

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.
Illinois Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS)	Learn more about our customer success and apply online: www.drs.illinois.gov/success Contract us directly: 1-877-761-9780 (Voice), 1-866-264-2149 (TTY), 1-312-957-4881 (VP)	DHS's Division of Rehabilitation Services is the state's lead agency serving individuals with disabilities. DRS works in partnership with people with disabilities and their families to assist them in making informed choices to achieve full community participation through employment, education, and independent living opportunities. Are you an individual with a disability who's interested in furthering your education beyond high school? If so, then DRS may be able to help defray the costs of your education and help you achieve a successful career.

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

dsc.uic.edu or like us on  facebook.com/dsc.uic.edu