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CONTACT INFORMATION

TITLE IV CODE: 003771

CWU FAFSA PRIORITY PROCESSING DATE: MARCH 15

FINANCIAL AID OFFICE – ELLENSBURG

Barge Hall 115

FINANCIAL AID OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Friday 9am-5pm

(Counselors available in-person and on-phone from 9-4 daily)

MAILING ADDRESS:

400 East University Way

Ellensburg, Washington 98926-7495

E-MAIL: finaid@cwu.edu

WEBSITE: www.cwu.edu/~finaid

PHONE: (509) 963-1611

FAX: (509) 963-1788

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT:

EMAIL: seo@cwu.edu

WEBSITE: www.cwu.edu/~seo

OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Friday 9am-5pm

SCHOLARSHIP OFFICE:

EMAIL: scholar@cwu.edu

WEBSITE: www.cwu.edu/~scholar

OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Friday 9am-5pm



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Financial Aid, Scholarship, and Student Employment Office is to help remove financial barriers for students who attend Central Washington University and to safeguard institutional eligibility for Federal and State student aid programs. We strive to provide excellent service and operate efficiently.



FINANCIAL AID ELIGIBILITY

We encourage all students to apply for financial aid. A variety of need-based and non-need-based programs are available to supplement student and family resources.

To be eligible for federal, state, or institutional aid at CWU, you must:

- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid ([FAFSA](#));
- Provide your social security number to the Admissions Office and be admitted as a degree-seeking student;
- Promptly respond to requests for information from the Financial Aid Office;
- Maintain [Satisfactory Progress](#).
- Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen
- Register with the U.S. Selective Services (males 18 -26).
- Send final transcripts to admissions office

Please contact the Financial Aid office if you have questions or concerns about the financial aid process.

Mailing Address:

400 East University Way
Ellensburg, Washington 98926-7495

Email: finaid@cwu.edu

Phone: (509) 963- 1611

Fax: (509) 963-1788

EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION

The data gathered from the FAFSA is used by the government to determine the amount of money you or your family could reasonably contribute toward your education for this year. The expected family contribution (EFC) appears on the student aid report (SAR) which you received after submitting the FAFSA. The EFC may or may not be the amount you actually end up paying for college.

COST OF ATTENDANCE

The Cost of Attendance (COA), is an estimated budget comprised of anticipated tuition, fees, room and board, transportation allowance, books and supplies, and a personal expense allowance. Non-traditional students' budgets may include a [dependent care allowance](#) upon request. You can increase the COA one time for a computer while at Central. Other "education-related expenses" can be added to the student budget if proper documentation is submitted to the Financial Aid Office. Please see [Special Situations](#) for a further explanation of this process.

Based on attendance of half time or more—adjustments will be made for less-than-half-time attendance. Tuition has not been determined at this time, this is an estimate and may change.

UNDERGRADUATE/ POST BACCALAUREATE

	Resident	Commuter Dependent	Commuter Independent & Married 2 in College	Non-Resident
Direct Costs				
current estimate				
Tuition	\$6,915	\$6,915	\$6,915	\$17,685
Fees	912	912	912	912
Books	972	972	972	972
	\$8,799	\$8,799	\$8,799	\$19,569
Other costs				
Room and board	\$9,000	\$3,006	\$7,014	\$9,000
Personal	1,704	1,704	1,704	1,704
Transportation	1,224	1,224	1,224	1,224
	\$11,928	\$5,934	\$9,942	\$11,928
Cost of Attendance	\$20,727	\$14,733	\$18,741	\$31,497

GRADUATE

	Resident	Commuter & Married 2 in College	Non-Resident
Direct Costs			
current estimate			
Tuition	\$8,073	\$8,073	\$18,030
Fees	912	912	912
Books	972	972	972
	\$9,957	\$9,957	\$19,914
Other costs			
Room and board	\$9,000	\$7,014	\$9,000
Personal	1,704	1,704	1,704
Transportation	1,224	1,224	1,224
	\$11,928	\$9,942	\$11,928
Cost of Attendance	\$21,885	\$19,899	\$31,842

- Commuter students' room and board (dependent students living with relatives): \$3,006
- Married two in college and commuter students' room and board (independent student living with relatives): \$7,014
- If you have excessive transportation expenses you may request an additional transportation allowance.
- If you have daycare expenses you may submit a request to increase your COA.

THE STUDENT AWARD

Once your EFC and your Cost of Attendance are established, your Financial Need can be calculated.

COA – EFC = NEED

The Financial Aid award tries to meet your Need with one or more of the following:

- Federal and State Grants
- Outside Scholarships and Guaranteed Sources
- Institutional Gift Aid
- Work-Study
- Subsidized Loans
- Perkins Loan

Central attempts to offer aid up to the full Cost of Attendance. In order to accomplish this, your aid package may include:

- Unsubsidized Federal Direct Student Loan
- Federal Direct Parent Loan.
- TEACH Grant/ Loan upon request

These funds can cover EFC and Unmet Need.

Please accept or decline your award on-line VIA [SAFARI](#).

Navigate to Wildcat Connection, login with your Central Washington University username and password, click on SAFARI, in your student center under financial aid click Accept/ Decline Awards. No aid will be processed unless you accept it.

STATE NEED GRANT AND PELL GRANT WILL BE PRORATED TO APPROXIMATELY:

100% for 12 or more credits

75% for three-quarter-time attendance (9-11 credits),

50% for half-time attendance (6-8 credits),

25% for less than half-time attendance, 3-5 credits for state aid.

Please note that not all students are eligible for all programs. You will be offered aid that you are eligible to receive within federal, state and institutional guidelines and fund limits. Because resources are limited in some of these programs, we encourage you to apply for financial aid by March 15. You may apply by clicking on this [FAFSA](#) link.

New Students

A postcard will be sent to notify you that you have been awarded financial aid. The postcard will also include directions on how to Accept/ Decline your award(s).

Returning Students

Once you have been awarded, you will receive an email notification through CWU's GroupWise email directing you to the online financial aid services.



NEED

Adjustments to federal, state, and institutional need-based aid are regulated by federal law. Please note that CWU will follow federal law when adjusting an award for any student who files a FAFSA and is offered need-based aid.

- The Pell Grant is an entitlement and will be awarded to any eligible student. Pell eligibility is based on the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) as determined on the FAFSA. The student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress. [See SAP.](#)
- Subsidized loan, grants, work study, and most gift aid are limited to covering Financial Need.
- Students may receive merit aid that exceeds need and still receive unsubsidized student loans.

Please note: All aid is limited to Cost of Attendance (COA) and Central's policy is to offer funding up to COA. Therefore, students may be offered unsubsidized loans, parent loans (PLUS), graduate PLUS or, upon request, an Alternative Loan to cover EFC and unmet need.

When adjusting the original offer of aid for additional resources or scholarships, Central will always reduce the least desirable aid first. If a PLUS loan has been offered to fill Need, it will be the first fund to be reduced, then unsubsidized loan (if it is filling Need). After that, the order of reduction will usually be Perkins Loan, subsidized loan, institutional gift aid, state gift aid, federal gift aid. If you have outside resources that exceed Cost of Attendance, we will contact your donors for permission to carry funds over to summer term or the next award year.



GRANTS 2011 – 2012

Grant Programs Summary

You must accept your award on-line via [SAFARI](#).

CWU participates in the following grant programs:

PROGRAM	CRITERIA	ANNUAL LIMITS
FEDERAL PROGRAMS		
<i>Federal Pell Grant</i>	Based on EFC, meets Need FAFSA required	Expected to be \$5,550 - \$555
Need-based federal grant for undergraduate students. Apply by completing FAFSA.		
<i>Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG)</i>	PELL eligible with Freshman or Sophomore standing EFC = 0, meets Need FAFSA required	Up to \$900
Need-based federal grant for undergraduate students. Apply by completing FAFSA (funds limited).		
<i>TEACH Grant / Loan</i>	FAFSA required	\$4,000
Central participates in the Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Loan/Grant program. TEACH is a grant program (\$4,000 a year – up to 4 years) intended for students who plan to teach in one of the following high-need fields: Science, Math, Special Education, Foreign Language, Bilingual Education and English Language Acquisition, or Reading Specialist. The program requires that you teach in a Title I school district for 4 out of 8 years following graduation or the Grant will be converted to an unsubsidized loan and interest will be changed retroactively from the date of disbursement. Requires a 3.25 cumulative GPA or 75 th percentile on SAT or ACT. <u>Available upon request for eligible students.</u>		
For more information on the TEACH Grant please go to: http://studentaid.ed.gov/PORTALSWebApp/students/english/TEACH.jsp http://studentaid.ed.gov/students/attachments/siteresources/4807Teach_FactSheet_v3.pdf		
STATE PROGRAMS		
<i>Washington State Need Grant</i>		Estimated \$5,575 - \$224
State Resident undergraduates who are in or below the 70 th percentile median state income. Limited to a total of 15 quarters or 225 attempted credits, whichever comes first (conditions of SNG award). Must meet priority deadline. Subject to change depending on state funding.		
<i>Passport to College Promise</i>	Separate state application required* FAFSA required	Up to \$3,000
A scholarship provided by Washington State to resident students who were in Foster Care for at least a year and aged out at 18.		
*Go to http://www.hecb.wa.gov/Paying/waaidprgm/Passport.asp for additional information and link to the state application.		
INSTITUTIONAL AID		
<i>CWU Tuition Awards and CWU Grants</i>	Resident student with Need FAFSA required	\$900 - \$1,500
Need-based institutional aid for undergraduate Washington State residents. Apply by completing the FAFSA. Resident undergraduates with need. Apply Early.		
<i>Dependents of Disabled or Deceased Fire and Police</i>		= Tuition – (Federal, State, and Institutional Aid)
Tuition waiver for dependents of disabled or deceased Fire or Police. Document eligibility through CWU Veteran Affairs Office (509) 963-1229		

Veteran Dependent Waiver		Full tuition waiver
Full tuition waiver for dependent or spouse of a disabled or deceased veteran. Document eligibility through CWU Veteran Affairs Office (509) 963-1229		
Central Grant	FAFSA required	\$1,500
CWU will grant \$500 per quarter to veterans who have served in Foreign Conflict. Document eligibility through CWU Veteran Affairs Office (509) 963-1229. State residents only, meet need.		
Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE)	Non-resident students from participating states* FAFSA required	Expected to be \$7,313
WUE is offered to non-resident students from WUE eligible states who are admitted with a minimum 28 AI or Transfer students with a 2.0 GPA. The waiver is re-calculated each academic year. The student pays 1.5 times the in-state tuition rate. Contact the Scholarship office for possible conditional eligibility.		
*Participating states include: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, (Washington), and Wyoming		
Merit Tuition Award	President's Tuition Award	\$2,700
CWU offers the President's Tuition Award to incoming Freshmen who are fully admitted by April 1 st and who have an Admission Index (AI) of 75 or more. One year only. Requires 2.5 cumulative GPA (checked quarterly).		
Merit Tuition Award	Trustee's Tuition Award	\$1,800
CWU offers the Trustee's Tuition Award to incoming Freshmen who are admitted by April 1 st and have an Admission Index (AI) of 60 -74. One year only. Requires 2.5 cumulative GPA (checked quarterly).		
Merit Tuition Award	Freshman Scholar Tuition Award	\$1,050
CWU offers the Wildcat Tuition Award to incoming Freshmen who are admitted by April 1 st and have an Admission Index (AI) of 45-59. One year only. Requires 2.5 cumulative GPA (checked quarterly).		
Merit Tuition Award	Transfer Scholar Tuition Award	\$1,050
CWU offers the Transfer Scholar Tuition Award to transfer students with a GPA of 3.5 - 4.0 who were admitted by April 1 st .		
Institution and Foundation Scholarships: Require a separate application, available October 1 st through February 1 st . Go to the Scholarship Page at www.cwu.edu/~scholar between October 1 st and February 1 st to find the application.		
Douglas Honors College	Requires 2.5 cumulative GPA (checked quarterly).	\$1,200
Step Waiver	Requires 3.0 cumulative GPA (checked quarterly).	\$1,200
Deans Waiver	Awarded by Dean or designee Requires 2.5 cumulative GPA (checked quarterly).	To be determined
Athletic Waiver	Awarded by Athletic Department	To be determined
Graduate Assistantship	Assistantship includes operating fee waiver contact Graduates Office	To be determined
Graduate State Residents	Residents with 3.7 GPA and NEED receive CWU award	\$1,200 (will reduce grad assistantship waiver)



LOANS

Federally Guaranteed Direct Student Loans

You must accept your award on-line via [SAFARI](#).

CWU is a William D. Ford Direct Lending Institution. This means that you will be offered federally guaranteed student loans through the Financial Aid Office. Direct Loans are funded by the U.S. Treasury. Direct Loan Programs include the Federal Direct Subsidized Student Loan, Federal Direct Unsubsidized Student Loan, Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS), and PLUS Loans for Graduate Students.

All **first-time** Direct Loan **student** borrowers must:

- 1) Complete [Entrance Counseling](#)
- 2) Sign an electronic [Master Promissory Note](#) (MPN) before funds can be disbursed to the student's account. The Master Promissory Note is valid for multiple disbursements over a ten-year period. In most cases, you will be required to sign only one note during your college career.

FEDERAL DIRECT SUBSIDIZED STUDENT LOAN

The subsidized loan is awarded up to the lesser of your calculated Financial Need or annual loan limit. Subsidized loans do not accrue interest while you are in school, during your 6-month grace period, or during deferment. See chart on the next page for interest rate in repayment.

FEDERAL DIRECT UNSUBSIDIZED STUDENT LOAN

Every undergraduate is eligible for at least \$2,000 of unsubsidized loans, you may be offered an unsubsidized loan up to the lesser of your maximum loan eligibility or Cost of Attendance. These loans charge interest while you are in school. Every six months you will receive a notice from your loan servicer informing you of the interest that has accrued. We recommend that you pay it each quarter; however, you may let it accrue until you enter repayment, at which time the outstanding interest will be capitalized back into the original principal amount of the loan.

REPAYMENT

Repayment on Direct Student Loans will begin six (6) months after you graduate, leave school or drop below half-time enrollment. [Loan Estimator](#). Due to recent legislative changes your Federal Student/ Parent loans may be assigned to one of several new contracted loan servicer. If you loan(s) is/are assigned to a contracted servicer, they will contact you directly with more information.

INTEREST RATE

2012: Federal Direct undergraduate subsidized loans taken during the 2011-2012 award year carry 0% interest while in school and will be charged 3.4% interest when in repayment. Subsidized loans for Post-Baccalaureate or Graduates and all unsubsidized loans will carry an interest rate of 6.8%.

ORIGINATION FEES

Federal Direct Student Loans are charged a 1% origination fee with an immediate rebate of .5%. The net reduction when receiving the loan is .5%. The rebate can be reversed if you do not make payments on time in repayment.

Over a four-year period beginning July 1, 2008, the interest rate on subsidized Federal loans made to undergraduate students will change. The interest rates for subsidized undergraduate loans made during these time periods are as follows:

First disbursement of a subsidized loan -

<i>Made on or after:</i>	<i>And made before:</i>	<i>When in repayment:</i>
July 1, 2008	July 1, 2009	6.0%
July 1, 2009	July 1, 2010	5.6%
July 1, 2010	July 1, 2011	4.5%
July 1, 2011	July 1, 2012	3.4%

LOAN REPAYMENT CALCULATOR: Calculate standard, extended, and graduated repayment plans for student and parent Direct Loans. Available at the [FSA \(Federal Student Aid\) Website](#).

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR LOANS YOU MUST BE ENROLLED HALF-TIME OR MORE:

- 6 credits: Undergraduate or Post Baccalaureate
- 5 credits: Master's students (course number 501 or higher)



DIRECT STUDENT LOAN LIMITS

ALL LOANS LIMITED TO COST OF ATTENDANCE MINUS OTHER AID

DEPENDENT STUDENTS MAY BORROW DIRECT STUDENT LOANS ANNUALLY UP TO:

loan will be subsidized to the extent that you have "Need"

- \$5,500 if you're a freshman, \$3,500 may be subsidized.
- \$6,500 if you're a sophomore, \$4,500 may be subsidized.
- \$7,500 if you're a junior or senior, \$5,500 may be subsidized.
- \$5,500 if you're a post-baccalaureate, \$5,500 may be subsidized.
- \$7,500, \$5,500 may be subsidized if you are a post baccalaureate pursuing Teacher Certification and doing preparatory work for a masters.
- \$20,500 if you are enrolled in a master's program, \$8,500 may be subsidized.

You may borrow a Direct Unsubsidized Loan beyond the above limits if you are an Independent student or a Dependent student whose parent is denied a PLUS loan. All loans are limited to the Cost of Attendance minus other aid.

ADDITIONAL UNSUBSIDIZED LOANS FOR INDEPENDENT STUDENTS

In addition to the loan amounts listed above, independent students and students whose parents are denied a loan may also borrow unsubsidized loans up to:

- \$4,000 if you're a freshman.
- \$4,000 if you're a sophomore.
- \$5,000 if you're a junior or senior.
- \$5,000 if you're a post-baccalaureate.
- Graduate PLUS loans are available (credit check is required).

DIRECT STUDENT LOAN LIFETIME LIMITS (lifetime loan limits for undergraduate/post-baccalaureate students increased on July 1, 2008):

- \$31,000 as a dependent undergraduate/post-baccalaureate student. Only \$23,000 may be subsidized.
- \$57,500 as an independent undergraduate/post-baccalaureate student. Only \$23,000 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.
- \$138,500 as a graduate student. Only \$65,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans and will include any subsidized loans received as an undergraduate/ post-bac.

Note: Federal Direct Loans can be forgiven up to \$17,500 for certain professions. Refer to Additional Information page.

FEDERAL DIRECT PARENT LOAN FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS (PLUS)

The PLUS loan is an unsubsidized loan for parents of dependent students. The PLUS loan can be used to meet the Expected Family Contribution (EFC). Parents may borrow any amount up to the Cost of Attendance, minus other financial aid. You will be offered your full parent loan eligibility on the award letter. Your student has the opportunity to accept or decline the PLUS loan on [Wildcat Connection/SAFARI](#). The parent borrower will apply for the Parent PLUS Loan online at www.studentloans.gov by signing into the website with their FAFSA PIN. Once they have signed in they will select Request a PLUS Loan from the menu and then select Parent PLUS as the type of loan. During this application process the parent borrower will be able to request in-school deferment of payments and will immediately know the results of the credit check. If denied, they have several options available, including appealing the credit decision, applying with an endorser (co-signer), having the school offer the student the additional unsubsidized student loan, or not taking any action.

The same parent must also complete the Parent PLUS Master Promissory Note. The Parent PLUS MPN is for one parent and one student and is good for up to 10 years. For instructions on how to successfully complete the Parent PLUS MPN [click here](#).

The PLUS loan is offered with a 7.9% fixed interest rate. The origination fee is 4% with an immediate rebate of 1.5%. The PLUS loan is available to either biological parent or a step-parent whose financial information is included on the FAFSA.

REPAYMENT: Repayment on a PLUS loan begins sixty days (60) after the final disbursement of the academic year. [Loan Calculator](#)

For PLUS loans disbursed after July 1, 2008, the parent has the option to request a repayment deferment until 6 months after the student graduates or leaves school. The deferment may be requested at the time of application online.

Graduate PLUS loans are available for *Graduate Students* upon request (not a Parent Loan).

The Graduate PLUS loan is an unsubsidized loan for graduate students at PLUS loan interest rates. Graduates may borrow any amount up to the cost of attendance, minus other financial aid. A credit check and new Promissory Note are required.

PERKINS LOANS

The Perkins Loan is a subsidized federal campus-based loan with a fixed 5 percent interest rate when in repayment. You will not be charged interest on this loan while you are attending school and enrolled at half-time or more. Perkins funds are limited and students must meet a grade point average (GPA) requirement. \$1,500 to Freshman and Sophomore with need and AI of 28 or GPA of 2.5 also may be given to students with unusually high budgets up to \$3,000. Repayment begins nine (9) months after you leave school, graduate, or drop below half-time enrollment. Perkins loan debt can be forgiven for students who are employed in service industries such as teaching or law enforcement. Please click on the link for more information about [loan forgiveness](#).

NOTICE OF FEDERAL STAFFORD AND PLUS LOAN ACCEPTANCE AND DISBURSEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Please note that if you are awarded a Federal Stafford loan for any term during the Academic Year (September through June), you must accept the loan(s) prior to the last day of spring quarter finals in order to receive the disbursement. Loans not accepted before the last day of spring quarter finals will be canceled and the student will not receive the disbursement. No exceptions will be made under any circumstances.

Federal PLUS Loans must be accepted AND an approved credit determination made prior to the last day of spring finals in order to receive the disbursement. The parent borrower must have completed the online PLUS Request Process prior to the last day of spring finals for the credit decision to be accepted. Federal PLUS Loans not accepted with an approved credit decision prior to the last day of spring finals will be canceled and no disbursement will be made. No exceptions will be made under any circumstances.

If your accepted Academic Year Federal Stafford or PLUS Loan has not disbursed prior to June 30 each year, the loan(s) will be canceled. A Master Promissory Note and Entrance Counseling (student loans only) must be completed and accepted prior to June 30 each year in order to receive the loan disbursement. Failure to complete these items will result in the cancelation of your loan(s). No exceptions will be made under any circumstances.

Loans awarded for Summer term only must be accepted by the last day of finals in August of each year. All requirements listed above also pertain to Summer Loan awards.

For questions regarding the acceptance and disbursement requirements for Federal Stafford and PLUS Loans, please contact the Financial Aid Loan Team at finaidloans@cwu.edu.



PRIVATE EDUCATION LOANS

Private Education or Alternative Loans can be used, under certain circumstances, when a student must exceed his or her annual or aggregate federal loan limits, is suspended from receiving federal financial aid or owes a past due balance from a previous term. We recommend that you consider private or alternative loans only after you have borrowed the maximum amounts allowed through the federal student loan programs. Parents should also carefully compare the Federal Parent PLUS Loan before considering a Private Education Loan. If you still feel you need to borrow from a private lender, you'll need to look beyond the lender's marketing materials to compare Private Loan options.

Central Washington University DOES NOT recommend, promote or endorse a specific lender or lenders among Private Loan options. The CWU Financial Aid Department provides information on various Private Loan lenders and does not accept payment of any kind for listing lender information. The Private Lenders listed through the links below are only intended to provide a sample of potential lenders. Many of these lenders have been used by CWU students in the past and represent only a few of the possible lender options for Private Education Loans. Students are encouraged to perform their own due diligence in seeking a Private Lender. We don't know the best deal for you, as the lenders and terms of the loans change frequently and your credit score is unknown to us.

Key points to keep in mind when choosing a Private Lender:

- A. Most private loans offer a VARIABLE interest rate tied to either the LIBOR or PRIME financial rates. A rate of 1 Month LIBOR + 3.0% is roughly the same as PRIME + 0.0%. Generally, it is better to have an interest rate based on the LIBOR index, as such a rate will increase more slowly than a rate based on the PRIME index. The interest rate and fees you pay on a Private Loan are based on your credit score and the credit score of your co-signer, if any. You can see the current Indexes (LIBOR/PRIME) by going to: www.moneycafe.com/library/primerate.htm.
- B. Usually, you will get a better interest rate if you have a credit worthy cosigner, even if you could qualify for the loan on your own. The best private loans will have interest rates of 1 Month LIBOR + 1.98% (currently, 2.210%) or PRIME - 0.50% (currently, 2.75%) with no fees. Typically, these rates are only offered to borrowers with exceptional credit who also have a credit worthy cosigner. It is unclear how many borrowers actually qualify for these rates, so **read the fine print** when you are approved for a Private Education Loan from a Private Lender.
- C. Private Education Loans are counted toward your Financial Aid package and must be reported to CWU's Financial Aid Office. You can use a private loan to replace any unmet cost of attendance. If you request a Private Loan that is more than your Cost of Attendance minus other aid we are required to reduce the Private Loan accordingly. Federal Regulations now require a student borrower to "self-certify" their Cost of Attendance (COA) by completing a [self certification form](#). You can determine your annual COA by navigating to [page 5](#). To determine your **unmet** COA subtract all Federal/ State Grants, Loans, Private/ Institutional Scholarships and Waivers from your annual COA figure. The difference is the amount of a Private Loan you would be eligible to receive. Please keep in mind that most Lenders will not process a loan for less than \$1,000.

Example:

Annual COA for In-State Undergraduate	\$20,880
Total Amount of Federal/ State/ Institutional Aid (Can be found on the financial aid tab of your SAFARI account)	\$(18,000)
<hr/> Amount of Private Loan Eligibility	<hr/> \$2,880

- D. Some lenders charge loan fees that can significantly increase the cost of the loan. A loan with a relatively low interest rate but high fees could cost more than a loan with a slightly higher interest rate and no fees. A loan that charges 3% in fees is about the same as a 1% higher interest rate.
- E. It is important to ask the lender how often the interest is capitalized on the loan. Capitalization occurs when any unpaid interest charge is added back into the principal amount of the loan so that you will end up paying interest on the interest that has accrued on your original loan amount. The frequency of capitalization can affect the overall cost of the loan and can vary among the different lenders.

Steps to Complete to Secure a Private Loan at CWU:

The lender comparison tools/links have recently been changed.

1. Compare a sample of lenders who offer Private Education loan by going to any of the links listed below <http://www.finaid.org>. Finaid.org provides information (they provided many of the tips above) about student loan borrowing and a comparison chart of many of the private loans available. [Student Lending Analytics](#). This organization provides some of the lenders listed more frequently by other schools. [Private Loan Options](#). SimpleTuition provides a list of both national and regional lenders.
2. Compare lender rates and fees to find the best fit for you.
3. Apply online with the lender of your choice.
4. Submit all required documentation to your lender, including the signed Promissory Note, any co-signer information, your self-certification form, and/or any other verification documentation.
5. Once you are approved, your lender will submit a request to us for certification. Please be advised that we will not process any Private Loan requests until you have been approved by a lender
6. *****IMPORTANT***** If this is your first Private Loan Request at CWU, you **MUST** meet with a Financial Aid Counselor before your loan will be processed. Counselors are available on a drop-in basis from 9 am to 4 pm, Monday thru Friday in Barge Hall Room 115.
7. Once your loan is certified, please allow 2-3 weeks for the funds to be received by CWU and disbursed to your SAFARI account.

If you accept an educational loan that does not require school certification (commonly called, Direct to Consumer), you will need to report the amount you borrow to the Financial Aid Office.

WORK STUDY/ STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

The Student Employment Office assists thousands of students to find employment. For a listing of both Work-Study and non-Work-Study student employment opportunities see the [Student Employment online job board](#).

You must qualify for need-based financial aid to be eligible for Work-Study. The Work-Study program subsidizes the employer by a percentage of a student's hourly wage. Work Study is like any other job; you work and receive a paycheck for your earnings from your employer. Work-Study students are generally in high demand so eligible students can often pick the job of their choice. There are more students eligible for Work-Study than there are available funds. A Work-Study job reduces your eligibility for other financial aid. CWU participates in the federal and state Work-Study programs.

If you indicated an interest in Work Study on your FAFSA and you have "Need," you will be sent paperwork. If you did not indicate an interest on the FAFSA, but are now interested in Work Study please contact the Student Employment or Financial Aid Office.

Please talk to a Financial Aid counselor if you need additional information regarding Work Study.



SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are gift aid. Scholarship awards are usually based on academic achievement, performance, talent, leadership, community service or financial need. Scholarships are an excellent resource for students seeking help with the cost of a college education. In general, there are two types of scholarships: institutional scholarships from the college you are attending and outside scholarships from community or government organizations.

INSTITUTIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

To recognize academic achievement, CWU awards tuition waivers and/or scholarships to freshman and transfers entering CWU in the fall. This gift aid selection is based on a combination of high school GPA and standardized test scores for freshman and the GPA for transfers. These awards are merit based and granted for the first year of instruction at CWU. To be eligible for this merit gift aid, students must be admitted to CWU by February 1. We encourage you to apply for admission through the CWU website. The online admission application will expedite the admissions process and enable you to be considered for these merit based waivers and/or scholarships that are only available to early applicants.

The [CWU Scholarships Web Site](#) also includes a link to the General Scholarship Application and links to departmental scholarship applications that will allow entering and active students to apply for CWU Foundation Scholarships. Application deadline is February 1st.

Some CWU Foundation Scholarships are based on Financial Need; we encourage all students to complete a FAFSA to determine their Financial Need.

OUTSIDE SCHOLARSHIPS

Autumn is considered scholarship “hunting season” for the next academic year. We encourage you to contact service organizations from your community and view the [CWU Scholarship Web Site](#) for updated information on scholarship resources. From the Scholarship website you can access links to search engines. Please be aware that legitimate scholarship opportunities **DO NOT REQUIRE an application fee**. The Scholarship Office staff updates the listing of scholarships year round and we are available to answer your scholarship application questions by phone, e-mail or in-person during business hours Monday through Friday 9 am – 5 pm in Barge Hall Room 102.

TIP: ORGANIZE YOUR RESOURCES

You should direct the donor organizations of your outside scholarships to send their scholarship checks directly to the Financial Aid Office payable to “CWU F.B.O. (For the benefit of) Your Name.” Please direct the donor to include your student identification number on the check.

Most scholarships will be disbursed evenly across three academic quarters, unless the donor specifies otherwise. An outside scholarship may result in an adjustment to other aid. Our policy is to reduce the least desirable aid first whenever possible (i.e. PLUS, unsubsidized student loan, etc.). Please be aware that there are very strict federal rules regarding gift aid and Need. We will comply with all required regulations when [processing your aid](#). Your other aid will be adjusted when we receive notice of a scholarship award. Please note that you are required to notify the Financial Aid Office of all outside resources, even if scholarship funds are paid directly to you.

Some donors may not send the funds in time for financial aid refund day. It is your responsibility to make sure you have enough funds to cover your financial obligation to CWU on the date your fees are due. Speak with a financial aid counselor if you need help. Short term loans may be available.

Students seeking a [verification of enrollment](#) may submit an electronic request on our Web site. Paper enrollment verification forms can be submitted to the Registrar’s Office for completion.

STATE SUPPORT OF CWU STUDENTS

The State of Washington provides funding to support the delivery of educational programs. Along with your tuition, state contributions support educational programs, facilities, and student services, etc. The following chart indicates the cost of delivering your educational program and the source of funding per student:



2009 – 2010 FIGURES

RESIDENT UNDERGRADUATE

RESIDENT GRADUATE

Tuition applied to Educational Program

4,681

6,553

State Support for Educational Support

5,472

9,565

Total Cost to Deliver Educational Program

10,153

16,118

SUMMER AID

Summer aid is **not** included in your academic year award. Summer aid requires separate processing. [Summer Cost of Attendance](#) is based on the session length. Summer term is the last quarter of the award year at CWU and typically funds are extremely limited by this time of year. To be eligible, you must enroll in a minimum of six (6) credits, five (5) for master's candidates. Awards will be made based on your remaining eligibility within annual limits. Summer tuition is charged on a per- credit basis. The estimated Summer Cost of Attendance and a Summer Aid application will be available on the [Financial Aid Website](#) during Spring Term.

MAKING SATISFACTORY PROGRESS TOWARD YOUR DEGREE

As a financial aid recipient, you will be required to make satisfactory progress toward your degree or certificate in a timely manner. To maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress, and to avoid any disruptions to your financial aid, please be advised of the following guidelines [see full policy](#):

- Do not enroll in more credits than you plan to complete.
- You are required to earn a minimum $\frac{1}{2}$ credits in your attempted range. Each year you are required to complete $\frac{2}{3}$ (66.7%) of your attempted credits.
- Always try to complete credits within your enrollment range (see below).
- Maintain a cumulative CWU GPA of 2.0; 3.0 for master's degree candidates (see policy of graduated GPA required for under classmen).
- Complete your baccalaureate degree by 270 attempted credit hours, or 1.5 times the required credits to earn your degree; 135 for post-baccalaureate or master's candidates.
- State aid eligibility ends at 225 attempted credits.

FINANCIAL AID SUSPENSION

If you fail to make satisfactory progress toward your degree you will be placed on financial aid suspension.

You will be suspended immediately following a quarter in which you:

- Fail to complete $\frac{1}{2}$ the minimum credits in your enrollment range.
- Fully withdraw from, or stop attending classes.
- Exceed the maximum limit for attempted credits (270 as an undergraduate, 135 as a post-baccalaureate or master's candidate).
- Each Summer an annual review will require that you successfully complete $\frac{2}{3}$ (66.7%) of all attempted credits fall through Summer. If you meet the minimum requirements in one quarter you may make it up another quarter, but by the end of the year you are required to meet the 66.7% rate. Failure to meet these requirements will result in immediate suspension.

UNDERGRADUATE/ POST BACCALAUREATE	
Attempted Credit Range	Required to Complete quarterly
FULL-TIME (12 + credits)	6
$\frac{3}{4}$ – TIME (9-11 credits)	4
$\frac{1}{2}$ – TIME (6-8 credits)	3
$< \frac{1}{2}$ – TIME (1-5 credits)	1

GRADUATE	
Attempted Credit Range	Required to Complete quarterly
FULL-TIME (10 + credits)	5
$\frac{3}{4}$ – TIME (8-9 credits)	4
$\frac{1}{2}$ – TIME (5-7 credits)	2
$< \frac{1}{2}$ – TIME (1-4 credits)	1

The enrollment range is determined by your credit registration at the end of Add/Drop (also known as Census Date). By the end of the year you are required to have completed 66.7% of all attempted credits. If you get by with the minimum one quarter, you have to make it up during the other quarters and bring annual completion rate to 66.7%.

RE-ESTABLISHING FINANCIAL AID ELIGIBILITY

If you failed to make satisfactory progress due to an extreme hardship such as a serious personal illness or the death of an immediate family member, you may appeal your suspension by writing a one-page petition and supplying documents to verify the extenuating circumstance and the resolution. If your petition is approved you will be given one quarter of probation and a performance contract.

TIP

The financial aid staff recommends that undergraduates take a full load (15 credits per quarter, 45 credits per year) and earn no less than a 2.0 grade point average each quarter. This strategy will allow you to make satisfactory progress, complete your degree on time, and minimize your educational debt. For the complete policy please see [Satisfactory Academic Progress Standards for Financial Aid at Central Washington University](#).

CONDITIONS OF AWARDS

Your Responsibility:

1. Be fully enrolled by the end of Change of Schedule. Aid cannot be adjusted for late enrollment.
2. Submit all final transcripts to the admissions office.
3. Maintain CWU Satisfactory Academic Progress and maintain enrollment status at the level needed for awarded aid (see CWU Satisfactory Progress Policy at www.cwu.edu/~finaid). **(Although you may be offered aid, receiving aid is always contingent on your eligibility at the time of disbursement.)**
4. **Accept or Decline your aid in writing or on-line at www.cwu.edu – Wildcat Connection – SAFARI.**
5. Cancel aid offers from other schools.
6. Matriculate (be admitted to a degree-seeking program) at Central Washington University.
7. Enroll in a minimum of 6 credits. Graduates need to be enrolled in 5 credits at the 501 level or higher.
8. If you have grant aid and enroll in fewer than 12 credits, your aid will be adjusted. Please send a [revision request](#) to the Financial Aid Office in advance.
9. Keep address, phone number, and e-mail current on www.cwu.edu Wildcat Connection – SAFARI.
10. Keep address, phone number, and e-mail current on the federal site www.studentloans.gov
11. Frequently check GroupWise e-mail and the “To Do List” on-line on SAFARI.
12. Repay all or part of your financial aid should you withdraw, drop, or fail to attend during the quarter for which aid was disbursed. The amount of repayment owed will be calculated in accordance with the CWU Return of Funds Policy.
13. Inform the Financial Aid Office if you are in a Continuing Education Program; tuition waivers cannot apply to Continuing education or study abroad.
14. Inform the Financial Aid Office in writing of outside scholarships, guaranteed sources, or other educational loans.
15. You must be eligible at the time of disbursement.
16. Aid will not pay if you do not meet Satisfactory Progress Standards.
17. Aid will not pay if you owe more than \$200 for prior year charges. Fall quarter is the first quarter of the award year.
18. Apply again next year, priority deadline: March 15th.



FINANCIAL AID DISBURSEMENTS TO YOUR STUDENT ACCOUNT

DISBURSEMENTS = credit to account

Assuming you have:

- Accepted aid
- Signed master promissory notes (one time only)
- Completed Entrance Counseling (one time only)
- Enrolled in classes as a full time student
- Met satisfactory academic progress requirements
- Have no holds on your account

Funds will credit to your student account by the third day of the quarter if you're enrolled full time. Immediately after the official Change of Schedule or 'census date', grant aid will be adjusted for students who are enrolled in fewer than 12 credits. We will not adjust grants for classes added after the official Change of Schedule period.

REFUNDS = receipt of excess payment

You will receive an email from the Office of Student Financial Services when a refund check is ready or a direct deposit has been processed. [Student Financial Services Office](#) (SFS) 963-3546. This is typically three days following census date.

To avoid late charges and financial holds, it is advisable to monitor your account on SAFARI and promptly pay any charges that are added after census date. Census date is at the close of the official "change of schedule"

PRIVACY LAW

In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), CWU cannot release information about your account or your financial aid to anyone but you – the student – even if your parents pay for your college costs. You can authorize CWU to release information regarding financial aid, billing, grades and/or disciplinary action or enrollment status to anyone of your choosing by signing the [Release of Information Form](#) in the presence of a CWU staff member in the Financial Aid Office, Student Affairs Office, or the Student Financial Services Office. If you download the form and fill it out on your own, you will be required to have the form notarized. You may rescind this authorization at anytime by written notice.

LOANS

If a loan inadvertently disburses to your account, you may return the funds by sending a check to the Financial Aid Office within 14 days to have the loan canceled. You may write VOID and return the refund check.

PAYING YOUR BILL

You pay your bill at Student Financial Services in Barge Hall room 104, by going to www.cwu.edu/~sfs, or calling 509-963-3546.

AUTHORIZATION FORM - SFS

You may sign a form in the Office of Student Financial Services which authorizes CWU to apply your federal aid funds to any charges. Without that authorization we may apply federal funds only to Tuition, Fees, and University Room and Board. We recommend that you sign the form to help avoid late fees and holds.



SPECIAL SITUATIONS

MARRIED STUDENTS

Your FAFSA application is a 'snapshot' in time. It must be accurate the day you apply. This is significant if you plan to be married. Students may be considered Dependent students unless they wait until after the marriage to apply.

GRADUATE STUDENTS

All students accepted into a master's program are required to be enrolled in at least five credits at the 501 level or above to receive graduate-level loans. You may provide a copy of an approved Graduate Course of Study to the Financial Aid Office listing any undergraduate courses that are required for the completion of your graduate program; prerequisite courses in preparation for your master's program are not considered required per federal regulations, and therefore do not count toward the required 5 graduate-level credits. In the event the courses in which you are enrolled are not at 501+ level or listed as required on your course of study, your loans will be reduced to the post-baccalaureate level and your annual loan eligibility will be limited to the post-baccalaureate level.

FEDERAL DIRECT GRADUATE PLUS LOAN

The Graduate PLUS loan is an interest-accruing, unsubsidized loan for graduate students. The Graduate PLUS loan (interest rate 7.9%) can be used to meet the Expected Family Contribution (EFC). Graduates may borrow any amount up to the Cost of Attendance, minus other financial aid. Please contact the Financial Aid Office to request a Graduate PLUS loan. A credit check, entrance counseling, and a new promissory note are required.

VERIFICATION

The U.S. Department of Education requires all institutions disbursing federal aid to verify the accuracy of the information submitted by students and families. Each year, approximately one third of the applications are chosen for verification. If chosen, you will be required to submit additional documentation to verify such information as household size, income, assets and number of family members in college. Failure to comply with this request will prohibit our office from awarding you financial aid. Verification is simplified if you authorize FAFSA to access your IRS account.

FUNDS FROM THIRD PARTIES AND AMERICORPS

Some students receive assistance with college costs from a third party. Some of these sources include DVR, ROTC, AmeriCorps, Army Tuition Assistance, and employer tuition-assistance plans. You are required to notify the Financial Aid Office of any resource or guaranteed source available to you for college costs. Your award will be adjusted to reflect these resources.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

If you are a transfer student, you may be awarded financial aid before your transcripts are fully evaluated. In this case, your loan award may be based on a lower than actual class standing. Once your credits are evaluated you may request an adjustment to your loan with a [revision request](#). Please be sure any offer of aid at another institution has been canceled. We cannot disburse funds until this is done.



STUDENTS WITH CHILDREN

Please use this [Dependent Care Allowance](#) form to document costs and request an adjustment to your cost of attendance.

REVISIONS TO BUDGETS AND AWARDS

Changes to your budget and award are permitted under certain circumstances. Requests for a Revision to Parent Contribution will be considered if the request documents an unexpected and substantial decrease in family resources since the time of application.

Changes can be made to your award if your education-related expenses significantly exceed your estimated Cost of Attendance. You must submit a [revision request](#) with appropriate documentation to the Financial Aid Office. Students are eligible to request a one-time-only increase to their Cost of Attendance for the purchase of a computer for school-related work. Typically, these requests are limited to \$2,000. Please be aware that we cannot exceed your maximum annual eligibility in any loan program.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

If you are taking Continuing Education and wish to receive financial aid:

1. You must be a degree-seeking matriculated student.
2. The courses must apply to a degree or certification that has been approved by the U.S. Department of Education (check with the Financial Aid Office).
3. Courses used for continuing certification and educational endorsements numbered 500 are NOT eligible for financial aid.
4. Tuition waivers cannot pay for continuing education courses.

WITHDRAWING FROM THE UNIVERSITY

If you withdraw, are expelled, or otherwise fail to complete a credit in any given quarter, institutional aid will be returned and federal and state financial aid money will be prorated and returned to the respective program. Any student who accepts aid but fails to attend class will be required to return all financial aid funds. Please see [Policy for Return of Title IV Funds](#) for further information.

STUDENTS CONVICTED OF POSSESSION OR SALE OF DRUGS

Question #23 on the 2010-11 and 2011-12 FAFSA asks the student if they have been convicted for the possession or sale of illegal drugs for an offense that occurred while receiving federal student aid (such as grants, loans, or work-study). Students who answer yes will be sent a worksheet from the Department of Education. Students who are unsure how to answer the question can call 1-800-433-3243 for assistance.

Students may also become ineligible through the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 that includes provisions that authorize federal and state judges to deny certain federal benefits, including student aid, to persons convicted of drug trafficking or possessions. The Central Processing System (CPS) maintains a hold file of those who have received such a judgment, and it checks applicants against that file to determine if they should be denied aid. This is separate from the check for a drug conviction via question #23; confirmation of a student in the drug abuse hold file will produce a rejected application.

CALENDAR

- JANUARY:** Email FAFSA renewal reminder notices are sent out by the Federal Processor to students with valid email addresses who completed the FAFSA for the previous year.
- Go to the FAFSA website, www.fafsa.ed.gov. The applicant will need his or her social security number, driver's license, income tax return, bank statements, and investment records. Dependent students will need their parents' records as well. Collecting this data beforehand makes the application process quicker and easier to understand.
- The FAFSA website provides a worksheet that can be used to gather personal and parent data. Once completed, the form can be copied and transferred to the web. Remember the FAFSA is a snapshot in time and must be accurate as of **the day you apply**. Keep in mind that in order to electronically sign the FAFSA, you will need a PIN. Applying for a PIN can also be done via the web site. All these steps should be taken before completing the application.
- CWU applicants who expect to apply for financial aid **MUST** include their social security number on their admissions application. To receive aid, your name, birthday, and social security number must be an exact match on CWU admission, the FAFSA, and the social security database. It is important to use your legal name as it appears on your social security card.
- FEBRUARY:** Check on the status of your FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Make any required changes promptly.
- February 1:** be fully admitted to be considered for recruitment waivers.
February 1: deadline to submit the General Scholarship Application.
- MARCH:** Respond promptly to any request for additional information from the Financial Aid Office. Monitor your To Do list on SAFARI. You can access SAFARI through the CWU homepage, www.cwu.edu.
- APRIL:** Look for an award letter from the Financial Aid Office. Make sure your mailing address is up to date on SAFARI.
- If picked for verification, submit documents ASAP. Your application and verification need to be complete by June 1 if you expect an on-time Fall Term disbursement.
- Apply for Summer Aid. Instructions for applying for Summer Aid will be posted on the www.cwu.edu/~finaid page.
- MAY:** Accept or decline Parent Loans (PLUS), sign Master Promissory Notes at www.studentloans.gov.
- JUNE:** **If you are a returning student, monitor your Satisfactory Academic Progress.**
First-time borrowers complete online [Entrance Counseling](#).
- Submit verification documents if they have been requested. See your to do list in [SAFARI](#).**
- June 1: Deadline for submitted verification documents to receive Fall Term aid on schedule.
- JULY:** New students should attend Orientation. Visit <http://www.cwu.edu/~housing> for a complete schedule. Notify the scholarship office of any outside scholarships you have been awarded. Notify outside donors to make scholarship check out to "CWU for benefit of Your Name and ID."
- AUGUST:** If you are accepting a PLUS loan, complete a Parent Loan authorization form and submit a copy of your parent's driver's license to our office. First-time student borrowers must complete entrance counseling before loan disbursement. Go to www.studentloans.gov to complete entrance counseling.

- SEPTEMBER:** Enroll in sufficient credits to receive aid. You must be enrolled at least half-time to receive loans (half-time is defined as 6 credits for undergraduates and post baccalaureates, 5 credits in 501 level or higher for graduate students). Most grant aid will be reduced for less than full time enrollment (12 credit undergrad).
- OCTOBER:** Begin scholarship search for the next academic year. Visit www.cwu.edu/~scholar STUDY! Most gift aid has a GPA requirement.
- NOVEMBER:** Record scholarship deadlines and submit applications promptly.
- DECEMBER:** Gather tax documents for income taxes (W2 forms, 1098-t forms, etc). Set a goal to fill out your FAFSA by next year's priority deadline of **March 15**.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES:

Free Application for Federal Student Aid

www.fafsa.ed.gov

Students can use this site to file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid - (FAFSA).

1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243)

Federal Student Aid PIN Web site

www.pin.ed.gov

Students and parents can use this site to request their PIN. You and your parents can use your PIN to sign and review your FAFSA, sign a Master Promissory Note and complete Entrance Counseling.

Student Aid on the Web

www.studentaid.ed.gov

Student gateway to the US Government, delivering government information to services across your campus and around the world.

College.gov

www.college.gov

Learn how to pay for college, why you should go, what you need to do to get there and how to talk to your family about college.

FAFSA4caster

www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov

See how federal student aid can help you pay for college!

Loan Repayment Calculator

www.ed.gov/offices/OSFAP/DirectLoan/RepayCalc/form1.html

LOAN RESOURCES:

StudentLoans.gov

www.studentloans.gov

Provides online access to information on your existing Direct Loan(s). You may access and manage your account, complete entrance counseling and exit interviews or change your demographic information. This site contains details on annual and aggregate loan limits. You may also download deferment and forbearance forms, change your payment plan, and review your payment history.

Complete the electronic Master Promissory Note (MPN). You and your parent(s) can complete and sign a MPN over the web. You will be required to use your [U.S. Department of Education PIN](#) to complete an electronic MPN.

DIRECT LOAN APPLICANT SERVICES:

1-800-557-7394

DIRECT LOAN SERVICING CENTER:

1-800-848-0979

LOAN CONSOLIDATION NETWORK:

1-800-557-7392

TAX RESOURCES:

Internal Revenue Service

www.irs.gov

Request a copy of your tax return at this site. Three different types of tax data are available: tax return transcripts, tax account transcripts and photocopies of tax returns. The Tax Return Transcript is usually sufficient for financial aid purposes and it's free. IRS Forms and Publications can also be downloaded from this site.

1-800-829-1040

Publication 970 —Tax Benefits for Higher Education

<http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p970.pdf>

This publication explains tax benefits that may be available to you if you are saving or paying education costs for yourself or, in many cases another student who is a member of your immediate family. Most benefits apply only to higher education.

What is in this publication. Chapter 1 explains the tax treatment of various types of educational assistance, including scholarships, fellowships, and tuition reductions. Two tax credits for which you may be eligible are explained in chapters 2 and 3. These benefits, which reduce the amount of income tax you may have to pay, are:

- The American Opportunity Credit, and
- The Lifetime learning credit

Ten other types of benefits are explained in chapters 4 through 12. With these benefits, you may be able to:

- Deduct student loan interest;
- Receive tax-free treatment of a canceled student loan;
- Receive tax-free student loan repayment assistance;
- Deduct tuition and fees for education;
- Establish an contribute to a Coverdell education savings account (ESA)m which features tax-free earnings;
- Participate in a qualified tuition program (QTP), which features tax-free earnings;
- Take early distributions from any type of individual retirement arrangement (IRA) for education costs without paying the 10% additional tax on early distributions;
- Cash in savings bonds for education costs without having to pay tax on the interest;
- Receive tax-free educational benefits from your employer; and
- Take a business deduction for work-related education.

LOAN FORGIVENESS RESOURCES:

Loan Forgiveness

www.finaid.org/loans/forgiveness.phtml

Loan Cancellation and Forgiveness Program

<http://studentaid.ed.gov>

Choose the “repaying your loans” menu option for information on loan cancelation and forgiveness options for teachers and public service employees.

STATE OF WASHINGTON RESOURCES:

Higher Education Coordinating Board

www.hecb.wa.gov

Provides information on state programs such as the Educational Opportunity Grant (EOG), Washington Promise, Washington Scholar, and Guaranteed Education Tuition (GET).

1-360-753-7800



theWashBoard.org

<http://www.thewashboard.org>

College Success Foundation

<http://www.collegesuccessfoundation.org>

OTHER RESOURCES:

National Student Loan Data System

www.nsls.ed.gov

Provides information about Title IV loans and/or Pell grants. The site displays information on loan and/or grant amounts, outstanding balances, loan status and disbursements.

1-877-557-2575

Federal Student Aid Ombudsman

fsahelp.ed.gov

The student financial assistance Ombudsman site can informally help borrowers resolve loan disputes. Problems with Direct Loans, Perkins Loans, Guaranteed Student Loans and other programs are covered.

1-877-577-2575

CREATE YOUR BUDGET

Use this worksheet to help keep your finances in order for each academic quarter

STEP 1: YOUR INCOME Add up your financial aid, job, income, and help from parents etc. for an entire academic quarter.

Net Wages	
Student Loans	
Scholarship/ Grants	
Parental Help	
Other _____	
TOTAL INCOME	\$

STEP 2: YOUR MANDATORY EXPENSES Add up all the necessities you'll pay for during the entire academic quarter.

Tuition/Fees	
Books/Supplies	
Rent or Housing Charge	
Groceries or Dining Plan	
Utility _____	
Utility _____	
Other _____	
Other _____	
Other _____	
TOTAL MANDATORY EXPENSES	\$

STEP 3: YOUR DISCRETIONARY EXPENSES Add up all the extra items you think you'll need or want for the entire academic quarter

Gas/ Transportation	
Personal Items (toiletries, etc)	
Clothing	
Entertainment	
Dining Out	
Other _____	
Other _____	
Other _____	
TOTAL DISCRETIONARY EXPENSES	\$

STEP 4: DO THE MATH

TOTAL INCOME:

MINUS MANDATORY FEES:

MINUS DISCRETIONARY EXPENSES:

TOTAL:

This number should be 0 or higher

If you come up with a negative number, go back and cut some things out. Get tough with yourself...what do you really NEED? Some of your discretionary expenses may have to wait until you aren't on a fixed student budget!

FINANCIAL AID STAFF

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Alice Fulleton, Secretary Lead

FINANCIAL AID

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LOANS

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SCHOLARSHIPS

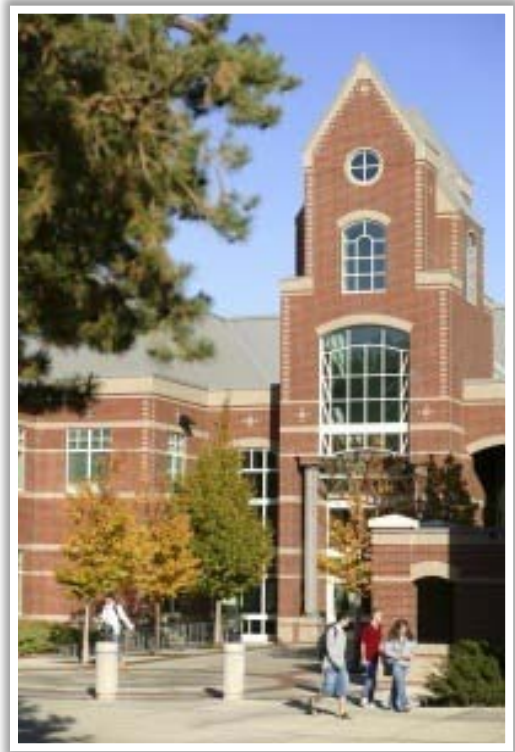
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[FINANCIAL AID OFFICE](#)
[FINANCIAL AID FORMS](#)
[BACK TO CWU MAIN PAGE](#)
[CWU CONSUMER INFORMATION](#)