

Financial Aid Mission Statement:

“The decision to invest in your future through education is very important. We pride ourselves on working with you to help you achieve your goals and dreams. Let us show you how to apply for free money, scholarships, emergency loans, work study, and other forms of assistance from the federal government.”

CSM Financial Aid Staff



**COLLEGE of
SAN MATEO**

Financial Aid

**College of San Mateo
1700 W. Hillsdale Blvd.
San Mateo, CA 94402,
Building 1, Room 217
Phone: (650) 574-6146
Fax: (650) 574-6304**

**Hours: Mon-Thu 8:00 am - 7:00 pm
Fri 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
www.collegeofsanmateo.edu/finaid**

CSM

College of San Mateo

Financial Aid

Money to pay for your education

The What, Who and How of Federal Student Aid

WHAT IS FEDERAL STUDENT AID?

Financial aid is **money for college**. It is provided by the United States taxpayers to ensure that everyone who wants a college education has the financial ability for their college expenses.(e.g., college, vocational school, graduate school). There are three categories of federal student aid: grants, work-study and loans. Federal aid covers expenses such as tuition and fess, room and board, books and supplies, and transportation. Aid also can help pay for a computer and for dependent care.

WHO GETS FEDERAL STUDENT AID?

Our most basic eligibility requirements are that you must:

- Have financial need as demonstrated through application on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- Be a U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen.
- Be enrolled in a degree, certificate, or eligible transfer program. **Note:** Enrollment in a program with the intent to transfer to another community college is **NOT** eligible.
- Have a high school diploma, a GED or equivalency, or demonstrate an ability to benefit from the course of study selected.
- Other documents that may be required: federal income taxes and W-2 forms from the prior year.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID?

1. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) - the online version (FAFSA on the Web) For FAFSA on the Web, go to www.fafsa.ed.gov.
2. You must list CSM on your FAFSA. Our school code is 001181.
3. You must complete a new FAFSA every year before March 2nd.
4. After you apply, you'll receive a Student Aid report, (SAR). Your SAR contains the information reported on your FAFSA and usually includes your Expected Family Contribution (EFC). The EFC is a measure of your family's financial strength, is used to determine your eligibility for federal student aid.
5. Thus, when the SAR is received, it must be checked for accuracy and then brought to the Financial Aid Office for review.
6. A certain number of students are required each year to verify the information they supplied on the FAFSA. Those students will be required to submit additional information after the SAR date is received and reviewed by the Financial Aid Office. Always keep copies of the tax forms you and your family submit to the Internal Revenue Service, since copies of these will be requested if your application is selected for verification.
7. If you're eligible, a Financial Aid Technician will send you an award letter outlining the amount and types of financial aid you qualify for at CSM. If you don't hear from us within 3 weeks, please contact us at (650)574-6147 or visit our website:

<http://www.collegeofsanmateo.edu/finaid/>

FEDERAL STUDENT AID PROGRAMS AT THE COLLEGE OF SAN MATEO

1. **Federal Pell Grant**
 - Grant: does not have to be repaid.
 - Annual Amount: \$400-\$4,731
2. **Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)**
 - Grant: does not have to be repaid
 - Annual Amount: \$100-\$800
3. **Academic Competitive Grant (ACG)**
 - Grant: does not have to be repaid
 - For Pell Grant recipients who are U.S. citizens enrolled full-time in 1st or 2nd academic year of study.
 - Completed rigorous high school program
 - Annual Amount: 1st academic year: \$750
2nd academic year \$1,300
4. **Federal Work-Study**
 - Money earned from work while attending school: does not have to be repaid.
 - Up to \$10,000
5. **Subsidized Stafford Loan**
 - Loan: must be repaid
 - Subsidized: U.S. Department of Education pays interest while student is in school and during grace and deferment periods; students must be at least half-time and have financial need.
 - Annual Amount: \$3,500-\$4,500 depending on grade level
6. **Unsubsidized Stafford Loan**
 - Loan: must be repaid
 - Unsubsidized: Borrower responsible for all interest; student must be at least half-time; financial need not required.
7. **PLUS Loan**
 - Loan: must be repaid (these loans are borrowed by parents of dependent students).