

## Financial Aid Overview - Script

For the 2026-27 FAFSA

Slide	Educator Script
Financial Aid Overview	Let's talk about financial aid and how to apply for it.
What is the FAFSA?	The FAFSA is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and is your application for federal, state, and college-based financial aid.
FAFSA: HS Graduation Requirement	<p>Nebraska law requires all public high school students to complete and submit the FAFSA, or actively opt out, as a graduation requirement.</p> <p>The law ensures that all Nebraska seniors complete the FAFSA, unlocking federal financial aid and encouraging you to consider further education beyond high school.</p>
What is College?	College is more than a four-year institution.
Universities & College	College might be a four-year university or college where you earn a bachelor's degree. Many of those schools also offer master's and doctorate degrees.
Community College	College might mean a community college that offers certificates, diplomas, associate degrees, or academic transfer programs to a four-year college.
Trade Schools	Or, college might mean a trade school that offers certificates and diplomas. Typically, in Nebraska, you'd be looking at a cosmetology or massage therapy school.
Types of Financial Aid	Let's dive into the types of financial aid you might receive after completing the FAFSA.
4 Ways to Pay for College	There are four ways to pay for college, including scholarships, grants, work-study, and student loans. By completing the FAFSA, you are applying for grants, work-study, and student loans. Scholarships require a separate application process.
Scholarship Resources	<p>When searching for scholarships, check out ScholarshipQuest at <a href="https://www.educationquest.org">EducationQuest.org</a> for Nebraska-based scholarships.</p> <p>Most scholarships come from local resources and from the college you plan to attend.</p> <p>Don't ever pay for scholarship services!</p>

Grants	<p>Grants are based on financial need, and you don't repay them. Complete the FAFSA to see if you qualify for federal, state, or college-based grants.</p> <p>Some grants are awarded first come, first served, so don't delay in completing your FAFSA.</p>
Work-Study	<p>Work-study is offered to students based on their financial need and is usually a part-time job on campus. The earnings can be used for personal and transportation expenses.</p>
How much can you borrow in student loans?	<p>These amounts are the total a student can borrow each year in college. The amount is comprised of subsidized and unsubsidized loans.</p>
Direct Student Loans	<p>Your FAFSA results will determine which type of loan you qualify to receive.</p> <p>If it's a subsidized loan, the government pays the interest while you are in school. If it's an unsubsidized loan, you are responsible for all accrued interest.</p> <p>Repayment begins six months after you graduate or drop below half-time status.</p>
Direct PLUS Loan for Parents	<p>These loans are in the parent's name and the college determines how much your parent can borrow.</p> <p>Repayment begins 60 days after the loan is fully dispersed, and the interest rate is higher than a student loan.</p>
Questions?	<p>Do you have any questions about financial aid for college?</p>