

Paying For College



1. You should **contact the higher education institutions** (by phone or their internet website) where you are interested in enrolling and ask about the following:
 - The cost of attendance, including the breakdown of tuition and fees, room and board, travel, books and supplies, and personal and miscellaneous expenses.
 - The types of financial assistance available.
 - The procedures and timeframes for submitting applications for assistance.
 - The criteria institutions use to award financial aid.
 - The interest rates on various student loans, the total amount you must repay, the length of time to repay, when to start repaying, and what cancellations (deferments) apply.
 - Other conditions that affect financial assistance.
2. ***Mapping Your Future*** is a free resource for career, college, financial aid, and money management information. Their goal is to help individuals achieve life-long success by empowering students, families, and schools with free, web-based information and services. <http://mappingyourfuture.org/>
3. **Complete the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)*** at: <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>
4. **Explore additional funding sources** to help pay for college.

Go to the next page for ideas and scholarship information.

Financial Resources for Post-Secondary Education

Scholarship	Website	Description
Federal Student Aid	http://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa	Financial help for students enrolled in eligible programs at participating schools. Includes tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, and transportation. Most federal aid is need-based. The three most common types of aid are grants, loans, and work-study.
HEATH Resource Center	http://www.heath.gwu.edu/graduate-school-disability-and-financial-aid	A comprehensive resource on financial aid with a list of scholarship opportunities for people with disabilities.
FinAid	http://www.finaid.org/	Free scholarship search including one for financial aid for students with disabilities.
College Scholarships	http://www.collegescholarships.com	Large database of scholarships available.
College Illinois	http://www.collegeillinois.com/PlansAndPricing/Comparing529Plans.htm	A 529 Prepaid tuition program offering tax incentives. Compare different types of 529 plans.
Illinois Board of Higher Education	http://www.ibhe.state.il.us/consumerInfo/finance.htm	Information on grants, scholarships and loans.
General Scholarships for Students with Disabilities	http://collegescholarships.org/financial-aid Keyword Search: disabilities	Comprehensive listing of scholarships for wide variety of individuals with disabilities.
College Funding Strategies for Students with Disabilities	http://www.washington.edu/doit/Brochures/Academics/financial-aid.html	Has loads of information on different types of financial assistance for higher education.

We're here to help. To learn more about UIC-Specialized Care for Children's programs and services, check out our website at:

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