# Planning for Your Child's Post-Secondary Education



The NHHEAF Network Organizations' Center for College Planning







# To download a .pdf of this presentation please visit:

nhheaf.org/handouts







# **Options For Higher Education**

#### "College" varies by:

- Type
- Admission Requirements
- Degrees Awarded Beyond HS

There are approximately 4,700 colleges and universities in the United States and no two are exactly alike.









# **Preparing Students Early**

Encourage your child to go above and beyond high school graduation requirements

- A solid academic record with challenging coursework and consistency is most desirable
- A student should aim to take the highest level course possible while maintaining a B or better
- Advocate for your child to pursue a four-year plan that preserves their options after graduation









# What Colleges Are Looking For

#### Solid Academic Record (Transcript)

- Students should challenge themselves to the best of their abilities
- The NH Scholars Program provides a strong framework of challenging courses

#### Standardized Test Scores – SAT/ACT

#### **Personal Attributes**

Revealed through the college essay, extracurricular activities and letters of recommendation









### **Personal Enrichment**

- Community Service
- Career Exploration
  - job shadow
  - interest inventories
- Summer Programs
  - St. Paul's Advanced Studies
  - college credit programs
  - career exploration programs
- Extracurricular Activities







## **Understanding Financial Aid**

#### **Financial Aid Philosophy:**

"While financial aid can make college more affordable, parents and students are expected to take primary responsibility for paying for post-secondary education."

#### **Financial Aid Forms:**





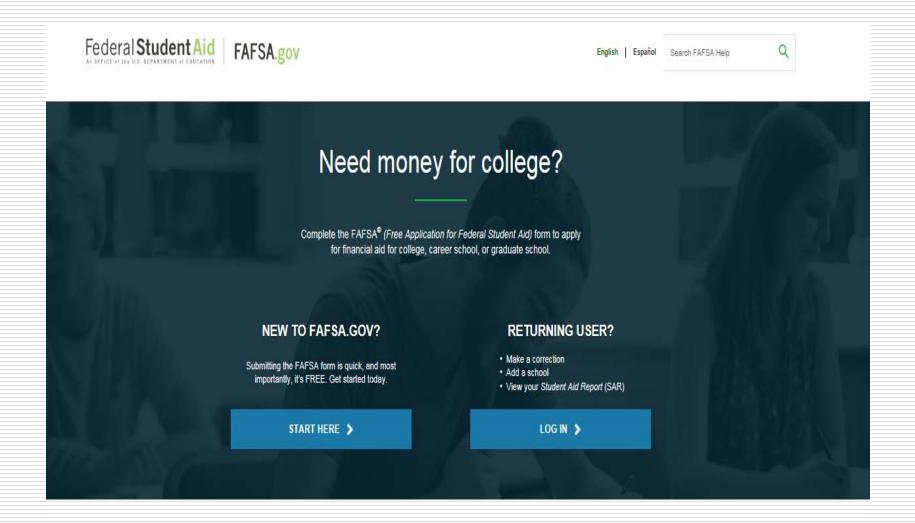








### The FAFSA



## **Types of Financial Aid**

#### Gift Aid

- Grants (typically need-based)
- Scholarships (merit-based)
  - Strong academic performance is key

### Self-help Aid

- Loans (need and non-need based)
- Work-study (need-based)

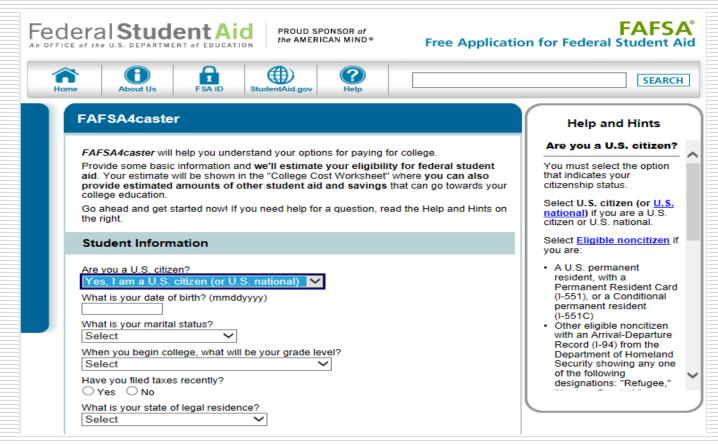








### **EFC Calculator**







fafsa.ed.gov



### **Net Price Calculator**



#### Saint Anselm College Net Price Calculator

Saint Anselm College is pleased to provide this net price calculator as a guide to assist students and their families in early planning for college. This calculator will provide a preliminary estimate of federal, state and institutional aid eligibility. It was created to help families gauge what aid the student may be awarded and to make arrangements to cover the cost of attendance.

### To help you complete this process, it would be helpful for you to have the items listed below:

- 2016 Student and Parent Tax Returns
- Earnings statements (W2 forms, recent pay check stubs)
- Bank statements
- Student academic information
  - Grade point average (GPA)
- Standardized test scores if available (SAT/ACT)







### How Financial Aid Is Awarded

#### **Cost of Attendance (COA)**

This is the amount a school has budgeted for a student's tuition, room and board, books, fees, supplies and any related expenses

#### **Expected Family Contribution (EFC)**

The amount, as determined by <u>federal methodology</u>, that represents your family's ability to pay for one year of college

#### State School

COA \$33,000

- EFC \$16,000

ELIGIBILITY \$17,000

#### Private School

\$55,000

<u>\$16,000</u>

\$39,000

\* It is important to note that while a student may be eligible for this amount, it is rare that the student will actually receive this amount.







# Saving For College

- Saving may not impact your financial aid eligibility
- Students will have more options for higher education
- You and your child may not need to borrow as much









## How Saving Affects Your EFC

#### **Davis Family**

- Dad is 50, Mom is 48
- Two Children
- Have a combined income of \$95,000
- Saved \$1,000 for college expenses

EFC = \$15,658

#### **Smith Family**

- Dad is 50, Mom is 48
- Two Children
- Have a combined income of \$95,000
- Saved \$55,000 for college expenses

EFC = \$17,649







# How Saving Affects Your EFC

#### **Davis Family**

- Dad is 50, Mom is 48
- Two Children
- Have a combined income of \$65,000
- Saved \$1,000 for college expenses

EFC = \$5,534

#### **Smith Family**

- Dad is 50, Mom is 48
- Two Children
- Have a combined income of \$65,000
- Saved \$18,000 for college expenses

EFC = \$5,534







## Saving vs. Borrowing

### Saving

Saving \$200 monthly for 10 years (total invested is \$24,000) at a 3% interest rate will yield a total of \$28,218

### Borrowing

Borrowing \$28,000 at a 7.0% interest rate equals a monthly payment of \$325 for 10 years with a total payback of \$39,012







# Are You Penalized for Saving?

- Both parents and students are encourage to save for college
- The financial aid process in most cases, is income-driven, not asset-driven
- Home equity and retirement savings may not be considered and "asset protection allowance" helps to protect other assets







# Popular Savings Vehicles

### Parent's Asset

(assessed up to 5.6% after the Asset Protection Allowance for Parents)

- 529 Plans
- Savings Bonds (if parent is the primary owner)

### Student's Asset

(assessed at 20% with no Asset Protection Allowance)

- UTMA/UGMA (Uniform Gift to Minor/Uniform Trust to Minor)
- Savings Bonds (if student is the primary owner)







# Scholarship Opportunities For Younger Students



#### Jif Most Creative Peanut Butter Sandwich Contest

**Application Deadline** tentative open August - November

Award Amount \$25,000

If you love peanut butter sandwiches, and plan ahead, this is the weirdest scholarship for college. Create an original sandwich recipe using Jif brand peanut butter for a chance to win \$25,000 college fund. Scholarship fund is not for high school seniors or college students, but kids 6 – 12.

### ...And for the kids!

Visit nhcollegeclub.com

Information for students parents and educators!









# Questions?



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