How to Plan and Prepare for Your Future

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Our Goal

Provide you the tools and resources to complete the financial aid process and help you make informed college choices.
Topics

- The value of higher education
- Financial aid sources and timelines
- Putting the FAFSA Forecaster and Net Price Calculator to work for you
- Finding external scholarships
4-Year Education = Great Investment

- A bachelor’s degree is worth $500,000 more than a high school diploma during a lifetime. ¹
- The return on a college education is 12.3 percent compared to a 6 percent return in the stock market. ²
- People with more education are more satisfied in their jobs than people who only have a high school diploma. ³
- The unemployment rate of college graduates 25 and older was 4.6 percent, compared with 9.7 percent for high school graduates in 2009. ⁴

1. The Hamlin Project (Brookings Institution), June 2013
2. College degree seen as better investment than ever, Vanessa Ko, CNN, June 2013
3. Education Pays: The Benefits of Higher Education for Individuals and Society, College Board, 2010
What is Financial Aid?

Financial Aid programs provide financial support to help you and your family pay for college expenses.

- Scholarships
- Grants
- Loans
- Student Employment (work-study)
The Value of Part-Time Work

- Students who work on campus up to 20 hours per week make **better grades** in college than students who don’t.
- Helps **build resumes**.
- Helps **cover costs** and extra expenses.
- Get **good grades** for future scholarships.

Applying for Federal Aid

- The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the application for all federal grants, loans, and work-study.
- File the FAFSA as soon after January 1st of your senior year as possible.
- Apply at www.fafsa.gov.
Understanding College Financial Aid

Quick Facts

- OSU offers more than $350 million in scholarships and other awards each year. We plan to invest in your future and we hope you will do the same. We offer scholarships based on need and merit.
- At OSU, our scholarship and financial aid professionals are committed to making your college education affordable. More than 90% of our undergraduate students receive some type of scholarship and need-based aid. Make sure you ask all of your questions and get all of the facts before you make one of the biggest decisions of your life.
- A four-year education at Oklahoma State University is one of the best investments you'll ever make. Decades of research have shown a bachelor's degree is worth $500,000 more than a high school diploma during a lifetime.

Net Price Calculator

"The scholarship opportunities at OSU allowed me to come to Oklahoma to pursue my degree. The Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid made it easy for me, so it helped remove the stress from the whole process."

Kelly McCann
Wildlife Ecology
St. Louis, Mo.

Get Started Now
Financial Aid at OSU

Last year:

- More than $79 million of tuition waivers and scholarships were awarded by OSU.
- More than $310 million in total financial aid was received by OSU students.
- More than 80% of OSU students receive aid.
OSU Nonresident Tuition Scholarship

This four-year scholarship waives a portion of nonresident tuition charges for students meeting the following criteria:

**AMOUNT:**

- **Up to $12,500** per year
  - 1330+ SAT or 30+ ACT

- **Up to $10,000** per year
  - 1210-1320 SAT or 27-29 ACT

- **Up to $8,750** per year
  - 1130-1200 SAT or 25-26 ACT

- **Up to $7,000** per year
  - 1090-1120 SAT or 24 ACT

(3.0 Unweighted HS GPA required for all ranges.)

SAT and ACT scores are computed without the writing score.
Questions to Ask

• When is the admission application deadline?
• Do you have a separate scholarship application? Deadline?
• Do you accept application fee waivers?
• Are essays or additional materials needed?
• Can I update my application? Test scores? GPAs?
External Scholarships

- Many scholarships come either from your community or the college you select.
- Ask your high school counselor about local scholarships.
- Use an online search like www.fastweb.com to find other scholarships.
- Beware of organizations that require payment to help you search for scholarships or complete the financial aid application.
## Important OSU Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 1</td>
<td>FAFSA Opens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 1</td>
<td>OSU Priority Scholarship Application Deadline (Fall-entering students)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early April</td>
<td>OSU financial aid awards made</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>OSU deadline to accept some scholarships and financial aid</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 1</td>
<td>OSU Final Scholarship Application Deadline (Fall-entering students)</td>
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Consider Money Saving Options

- Credit by exam
- Concurrent enrollment
- Housing choices
- Spending plan
- On-time graduation
Practice and Prepare

• Ask for help from university professionals.
• Do your research.
• Don’t assume you can’t afford it.
• Be aspirational. Dream!
Things to Remember

- Apply for admission early.
- Apply for scholarships early.
- File income taxes early.
- File the FAFSA early (as soon after Jan 1st as possible).
- Respond promptly to requests for information.
- Open the mail (and check email).
- Make it a family project.
- Let us help.
Thursday, Jan. 22
8:30 p.m.

What You Need to Know about the FAFSA and Why it Matters to You!

admissions.okstate.edu/webinars/out-state-families
Have additional questions?

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