

# Financing

YOUR EDUCATION

You are about to make the most important investment of your life.

**How can we help make it a little easier?**

[fsuforme.com/aid](http://fsuforme.com/aid)

# *You are about to make the most important investment of your life. How can we help make it a little easier?*

- First, understand that we provide an excellent value. We keep our tuition reasonable, plus we offer an outstanding education that combines diverse programs, high quality instruction, and real-world experiences.
- Second, we encourage all students to apply for financial aid. More than 86 percent of our students receive some sort of scholarship or financial aid. Even if you don't think you qualify, apply anyway. All students qualify for some type of aid. Our office awarded more than \$40 million in financial aid last year.
- And third, the Financial Aid and Scholarships Office will work with you closely so you can make the most of the financial aid process.

*Never let funding hold you back from pursuing a higher education.  
We can help you find ways to make it work!*

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT  
[fsuforme.com/aid](http://fsuforme.com/aid)

## **APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID**

**To Apply:** The FREE Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the primary instrument for determining eligibility for financial aid. You can complete the FAFSA online at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov) beginning January 1 of the aid year you plan to attend. Worksheets to help you collect your financial information are also available on the same web site beginning in December prior to the aid year. Be sure to enter our school code – **003812**.

**When to apply:** Completing your FAFSA by March 1 will increase your chances of eligibility for grants and scholarships. WV students who may be eligible for the PROMISE Scholarship must also complete the common application at [www.cfww.com](http://www.cfww.com) by March 1. If you miss the March 1 date, you can still complete a FAFSA to be considered for Federal Aid. WV students may also be considered for the State Higher Education Grant if funds permit.

**Haven't Filed your Tax Returns?** The FAFSA can be completed using estimated figures based on W2s, the previous year's tax return, your last paycheck, or the income estimator on the online FAFSA. Once your tax returns are completed, you can update your FAFSA online at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). Once you have filed your taxes, be sure to use the IRS Data Retrieval process available when you file the FAFSA or make corrections. This option will allow you to transfer your tax data directly into the FAFSA form. More information on filing your FAFSA and transferring your tax data from the IRS can be found on our web site at [www.fairmontstate.edu/finaid](http://www.fairmontstate.edu/finaid).

**\*tip**

The FAFSA4caster is available on the same web site [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov) and can be accessed during your junior year or before January 1 of your senior year. This online tool gives you an estimated Expected Family Contribution (EFC) and an estimate of the aid you might be eligible to receive.

**FAFSA Verification:** The U.S. Department of Education randomly selects a number of applications in a review process called verification. You are notified of this on your Student Aid Report (SAR), the results of your processed FAFSA. Selected recipients who do not use the IRS Data Retrieval process or change previously transferred information will be required to provide additional documentation, such as, an IRS Tax Transcript. Be sure to submit any documents upon receipt of the request.

**\*tip**

*Transfer or Returning Students Who Completed a FAFSA the Prior Year:* You will be able to transfer some of your personal information from your previous year's FAFSA by using your Federal Student Aid ID.

**Veterans:** Fairmont State participates in the Yellow Ribbon Program with the Veterans Administration. When used with your Post 9/11 Chapter 33 benefits, all of your tuition and mandatory fees will be covered if you are eligible for 100% of your benefits. We keep our Veterans page updated at [www.fairmontstate.edu/finaid/students/veterans-services](http://www.fairmontstate.edu/finaid/students/veterans-services) or go to [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) for more information.

**\*tip**

Remember to complete the Veteran Certification Information Card - "the Green Card" each semester or term.



## TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE

**Federal Pell Grant:** This grant is available to students with need determined by the information provided on the FAFSA and the resulting Expected Family Contribution (EFC). The maximum grant is provided by the Department of Education and awarded to students with an EFC of 0. As the EFC rises, the award decreases.

**Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG):** Early completion of the FAFSA is required and is awarded by the school based on Pell Grant eligibility. All applicants whose FAFSA is received by the Department of Education processing center by March 1 will be considered until funds have been exhausted. Funds are limited.

**William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (subsidized and unsubsidized):** FSU participates in the Direct Loan Program, which is available to students enrolled at least half-time. Award amounts vary, depending on grade level. An important distinction between the subsidized and the unsubsidized loan is that interest accrues on the unsubsidized loan and must either be paid while the borrower is in school or deferred and capitalized at repayment time (added to the principal of the loan). The federal government pays the interest on subsidized loans as long as borrowers are enrolled at least half time. Subsidized interest is no longer available to students during the 6-month grace period or to graduate students. The interest rate currently changes on July 1 of each year; however, it will not exceed 8.25%. A nominal fee is deducted from each disbursement and retained by the federal government. Students who have accepted their loans but who have not yet signed a Master Promissory Note will receive instructions about signing via the Internet at a later date. First-time loan borrowers in the Direct Loan Program are required to complete entrance counseling prior to receiving their first disbursement. You can complete this requirement online at [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov). The loan will be disbursed in at least two payments and generally will be credited to the student's account for payment of tuition and other school charges. Any remaining funds will be paid directly to the student by check.

**William D. Ford Federal Direct Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS):** These loans are available to parents of dependent students who are enrolled at least half-time. Parents complete the application in addition to student's FAFSA. This is a credit based loan. Eligible parents may borrow up to the cost of attendance, less any financial aid awards. Instructions to complete the Promissory Note will be sent upon credit approval. Repayment begins within 60 days after the final loan disbursement. A nominal loan fee is deducted from each disbursement, which is retained by the federal government. The interest rate is fixed. The loan will be disbursed in at least two payments and generally will be credited to the student's account for payment of tuition and other school charges. Any remaining funds will be sent to the students' permanent mailing address.

**Federal Work Study Employment:** This program allows eligible students to earn money by working part-time up to 20 hours per week at minimum wage. This type of aid is not applied to charges at FSU. Recipients receive a paycheck every other Friday. Priority is given to students who meet the March 1 priority filing date. Funding is limited.

**West Virginia Higher Education Grant:** This grant is available to all West Virginia residents with need who complete and submit the FAFSA by the state's due date based on the student's status at the time of application. Priority date: April 15 for all students. (Students may still be considered for the State Grant after that date provided funding is available.) The state grant amount is set by the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission (WVHEPC).

**PROMISE Scholarship:** The PROMISE Scholarship Program covers up to \$4,750 of tuition and mandatory fees for eligible West Virginia residents. High school students who have earned a 3.0 GPA (on a 4.0 scale) in their core and overall classes and attained a score of 22 or better on the ACT or at least 1020 on the SAT are potentially eligible. You must also meet the FAFSA filing priority deadline of March 1. For more information, review the PROMISE Scholarship web site at [www.cfww.com](http://www.cfww.com).

**Other West Virginia programs:** Higher Education Adult Part-time Students Grant (HEAPS) – tuition funds for West Virginia residents enrolled part-time; Engineering, Science, & Technology, Robert C. Byrd, and Underwood-Smith Scholarships; Gear Up awards; and Health, Science and Technology Academy Waiver (HSTA). For more information, please visit [www.cfww.com](http://www.cfww.com).

**Other Sources of Aid:** Churches, unions, fraternal organizations, high schools, civic organizations, and employers offer substantial help. For listings, check with your local libraries and your high school guidance office.

**Out-of-State Programs:** Please contact the grant program of your home state for specifics.

**\*tip**

*In addition to our competitive tuition and fees, Fairmont State offers Admissions, Departmental and Fairmont State Foundation Scholarships to ease the financial burden on our students. PROMISE Scholars may be eligible for the PROMISE Beyond Scholarship and may apply for the Charles J. McClain Presidential Scholarship.*



## PAYMENT OPTIONS

Fairmont State University offers different payment options.

- All major credit cards, including Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express are accepted.
- Fairmont Installment Plan Service (FIPS): This service allows students to break their charges into four installments per semester after 100 percent of their financial aid is processed. There is a \$15 charge for enrolling in FIPS.

Students are billed each term via e-mail. The most efficient way to pay your invoice is at <https://epay.fairmontstate.edu>. You can review your account status, make payments and enter FIPS through this web site.

Students must use their Unified College Account (UCA) and password to access the web site.

If you have any questions regarding tuition or fees, please contact the Office of Enrollment Services at [enrollmentservices@fairmontstate.edu](mailto:enrollmentservices@fairmontstate.edu) or (304) 367-4141.

*\*tip*

*For a chart of current costs and more information on scholarships, please visit us online at [www.fairmontstate.edu/finaid](http://www.fairmontstate.edu/finaid).*



### *\*more information on scholarships*

- College Foundation of WV: [www.cfww.com](http://www.cfww.com) (Free source for college and career planning)
- FASTWEB: [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) (Financial Aid Search through the Web)
- College Scholarships: [www.collegescholarships.com](http://www.collegescholarships.com) (College Connection Scholarships)
- College Quest: [www.petersons.com](http://www.petersons.com) (The Leader in College Search, Test Prep and Financial Aid)
- Scholarship: [www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com) (Free College Scholarship Search and Financial Aid Resource)
- The College Board Online Scholarship: [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) (Your College Source)
- Scholarship News: [www.free-4U.com](http://www.free-4U.com) (Scholarships, Fellowships and Grant Division)
- PROMISE Scholarship: [www.cfww.com](http://www.cfww.com)
- Fairmont State University: [www.fsufirme.com/aid](http://www.fsufirme.com/aid)

## Office of Admissions and Recruitment

Turley Student Services Center (Room 105)

1201 Locust Avenue

Fairmont, WV 26554-2470

[admit@fairmontstate.edu](mailto:admit@fairmontstate.edu)

(800) 641-5678

Fax: (304) 367-4938

## Financial Aid and Scholarships

Turley Student Services Center (Room 303)

1201 Locust Avenue

Fairmont, WV 26554-2470

[financialaid@fairmontstate.edu](mailto:financialaid@fairmontstate.edu)

(800) 641-5678

Fax: (304) 367-4789

## Fairmont State University

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Fairmont, WV 26554



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