

## 2025-2026 Financial Aid Consumer Information

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 March 2025, but is subject to change.

For information on the privacy act and the use of your social security number, please contact the SVC Enrollment Service Office.

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### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

In general, you are eligible for Federal 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.

If you do not meet the requirements noted above, you still may be eligible for State financial aid by completing the [WASFA](#). Please contact the financial aid office if you need assistance in determining whether you should complete the WASFA.

### APPLICATION PROCESS/HOW TO APPLY

1. Apply for admission to SVC if you are a new student. Contact Enrollment Services for assistance, at 360-416-7700 or visit [www.skagit.edu/gettingstarted](http://www.skagit.edu/gettingstarted) to complete the application for admission.
2. Complete the FAFSA or WASFA (if you are ineligible to file a FAFSA).
  - a. FAFSA: Create a FSA ID at <https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch> and apply on the web at [www.studentaid.gov](http://www.studentaid.gov). SVC code # 003792.
  - b. WASFA: Applicants apply at <https://wsac.wa.gov/wasfa>.
3. For FAFSA filers, be sure to review your Student Aid Report (SAR), sent from Department of Education, and make any corrections to your FAFSA, if necessary.

4. After completing the FAFSA or WASFA, you will receive email communication from the SVC Financial Aid Office notifying you of your next steps, within 7 business days. Emails will be sent using the email address you have listed on your most recent FAFSA or WASFA application. You are also encouraged to check your status within ctcLink and to determine if additional documentation is required.

### **COST OF ATTENDANCE (COA)**

The COA, also known as budget, is an estimate of the cost of attending SVC for the standard academic year (Fall, Winter and Spring quarters). This amount is based on several factors including enrollment status and living arrangements. SVC's estimated [cost of attendance figures for 2025-2026](#) are located on our website.

#### *Skagit Valley College Net Price Calculator*

The Net Price Calculator is intended to provide estimated net price information (defined as estimated cost of attendance — including tuition and required fees, books and supplies, room and board (meals), and other related expenses — minus estimated grant and scholarship aid) to current and prospective students and their families based on what similar students paid in a previous year. Here is a link to the most current net price information: <http://www.mysvc.skagit.edu/netpricecalculator/>

### **STUDENT AID INDEX (SAI)**

Your Student Aid Index (SAI) is generated using a formula mandated by the Department of Education, known as federal methodology. The formula uses the information you and your parent(s) provide on your financial aid application. The SAI is a measure of your/your family's financial strength. Your SAI is not the amount of money you/your family will have to pay for college, nor is it the amount of money you will receive. The SAI is used to determine your demonstrated financial need.

### **FINANCIAL NEED**

Your financial need is the difference between the cost of attendance (COA) and your Student Aid Index (SAI). You are eligible to receive need-based financial aid up to this amount. The Financial Aid Office strives to meet financial need with a combination of federal, state, and institutional aid programs, based on availability of funds and time of application. (*See Financial Aid Application Deadlines.*)

### **TYPES OF AID**

The Skagit Valley College Financial Aid Office participates in the following federal, state and institutional aid programs:

#### *Federal Programs*

- [Federal Pell Grant](#)
- [Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant \(FSEOG\)](#)
- [Federal College Work Study](#)
- [Federal Student Loans](#) and [Direct PLUS Loan](#)

#### *Washington State Programs*

- [Washington College Grant \(WCG\)](#)
- [State Work Study](#)
- [College Bound Scholarship](#)

#### *SVC Programs*

- SVC Grant
- Tuition Waiver
- Institutional Work Study

## OTHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

- [SVC Scholarships](#)
- [Veterans' Education Benefits](#)
- [Workforce Grants](#), including BFET, Opportunity Grant, Worker Retraining, WorkFirst, I-CATCH, and Early Achievers
- [Tuition Payment Plans](#)
- [Emergency Assistance](#) - Available on a limited basis to students who have unexpected emergency needs arise.
- Tribal Funding – Additional financial assistance may be available from your tribe. A FAFSA or WASFA should be completed and you should contact your tribal group for additional information.

## ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR FEDERAL DIRECT LOANS

1. [Federal Direct Loans](#) – To ensure you are making an informed choice regarding student loan debt, SVC requires [a separate loan application](#) to borrow a Federal Direct Loan. Loan applications will not be processed until you have been awarded any grant aid you may be eligible for. If you are a first-time borrower, federal regulations require two additional requirements before we are able to process your loan; (1) the completion of [Loan Entrance Counseling](#) and (2) a [Master Promissory Note](#). Additionally, as a first time borrower, there will be a 30-day delay before you can receive your first disbursement. More information is provided on the loan application. Federal regulations require students to be enrolled in at least 6 credits per quarter and all credits must meet degree requirements in order to receive Direct Loan funding.
2. [Federal Direct PLUS Loan](#) – PLUS Loans are credit-based parent loans taken to assist students with their educational expenses.

## COHORT DEFAULT RATE

2020 3-Year Cohort Default Rate (CDR) Information					
National Average:	0 %	National Public 2-Year Average:	0 %	Skagit Valley College:	0 %

A cohort default rate is the percentage of a school's borrowers who enter repayment on certain Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program or William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program loans during a particular federal fiscal year (FY), October 1 to September 30, and default or meet other specified conditions prior to the end of the second following fiscal year. The current default rate of student loans at SVC is 0% as of 2020, due to student loan payments being paused during the Covid-19 Public Health Emergency. In 2019, our loan default rate was 2.9%.

## APPLICATION PRIORITY DEADLINES

Financial aid applications are reviewed based on the date your file is completed. For maximum funding consideration, regardless of which quarter you plan to begin attendance, your FAFSA must be complete and all required documents must be submitted to the financial aid office by April 1, 2025.

In addition to the funding priority date of April 1<sup>st</sup>, the Financial Aid Office also publishes priority file review deadlines. Students whose financial aid files are complete and ready for review by the dates noted below will have financial aid awarded prior to the tuition deadline for their first quarter of enrollment. Students who do not have their financial aid file completed by the dates noted below will be expected to pay tuition by the due date and be prepared to purchase their books and supplies to start the quarter. Additional information regarding tuition payment is available in the Financial Aid Office.

For Enrollment	File Must Be Completed By
Summer 2025	April 1, 2025
Fall 2025	April 1, 2025
Winter 2026	November 1, 2025
Spring 2026	February 1, 2026

**NOTE:** Summer Federal Direct Loans may not be available for three-to-six (3-6) weeks after the start of summer quarter, even for early applicants.

## FINANCIAL AID CODE OF CONDUCT

The Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) requires educational institutions to develop and comply with a code of conduct that prohibits conflicts of interest for financial aid personnel. Any Skagit Valley College officer, employee, or agent who has responsibilities with respect to student educational loans must comply with this code of conduct.

It is always the intent of Skagit Valley College to support the principles of this Code of Conduct with practices described in this Code of Conduct. Should a practice or policy arise which appears to be in conflict with this Code of Conduct, it is the obligation of the financial aid professional to bring this to the attention of those responsible within the appropriate College function or to the Administration and to seek timely resolution consistent with these principles.

The obligations in the Code of Conduct are in addition to any requirement imposed by state ethics laws, federal laws, or Skagit Valley College policies, i.e., the stricter standard of ethical behavior will apply in all instances. Violations of this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action, including termination of employment.

1. Neither Skagit Valley College as an institution nor any individual officer, employee or agent shall enter into any revenue-sharing arrangements with any lender. (Revenue-sharing arrangement includes circumstances where an institution recommends a lender or the loan products of a lender who provides or issues a loan in exchange for a fee or provision of material benefits, including revenue or profit sharing, to the institution, or employee or agent of the institution)
2. No officer or employee of Skagit Valley College who is employed in the financial aid office or who otherwise has responsibilities with respect to education loans, or agent who has responsibilities with respect to education loans, or any of their family members, shall solicit or accept any gift from a lender, guarantor, or servicer of education loans. (For purposes of this prohibition, the term "gift" means any gratuity, favor, discount, entertainment, hospitality, loan, or other item having monetary value of more than a de minimis amount whether provided in kind, by purchase of a ticket, payment in advance, or reimbursement after the expense has been incurred).
3. An officer or employee of Skagit Valley College who is employed in the financial aid office or who otherwise has responsibilities with respect to education loans, or an agent who has responsibilities with respect to education loans, shall not accept from any lender or affiliate of any lender any fee, payment, or other financial benefit (including the opportunity to purchase stock) as compensation for any type of consulting arrangement or other contract to provide services to a lender or on behalf of a lender relating to education loans.
4. Skagit Valley College shall not for any first-time borrower, assign, through award packaging or other methods, the borrower's loan to a particular private lender or refuse to certify, or delay certification of any educational loan based on the borrower's selection of a particular lender or guaranty agency.
5. Skagit Valley College shall not request or accept from any lender any offer of funds to be used for private education loans, including funds for an opportunity pool loan, to students in exchange for the institution providing concessions or promises regarding providing the lender with:
  1. a specified number of loans made, insured, or guaranteed under Title IV
  2. a specified loan volume of such loans: or
  3. a preferred lender arrangement for such loans.
6. Skagit Valley College shall not request or accept from any lender any assistance with call center staffing or financial aid office staffing.
7. Any Skagit Valley College employee who is employed in the financial aid office, or who otherwise has responsibilities with respect to education loans or other financial aid, and who serves on an advisory board, commission, or group established by a lender, guarantor, or group of lenders or guarantor, shall be prohibited from receiving anything of value from the lender, guarantor, or group of lenders or guarantor, except that the employee may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in serving on such an advisory board, commission, or group. (Any and all reimbursement received for any service on advisory boards, commissions or other groups by lenders, servicers, or guarantors must be reported annually to the Department of Education by Skagit Valley College).