

College In Colorado No Ifs, Ands or Buts File the FAFSA Worksheet

Financial Aid Planning

How would you like a job that pays \$1000/hour?

The average student graduates with over \$20,000 of debt. You can easily save half that amount by following the advice found in the **Financial Aid 101** and **Financial Fitness** sections. Therefore, in less than the 10 hours it takes to read these articles – you potentially save yourself \$10,000!

1. Beneath the **Financial Aid Planning** tab, click on **Financial Aid 101**.
2. Print the Financial Aid 101 main page and use it as a checklist as you read and follow the advice found in the following main sections:
 - **The Basics** – introduces you to the basics of financial aid.
 - **Determine Your Eligibility** – helps you to figure out what types of financial aid you might be eligible for.
 - **Apply! Apply! Apply!** – provides information on applying for various types of financial aid, with a link to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
 - **Consider Your Loan Options** – helps you to understand your options and responsibilities before accepting an award package.
 - **Enjoy College and Know Your Responsibilities** – provides information that you will need to know as you work towards your degree.
3. Jump to any of the above 5 sections if you need to skip ahead, but going through the Financial Aid 101 articles in order is the best strategy.
4. You will also find the following information in the sidebar:
 - **Financial Aid Glossary** – assists you with any new words or acronyms you might be unfamiliar with.



- **Service Cancelable Loans** – financial aid loans can be forgiven if you work in one of the following areas: Engineering, Teaching, Health Care, and Military Services.
 - **Federal Grants Based on Need** – provides links to available need-based federal grants.
 - **Federal Loan Programs** – provides links to available federal loan programs.
 - **Repaying Student Loans** – important information on the consequences of default, as well as tips on loan consolidation, loan payments and more.
6. Finally, click on **Financial Fitness** and read all of the articles beneath **Managing Your Money 101**.

File the FAFSA

1. After you have read the above information, click on **Your Plan** and in the **File the FAFSA Online** section, click the link **Get Ready to File**.
2. Read through the information and then follow the three steps outlined as follows:
 - **Step one:** Practice filing for the FAFSA using the **FAFSA on the Web worksheet**.
 - **Step two:** Apply for a **Federal Student Aid Pin** so that you and your parents will be able to sign the form electronically.
 - **Step three:** File the FAFSA using the **FAFSA Transfer Module** so that pertinent information you have entered into your CollegeInColorado account will be automatically transferred onto your FAFSA. This saves you some typing.

