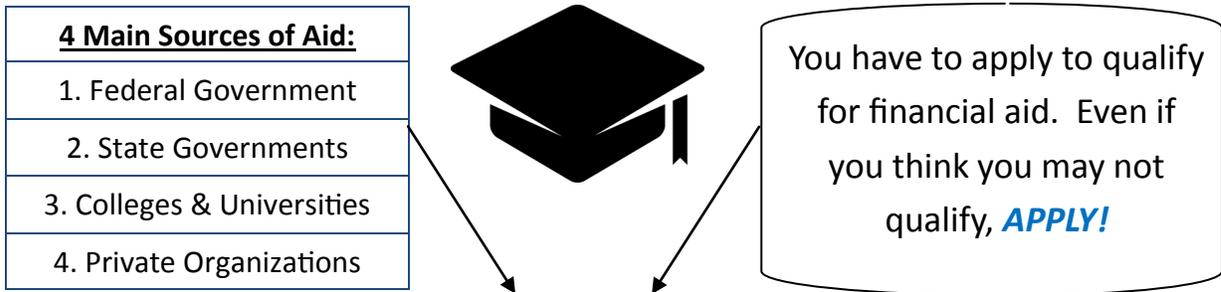

Online Schooling: Financial Resource Tips (Part Two)

What is Financial Aid?

Financial Aid is money that can help you pay for college. Some aid needs to be paid back or earned, and some aid is a gift, also known as grants or scholarships.

There is more than **\$185 Billion** in aid available.



Where do I start?

The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is the place to start.

This application will give you access to:

1. **Grants & Scholarships:** Money you do *not* have to pay back.
2. **Work Study Jobs:** Paid, part-time work that is generally on campus.
3. **Loans:** Money you need to pay back, usually *after* you graduate.

How much should I borrow?

The best practice is to borrow only what is needed to cover your classes and books. If you qualify for and receive grants through the FAFSA and/or scholarships, the grant will go to the school to cover the cost of tuition and sometimes books. Once the school is paid, the school finance office will send you an “overage” payment for the amount left over after tuition and books are paid for. To avoid large debt after graduation, use that money as a payment on the loan. This will lessen your debt and you will be better off in the long run.

Borrow *only* what you need.

Borrowing the maximum amount will only put you in excessive debt. There is a limited amount you are allowed to borrow and once you reach this amount you will no longer be eligible for federal student loans and may not be able to finish your degree.

Don't be talked into borrowing money you don't need!

