STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

There is a lot of misinformation on the web concerning financial aid. Let’s dispel these myths once and for all.

1. Myth: "If your parents make too much money, you aren’t eligible for financial aid"  
   Fact: Family income is only one factor in determining financial aid eligibility. Other factors include family size, cost of attendance, and academic merit.

2. Myth: "Student loans are bad"  
   Fact: Student loans can be a valuable tool for paying for college. They can provide a way to finance education without having to pay interest until after graduation.

3. Myth: "You have to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) every year"  
   Fact: You don’t have to fill out the FAFSA every year, but you should if your financial situation changes or if your parents’ income or taxes change.

4. Myth: "A college degree is just too difficult to fit in, and I’d rather spend time working"  
   Fact: There are many ways to earn a degree, including part-time study, taking classes online, or even completing a degree through a correspondence program.

5. Myth: "You can’t be too poor, and it disqualifies you"  
   Fact: Federal Pell Grants are available to students with very low family incomes, so even if your family is struggling financially, you may still be eligible for financial aid.

6. Myth: "If I get a federal loan, I’ll have to pay the government back twice as much as I owe"  
   Fact: Federal loans have fixed interest rates, so the amount you owe will not change if you decide to pay it back earlier.

7. Myth: "The government is the only source of financial aid"  
   Fact: There are many different sources of financial aid, including grants, scholarships, and private loans.

8. Myth: "You can appeal an denial (demographic) disparity by filing a complaint with the federal government"  
   Fact: There are specific procedures for appealing financial aid decisions, but they are not the same as filing a complaint with the government.

The bottom line is that there are many options available for paying for college, and it’s important to research all of your options to find the best fit for your situation.

Pell Grant Recipients Based on Income for 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Level</th>
<th>Pell Grant Recipient</th>
<th>Non-Recipient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$0 - $20,200</td>
<td>$20,302</td>
<td>$9,083</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20,201 - $45,000</td>
<td>$13,000</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$45,001 - $52,000</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
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</tbody>
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Remember, there is financial aid available for everyone, so don’t let myths hold you back from pursuing your education.