (includes postbaccalaureate) • \$8,000 graduate aggregate limit • Sequestration has no impact on aggregate limit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have and maintain 3.25 grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale, or have scored above 75th percentile on single battery of nationally-normed undergraduate, postbaccalaureate, or graduate admissions test • GPA/score requirements do not apply to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Current teachers working on graduate degrees or retirees from other occupations with expertise in high-need fields working on graduate degrees ➢ Current or retired teachers completing a high-quality alternate route teacher certification program • Agree to teach full time in a high-need field for at least 4 years within 8 years of graduation at a school serving a high percentage of low-income students (Title I schools) 	Repayment required if student does not fulfill teaching requirement; grant funds become a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need-based campus-based grant program • Funds awarded by institution 	FAFSA required annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$100 annual minimum (may be prorated for less than full-year enrollment) • \$4,000 annual maximum (students on approved study abroad programs may receive up to \$4,400) • No aggregate limit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undergraduate students without baccalaureate or professional degree • Students with intellectual disabilities enrolled in comprehensive postsecondary transition programs • First priority given to Federal Pell Grant recipients with “exceptional financial need” (defined by law as lowest EFCs) 	No

*In addition to the General Student Eligibility Requirements.

¹Congress has not yet passed legislation determining award amounts for the 2016–17 award year.

²Failure to meet teaching obligation results in conversion of grant to Direct Unsubsidized Loan.

³Depending on institutional participation.

Program	Description	Application	Annual/Aggregate Amounts	Eligibility*	Repayment Required
Federal Work-Study (FWS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need-based campus-based employment program • Funds awarded by institution 	FAFSA required annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No minimum or maximum • Award amount is dictated by school policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undergraduate and graduate students • Students with intellectual disabilities enrolled in comprehensive postsecondary transition programs • Students enrolled at least half time in coursework required by a state for teacher certification 	No
Federal Direct Student Loan (Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Originated by school with funds from federal government • Need-based subsidized loan supplemented by non-need-based unsubsidized loan up to combined limit • 4.29% interest rate for Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans for undergraduate students in 2015–16 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAFSA required annually • MPN obtained from school 	<p>Annual Loan Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$3,500 1st-year undergraduates • \$4,500 2nd-year undergraduates • \$5,500 each remaining undergraduate year • Undergraduate annual limits prorated for programs and remaining periods of enrollment less than an academic year • \$2,625 for preparatory coursework necessary to enroll in undergraduate program⁴ • \$5,500 for preparatory coursework necessary to enroll in graduate or professional degree program if already have baccalaureate⁴ • \$5,500/year for teacher certification if already have baccalaureate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undergraduate and graduate students enrolled at least half time • Graduate and professional students enrolled at least half time are eligible for base unsubsidized only • Must first have determination of eligibility/ineligibility for Federal Pell Grant • Must determine eligibility for Direct Subsidized Loan before determining eligibility for Direct Unsubsidized Loan • Interest subsidy for undergraduates during at least half-time enrollment, grace period for certain loans, and deferment periods for subsidized loans • New borrowers reaching 150 percent of the published length of borrower's educational program become ineligible for interest subsidy benefits on all Direct Subsidized Loans first disbursed to that borrower on or after 7/1/13 • Unsubsidized funds may be used to replace EFC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes; begins 6 months after cessation of at least half-time enrollment • Deferment possible • Interest accrues on unsubsidized loan from date of disbursement

*In addition to the General Student Eligibility Requirements.

⁴Direct Loan eligibility is limited to one 12-month period for student enrolled in preparatory coursework.

Program	Description	Application	Annual/Aggregate Amounts	Eligibility*	Repayment Required
Federal Direct Student Loan (Direct Loan)—Subsidized and Unsubsidized Direct Loans (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5.84% for Direct Unsubsidized Loans for graduate/professional students in 2015–16 • Interest rates subject to change July 1 each award year • 1.068% origination fee for loans first disbursed on or after October 1, 2015 and before October 1, 2016; subject to change in 2016–17 		<p>Annual Loan Limits: (cont'd)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual amount of subsidized loan cannot exceed COA – EFC – other aid • Actual amount of unsubsidized loan cannot exceed COA – other aid <p>Aggregate Loan Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dependent undergraduates whose parents can borrow PLUS: \$31,000, of which only \$23,000 can be in subsidized amounts • Dependent undergraduates whose parents cannot borrow PLUS and independent undergraduates: \$57,500, of which no more than \$23,000 can be in subsidized amounts • Graduate and professional students (including loans for undergraduate study): \$138,500, of which no more than \$65,500 can be in subsidized amounts⁵ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under certain conditions to students enrolled in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Coursework required by a state for teacher certification ➤ Preparatory coursework⁴ 	

*In addition to the General Student Eligibility Requirements.

⁵Effective with periods of enrollment beginning on or after 7/1/12, graduate and professional students are not eligible to borrow Direct Subsidized Loans.

Program	Description	Application	Annual/Aggregate Amounts	Eligibility*	Repayment Required
Direct Loan— Additional Unsubsidized Loan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-need-based loan • Limits are in addition to the “base” limits for subsidized and unsubsidized loans described above • Interest rates and origination fee same as Direct Unsubsidized Loans described above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAFSA required annually • MPN obtained from school 	<p>Annual Loan Limits:</p> <p>Dependent undergraduates whose parents can borrow PLUS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$2,000/year • Undergraduate annual limits prorated for programs or remaining periods of enrollment less than an academic year <p>Dependent students whose parents cannot borrow PLUS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$6,000/year 1st and 2nd undergraduate year • \$7,000 each remaining undergraduate year • Undergraduate annual limits prorated for programs or remaining periods of enrollment less than an academic year • \$7,000/year for teacher certification • \$6,000 for preparatory coursework necessary to enroll in undergraduate program⁴ • \$7,000 for preparatory coursework necessary to enroll in graduate or professional degree program if already have baccalaureate⁴ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must have determination of eligibility/ineligibility for Federal Pell Grant • Must determine eligibility for Direct Subsidized Loan before determining eligibility for additional Direct Unsubsidized Loan • May be used to replace EFC 	Yes; same as Direct Subsidized Loan

*In addition to the General Student Eligibility Requirements.

⁴Direct Loan eligibility is limited to one 12-month period for student enrolled in preparatory coursework.

Program	Description	Application	Annual/Aggregate Amounts	Eligibility*	Repayment Required
Direct Loan— Additional Unsubsidized Loan (continued)			Independent students: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$6,000/year 1st and 2nd undergraduate year • \$7,000 each remaining undergraduate year • Undergraduate annual limits prorated for programs or remaining periods of enrollment less than an academic year • \$20,500/year graduate or professional students • \$7,000/year for teacher certification • \$6,000 for preparatory coursework necessary to enroll in undergraduate program⁴ • \$7,000 for preparatory coursework necessary to enroll in graduate or professional degree program if already have baccalaureate⁴ • Actual amount of loan cannot exceed COA minus other aid including loans received under base limit 		

*In addition to the General Student Eligibility Requirements.

⁴Direct Loan eligibility is limited to one 12-month period for student enrolled in preparatory coursework.

Program	Description	Application	Annual/Aggregate Amounts	Eligibility*	Repayment Required
Direct Loan— Additional Unsubsidized Loan (continued)			<p>Aggregate Loan Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dependent undergraduates whose parents can borrow PLUS: \$31,000, of which only \$23,000 can be in subsidized amounts • Dependent undergraduates whose parents cannot borrow PLUS and independent undergraduates: \$57,500, of which no more than \$23,000 can be in subsidized amounts • Graduate and professional students (including loans for undergraduate study): \$138,500, of which no more than \$65,500 can be in subsidized amounts⁵ 		

*In addition to the General Student Eligibility Requirements.

⁵Effective with periods of enrollment beginning on or after 7/1/12, graduate and professional students are not eligible to borrow Direct Subsidized Loans.

Program	Description	Application	Annual/Aggregate Amounts	Eligibility*	Repayment Required
Direct PLUS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Originated by school with funds from federal government • 6.84% for parent and graduate PLUS in 2015–16 • Interest rates subject to change July 1 each award year • 4.272% origination fee for 2015–16; subject to change in 2016–17 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAFSA required annually • PLUS MPN obtained from school 	No annual or aggregate amounts, except parent or graduate/professional student may not borrow more than difference between COA and other financial assistance student expects to receive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural and adoptive parents (and stepparents if included on FAFSA) of eligible dependent undergraduates enrolled at least half time • Graduate/professional students enrolled at least half time • No adverse credit history • Must not be in default on a federal loan • Must be a U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen • May be used to replace EFC • Under certain conditions for enrollment in preparatory coursework⁴ or coursework required by a state for teacher certification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes; first payment due within 60 days after loan is fully disbursed • Deferment available

*In addition to the General Student Eligibility Requirements.

⁴Direct Loan eligibility is limited to one 12-month period for student enrolled in preparatory coursework.