

COLLEGE PLANNING/FINANCIAL AID

The EducationQuest Foundation provides valuable college planning information on the following website: www.educationquest.org.

New tools will help you find the right fit for college:

Check out the updated *College Profiles* at www.educationquest.org to research colleges in Nebraska and across the country that are the best fit for you.

By using *College Profiles*, you can search for schools based on location, size, school type, cost, major, activities and services for students with disabilities. Your search results page will list colleges that match your criteria and provide a link to more information about the school.

FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY EDUCATIONQUEST

Preparation key to applying for financial aid

Preparation is the key to successfully completing and filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA is the application for state, federal and college-specific financial aid. Even if you don't think you'll qualify for need-based financial aid, you should complete the FAFSA to qualify for low-interest student and parent loans.

Check out these *free* FAFSA tools and resources

Visit the "Completing the FAFSA" section at www.educationquest.org where you'll find:

- **FAFSA Checklist** – This resource helps a student determine his or her dependency status and then provides a list of required documents for the FAFSA.
- **College Funding Estimator** – Families can use this tool to estimate their FAFSA results.
- **FAFSA Tutorial** – The updated tutorial provides user-friendly clarification of each FAFSA question. Families can easily access the tutorial while completing the FAFSA.
- **"Guide to College Funding" Video** – This video uses a typical family to explain the financial aid process, the types of financial aid, and when to apply.

What happens after you submit the FAFSA?

If you have already submitted your FAFSA, here's what will happen next...

Expect your SAR and Award Notification

You'll receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) after you submit the FAFSA. This acknowledges that your form was processed and can be used to make corrections to your FAFSA. You'll need the PIN you used to file the FAFSA to make electronic corrections.

The colleges you listed on the FAFSA will send you a financial aid award notification detailing the assistance they're offering. They may offer a combination of scholarships, grants, work-study and student loans.

Compare award notifications

Compare award notifications from the colleges. Some may offer more in scholarships and grants, while others rely on student loans. Calculate your out-of-pocket expenses for each school to get

the whole financial picture. Use the [Award Letter Comparison Calculator](#) to determine which school offers the best deal. Sign and return the award letters.

Know How to Go Nebraska: www.knowhow2gonebraska.org

COLLEGE BOUND NEBRASKA PROGRAM

If you are a Nebraska resident who meets admission requirements for the University of Nebraska, and if you are eligible for the Federal Pell Grant, you can attend the University of Nebraska and pay NO tuition. This fall, the program has been expanded to cover students who are just beyond PELL eligibility – eligibility varies depending upon a number of factors, as a general rule a student from a typical family of four with one child going to college, having a family income of \$50,000 or less, will meet the guidelines for Collegebound Nebraska funding. There is no scholarship application beyond the FAFSA form. Visit www.collegeboundnebraska.com, for information.