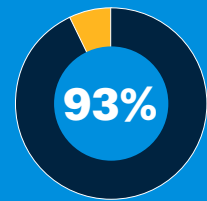


# Financing Your College Education

## Tips for High School Students and Families



Percentage of students who  
receive financial aid at QU



Average grant/scholarship  
aid awarded

### Senior Year Financial Aid Checklist:

- Apply for an FSA ID (Federal Student Aid ID) at [studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov). Most students are considered dependent for FAFSA purposes. One of your parents will also need to apply for their own FSA ID. This will be needed to sign the FAFSA, as well as for loan paperwork and to log into federal student aid systems. Keep track of these login credentials. You will need them frequently!
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) - available October 1 at [fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov)
  - List Quinnipiac's school code (001402), so that we can receive the results to create your financial aid offer.
  - Double-check your social security number to make sure it is correct before submitting.
  - Quinnipiac offers virtual sessions to help families complete their FAFSA. Check our website for announcements each fall.
  - Some schools require additional financial aid forms, such as the CSS Profile. QU only requires the FAFSA.
  - FAFSA utilizes tax information from two years prior to your college entry year (e.g., students entering in 2023 will use 2021 taxes).
- Submit applications for outside scholarships, starting with local and regional options. Check with your parent(s)' employer, community foundations, high school guidance office and state agencies. We have a list of reputable local, regional and national scholarships on our website at [qu.edu/scholarships](https://qu.edu/scholarships) you can use as a starting point.
- Stay organized. Create a financial aid folder to hold your login details (like your FSA ID), and maintain a calendar of deadlines and questions you may have.
- Ask questions! Financial aid processes and jargon can be confusing and vary from one school to another. Financial Aid staff can help, even if you don't know where to begin. Contact us at [finaid@qu.edu](mailto:finaid@qu.edu) or 203-582-8750 with questions along the way.
- Apply for admission to your selected college(s). Many schools offer merit-based scholarships based on your admission application and high school transcript. No additional forms are required at QU to be considered for merit scholarships, which can be as high as \$30,000 per year.
- Keep your grades up! Your grade point average is an important factor in the amount of merit scholarship you may be offered in college. Your grades in junior and senior year can influence your merit scholarship eligibility.

### Tips for High School Juniors:

- Research outside scholarships, set up a new email address for scholarship applications, and mark deadlines for each on your calendar. Your senior year will be busy with college applications, schoolwork and testing. Preparing now will keep you organized so you don't miss any opportunities for free money! Check out our website at [qu.edu/scholarships](https://qu.edu/scholarships)
- For you and your parent(s): Be sure federal taxes are filed as this is the year your tax information will be needed to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in your senior year.
- For your parent(s): Check your credit score. If it isn't where you would like it to be, take action to improve it, if possible. If you plan to cosign an educational loan for your student to assist with financing their education, your credit score may influence your offered interest rate. Improving your credit score now could mean big savings in interest later.
- Utilize the Net Price Calculator. Every institution has a calculator to assist you with estimating your financial aid and net cost. [qu.edu/npc](https://qu.edu/npc)

## Types of Financial Aid

Our goal in the financial aid office is to ensure that students maximize their eligibility for all student assistance programs. Financial aid is available from federal, state and institutional sources. Here are some common types:

### Grants:

- Grants are a form of financial aid that does not need to be repaid. Eligibility for grants is based on financial need, as determined by the FAFSA.
  - Federal grants, such as the Pell Grant and SEOG, are funded by the federal government and are typically for students with exceptional financial need. Funds for SEOG are limited and determined by the institution.
  - State grants may be available for Connecticut residents.
  - Institutional grants are offered to students by the college you attend. Quinnipiac determines institutional grant eligibility using information from the FAFSA.

### Scholarships:

- Scholarships are another form of financial aid that does not need to be repaid. They can be institutional (such as merit-based or athletic-based scholarships) or outside scholarships (such as those from nonprofit or private organizations). At Quinnipiac, students are automatically considered for merit-based scholarships at the point of admission. Please see our webpage at [qu.edu/scholarships](http://qu.edu/scholarships) for more information on scholarships.

### Work-Study:

- Federal Work-Study is a need-based program allowing eligible students to earn money to pay for educational and personal expenses. Completion of the FAFSA is required. Be sure to answer “yes” to the work-study interest question on the FAFSA.

### Loans:

- Loans are a form of financial aid in which the student (or parent) borrows money to assist in financing college. Loans must be repaid and accrue interest.
  - **Federal Direct Student Loans (Subsidized/Unsubsidized)** - Students are eligible for these low-interest loans based on the FAFSA. Fixed interest rates are set annually, and an origination fee is assessed at disbursement. Subsidized loans do not accrue interest while the student is in school at least half time and during their six-month grace period. Payment is not required on these loans while in school at least half time.
  - **Federal Direct PLUS (for Parents of Dependent Students)** - Parents may borrow this credit-based loan if they meet eligibility requirements, including no adverse credit (e.g., foreclosure, bankruptcy, delinquency over 90 days, etc.) and completion of the FAFSA. Fixed interest rates are set annually, and an origination fee is assessed at the time of disbursement.
  - **Private Student Loans** - Students may choose to borrow loans through non-federal sources, such as banks, credit unions or other lending organizations. The student is typically the borrower, and a credit-worthy cosigner is typically required. These credit-based loans have varying criteria based on the lender and may have fixed or variable interest rates.

### Aid for Military Families:

- Eligible veterans of the armed forces may qualify for educational benefits. QU partners with the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs to coordinate financial benefits for military families. Quinnipiac University participates in the Yellow Ribbon Program, where we match a portion of the VA contribution through our grant and scholarship programs.



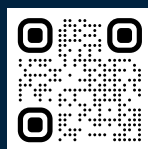
### Contact Information

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Phone number: 203-582-8750

Physical location: First Floor  
of Echlin Center

visit



[fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov)

visit



[elmselect.com](http://elmselect.com)

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