

2016-2017 GUIDE FOR FINANCING YOUR EDUCATION

Skagit Valley College (SVC) believes that every individual should have the opportunity to achieve his or her educational goals. The Financial Aid Office seeks to provide financial assistance to students who would otherwise not be able to attend school. Skagit Valley College provides a drug-free environment and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, sexual orientation, or age in its programs and employment. Changes may occur in both state and federal regulations. Information in this guide is current as of its publication date of January 2016, but is subject to change without notice. For information on the privacy act and the use of your social security number, please see the back of the FAFSA or contact the Registration Office.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

In general you are eligible for financial aid if you meet the following requirements:

1. You are a U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen.
2. You demonstrate financial need.
3. You are not in default on any student loan and do not owe a repayment on any grant received at any institution.
4. You have a high school diploma or GED.
5. You enroll in an approved program of study and are in required classes that lead to a degree or certificate offered by Skagit Valley College.
6. You maintain satisfactory progress as defined by Skagit Valley College.
7. You are registered with Selective Service, if required.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

The following checklist will help you complete the application process:

- Complete the FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA). Create a FSA ID at <https://fsaid.ed.gov> and apply on the web at www.fafsa.gov. SVC code # **003792**.
- WASFA applicants apply at www.ReadySetGrad.org/WASFA
- Apply for admission to SVC if you are a new student. Admissions: 360-416-7697 or www.skagit.edu.**
- After completing the FAFSA or WASFA, a letter will be mailed to the address on your FAFSA/WASFA with instructions for submitting required forms/items to the Financial Aid Office.
- Your file will be reviewed and an award offered, or an additional information request will be sent for further clarification or verification.

YOUR FINANCIAL AID AWARD

Cost of Attendance (COA)

The cost to attend SVC for the academic year is **estimated** as follows:

2016-2017 Estimate	With Parent	Primary Support
Tuition/Fess	4,200	4,200
Books & Supplies	900	900
Room & Board	3,150	9,600
Transportation	1,200	1,500
Personal	1,800	1,800
TOTAL	\$11,250	\$18,000

NOTE: Your expenses may be more or less depending on your lifestyle and variations from these budgets may be used. Special expenses such as computer, or expenses related to a disability may be added if appropriate.

Department of Education Price Calculator:
<http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>.

Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

A standardized formula is used to determine your ability to pay for your educational expenses. This formula is called "Federal Methodology" and is written into law by Congress. The information you supply on the FAFSA is analyzed and a Family Contribution figure is calculated. Students who have had major changes in their ability to pay may petition for use of expected year income. The FAFSA calculation is used to insure that all financial aid applicants pay their fair share of educational expenses. Remember that financial aid is a secondary source of funding for your educational expenses.

Financial Need

Your financial need is the difference between the cost of attendance at Skagit Valley College and your expected family contribution. Once the Financial Aid Office determines your need, we attempt to meet that need with a combination of federal, state, and institutional aid programs. Your level of funding is contingent upon when you complete the application process. (See *Financial Aid Application Deadlines*.)

NOTICE OF FINANCIAL AID ELIGIBILITY

Eligible applicants will be e-mailed a Financial Aid Award Letter and will be able to view information on the portal. This will indicate the amount and kind of aid awarded from each program and the conditions and terms of the award. Applicants who apply by March 15, 2016 and submit any additional forms requested will receive full funding consideration and receive their eligibility notices via SVC email by July. Complete and accurate applications received after the priority deadline will be reviewed in the order in which they are received. Ineligible applicants will be notified via SVC email of alternative funding sources.

PROGRAMS OFFERED

When you complete the Financial Aid application process in its entirety, you will be considered for all the following federal and state programs. Your financial aid may consist of one or more of these programs.

Federal Programs

1. [Federal Pell Grant](#)
2. [Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant \(FSEOG\)](#)
3. [Federal College Work Study](#)-Federal community service work study "America Reads Tutoring" jobs are available. Contact the Financial Aid Office for information.
4. [Federal Direct Stafford](#) and [Direct Plus Loan](#) (see "Separate Application Required").

Washington State Programs

1. [State Need Grant \(SNG\)](#)
2. [State Work Study](#)
3. [College Bound Scholarship](#)

SVC Programs

1. SVC Grant
2. Tuition Waiver
3. Institutional Work Study

SEPARATE APPLICATIONS ARE REQUIRED FOR:

1. **Federal Direct Loans** -- You must complete the entire financial aid process starting with the FAFSA application. You may also apply for a Federal Direct Loan online from SVC's website, www.skagit.edu, beginning July 1, 2016. To be eligible for Federal Direct Loans, you must be enrolled in at least 6 or more eligible credits per quarter.
2. **Federal Direct PLUS Loan** - This loan is taken out by the parent on behalf of the dependent student. Completion of the FAFSA is not required, but is recommended.

NOTE: Student loan processing ends May 16, 2017. Loan applications received after this date will not be processed for 2016/17 school year.

OTHER SOURCES - ASSISTANCE

1. [SVC Scholarships](#).
2. [Veterans' Education Benefits](#).
3. [WorkSource, DVR, L & I](#), Workforce Training.
4. [Student employment](#) in the SVC Financial Aid Office and the Placement Office in the Counseling Center.
5. [Tuition Assistance Payment Plan](#) - Available to SVC students upon request.
6. Foundation Emergency Funds - Available on a limited basis to students who have unexpected emergency needs arise. Contact the Financial Aid Office.
7. Native American Students - Funding may be available from your tribe. FAFSA should be completed and the student should contact the appropriate tribal group.

FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION DEADLINES

Financial aid applications are evaluated and reviewed according to the student EFC and the date the file is completed within each quarterly file completion date. Earlier files will receive full funding consideration. For **FULL** funding consideration for 2016-2017 you should submit your FAFSA by **March 15, 2016** and complete your file by **May 1, 2016**.

Students who do not have their file completed by the appropriate date (see dates below) should plan on paying their own school expenses if they plan on starting school that quarter. Additional information regarding tuition payment is available in the Financial Aid Office.

NOTE: In order to meet deadlines, you should electronically submit your FAFSA at least **5-8 weeks** in advance.

Summer 2016 File completion deadline for summer 2016 is **May 1, 2016**. Financial aid will be available a few days prior to the start of summer quarter.

File completion deadline dates for fall, winter, & spring quarters require that **ALL** items are submitted and no further corrections are necessary.

<u>For Enrollment</u>	<u>File Must Be Completed By</u>
Fall	June 1, 2016
Winter	November 1, 2016
Spring	February 1, 2017

Summer Federal Direct Loans will not be available for three-to-six (3-6) weeks after the start of summer quarter for early applicants.