

# CLASS OF 2018

# COLLEGE BULLETIN

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## This Issue's Features

- Financial Aid Myths
- Upcoming Events
- College Scholarships
- Financial Aid Terms

### TESTING DATES / REGISTRATION DEADLINES

#### SAT

Dec. 2 / Nov. 2

#### ACT

Dec. 9 / Nov. 3

Registration Fee

\$46

CEEB Code

060-251

Register online or pick up  
registration materials in  
the College Center.

[www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

*Students interested in highly  
selective schools need to allow  
time to take SAT Subject  
Tests (sometimes required)*

## FINANCIAL AID MYTHS

**T**he financial aid process has given rise to a number of myths, misconceptions and just plain misinformation. Here are some common myths:

**I have too much money to get financial aid.** Your parents may have good jobs and you might live in a nice house, but that does not mean that you will not qualify for financial aid. Financial aid is contingent on several factors other than income, such as number of dependents and age of your oldest parent. The amount of financial need identified also depends on the total expense of where you want to attend college. You will qualify for more financial aid at a private school like Colorado College than UCCS because of the difference in the cost of attendance.

**Only straight-A students get aid.** Federal financial aid is based solely on demonstrated financial need. Merit scholarships recognize achievement and are not necessarily tied to financial need. Some colleges incorporate merit scholarships into their financial aid package but all federal-based monies are awarded based on the ability to pay regardless of the student's GPA.

**Loans are not financial aid.** Many students expect all financial aid to be *free* money that does not have to

be paid back. However, neither the government nor colleges have enough money to give to the number of students who need it. That is why most financial aid packages are a combination of grants, loans and work study. Even if all you get is a government subsidized loan, you will have received financial aid. A subsidized loan will not accumulate interest on the amount you borrow until after you graduate from college. Remember that you do not have to accept loans that are offered to you. If you have enough money in savings, or earn enough working during the year or in the summer, you can choose to decrease the amount borrowed or avoid the loan altogether.

**I can do it all at the last minute.** As you move on to college, you will be assuming adult responsibilities with adult consequences. Deadlines are very important to the financial aid process. Colleges start awarding financial aid to those who have filed their FAFSA by the priority deadline. If yours is one of the last applications to arrive, you are apt to receive whatever is left, usually loans. Take care of business, which includes registering for the Selective Service, if you are male, as soon as possible as you approach your 18th birthday. If you are not registered, you will not be eligible for federal financial aid.

## LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS

**United States JCI Senate Foundation Scholarship Program** Each year (April) \$1,000 grants will be awarded to graduating high school seniors in the United States, who plan to continue their education at accredited post-secondary colleges, universities or vocational schools. The number of grants awarded annually will be at the discretion of the United States JCI Senate Foundation. Eligibility: Graduating high school seniors in the United States, where that state has an active JCI Senate program (see [www.usjcsenate.org](http://www.usjcsenate.org) [under scholarship] or [www.usjcsenatefoundation.org](http://www.usjcsenatefoundation.org) for a listing of eligible states). You must be a U.S. citizen to apply for this scholarship. Postmarked deadline: January 15

**Educating Children of Color Scholarships:** Embracing Choices and Challenges One \$1,500 scholarship and three \$1000 scholarships (2 awarded to females and two awarded to males). Strub-Heer Fairness for All Scholarship \$1000; George Harris Memorial Scholarship \$1000; Leon Young Youth Leader Scholarship Two \$2500 scholarships (one male, one female) Open to students who are juniors, seniors or undergrads. Must register and attend the ECOC Summit on January 16. Scholarships have a variety of requirements in addition to the application. For more information and an application, go to: [www.educatingchildrenofcolor.org](http://www.educatingchildrenofcolor.org) Deadline for entries for the scholarships is December 15th

## FINANCIAL AID TERMS & DEFINITIONS

**Federal Pell Grant:** The single largest grant program intended to help the neediest of students. The maximum Pell Grant, set annually by Congress, is currently around \$5775 for 2015-2016. Grants are considered gift aid since you don't have to repay them.

**Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant:** Colleges award these federal grants of between \$100 and \$4000 per year to undergraduate students with exceptional need, with priority given to Pell Grant recipients. Funding for this program is limited.

**Perkins Loan:** Eligibility for this federal program is based on demonstrated need. Participating colleges make these 5% interest loans directly to students. Interest does not accrue while the student is in school & repayment doesn't begin until nine months after college graduation.

**Subsidized Federal Stafford Loan:** a need-based loan made by a bank, savings & loan, or some other lender. Interest doesn't accrue while the student is in school & borrowers don't begin repayment until 6 months after graduation. Freshman year loan limit is \$3,500.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Denver Performing & Visual Arts Fair: Nov 6  
7:00-9:00pm** Denver Center for the Performing Arts—  
Seawell Ballroom. Register [here](#).

**US Naval Academy Midshipmen Visit November 20  
5-7 pm** Cheyenne Mountain High School. Any students  
interested in USNA are encouraged to attend info session.

**Early Action Deadlines: December 1 and 15** Many  
colleges have December 1 or December 15 deadlines. Be  
sure to communicate with Mrs. Cooper if you need docu-  
ments sent to colleges on your behalf.