



# Compton Unified School District

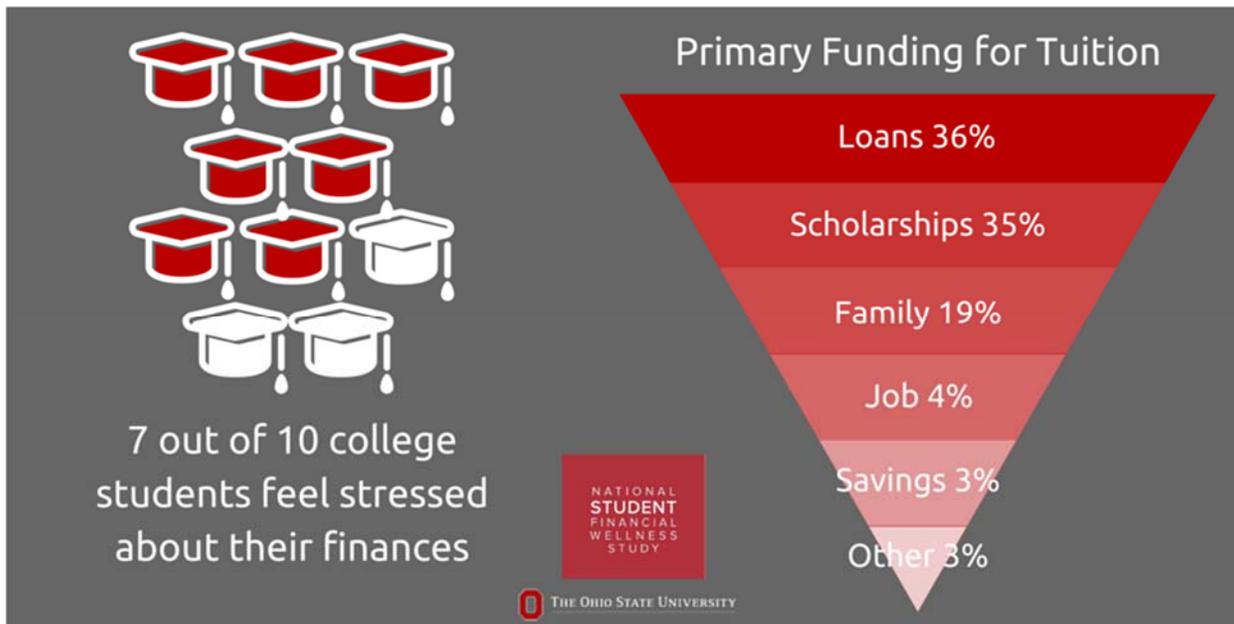
## Office of Educational Services

### College & Career Services Division

501 S. Santa Fe Ave, Compton, CA 90221  
(310) 639-4321; Fax (310) 631-9164  
[www.compton.k12.ca.us](http://www.compton.k12.ca.us)

### FAFSA 4Caster: Planning how to pay for college

How many students do you think worry about being able paying for college. A 2015 study conducted by Center for the Study of Student Life at Ohio State University, surveyed 18,795 undergraduate students at 52 colleges and universities across the country. They found that over 70% of students have concerns of finding funds to pay for college (See **Figure 1**). Do you have similar concerns to paying for college?



(National Student Financial Wellness Study, Center of Student Life, Ohio State University, 2015)

Well you can use the FAFSA4caster which allows students and families to estimate the amount of federal financial aid they might receive based on their college or university of choice, household income and assets. **Federal financial aid can be a large sum of money to assist in paying for tuition, fees, and more. However, it will not cover 100% of your expenses.**

The FAFSA4caster estimates the estimated family contribution (EFC) which can include money parents give to students or money made from working a job while attending school. You can also use this information to set a goal for the amount of scholarships you need to win.

## The Simple Process:

1. Google **FAFSA4caster** or search **<https://fafsa.ed.gov/FAFSA/app/f4cForm?execution=e1s1>**)
2. Follow the step-by-step instructions to obtain your estimate.
3. Questions you will be asked:
  - o Estimate Parent's Adjusted gross income \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - o Number of people in the household \_\_\_\_\_
  - o Estimated asset net worth \_\_\_\_\_
  - o Citizenship of student
  - o Demographics of student
  - o Parent information
  - o College intended on attending
  - o College costs including tuition, fees, room, board, books and other expenses (note: College Navigator helps you find the costs if you're not sure)
  - o Grants and scholarships (if amount is known)

**Disclaimer:** Once the information is filled in, the FAFSA4caster estimates your pell grant and student loan amounts. Remember, this is just an estimate and should be utilized to determine the EFC and help you plan for paying for college. Exact amounts will not be known until the FAFSA is filled out and a college or university is chosen, applied to, and you are accepted.

# Sample Information/Legend (Instructions)

Federal Student Aid  
AN OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

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the AMERICAN MIND

Free Application

Home Help

## FAFSA4caster

FAFSA4caster will help you understand your options for paying for college. Provide some basic information and we'll estimate your eligibility for federal student aid. Your estimate will be shown in the "College Cost Worksheet" where you can also provide estimated amounts of other student aid and savings that can go towards your college education. Go ahead and get started now! If you need help for a question, read the Help and Hints on the right.

### Student Information

Are you a U.S. citizen?

Select  
Select  
Yes, I am a U.S. citizen (or U.S. national)  
No, but I am an eligible noncitizen  
No, I am not a citizen or eligible noncitizen

SUBMIT

NEED HELP? EXIT

- + **Yes, I am a US Citizens:** refers to students with US citizenship is by birth or naturalized
- + **No, but I am an eligible non-citizen:** Refers to students that have residences or a valid visa that is eligible to receive aid
- + **No, I am not a citizen or eligible noncitizen:** Refers to students who have no legal documentation and **can't complete FAFSA.** Would recommend to complete CA Dream Act which is financial aid for undocumented students who have attend a school in CA for 3 years or more.

### Student Information

Are you a U.S. citizen?  
Yes, I am a U.S. citizen (or U.S. national) ▼

What is your date of birth? (mmddyyyy)  
08/26/1985

What is your marital status?  
I am single ▼

When you begin college, what will be your grade level?  
Never attended college/1st yr. ▼

How many people are in your household?  
4

While you are in college, how many people in your household will be college students? (Include yourself)  
1

Have you filed taxes recently?  
 Yes  No

What was your adjusted gross income from the most recent tax return?  
\$ 30,000.00

We use asset information to estimate your eligibility. Based on the information you've entered, we have assumed the following amount for your [asset net worth](#).  
\$ 1,791.00

Check the box to change the amount we assumed for assets.

What is your state of legal residence?  
California ▼

Now you're done and we can estimate your federal eligibility.  
Keep in mind that the estimated information is a snapshot of the annual federal aid you may qualify for and is based on the information you provided and on certain assumptions we've built into FAFSA4caster. The financial aid you may actually receive may vary. Click **Submit** to continue.

SUBMIT

NEED HELP? EXIT

- + Marital Status for student at time of application
- + Household: individuals that live in student's home ex. parents and siblings
  - Important to note anyone that lives in the home and parents provide financial support like grandparents
- + # of people that will be in college
  - Include applying student and siblings or parents that are still in college as well whether a 2 or 4 year college.
- + Adjusted gross income: money that parents make through employment
  - Should not include cash earnings nor public assistance like CalFresh, CalWorks, or SSI
- + State of legal residence: refers to the physical residence of student and parents (not referring to legal documentation)

Enter the name of the college you plan to attend. (optional)

California State University Long Beach.

How much does the college cost? (Include tuition, room and board, books, and other expenses.) \$ 17,350

Visit [College Scorecard](#) if you don't know how much your college will cost.

### Grants and Scholarships

Grants and Scholarships are funds for college expenses that you do not have to repay.

Federal Pell Grant \$ 6,095

State Grants (fill in an amount) \$ 6,972

College Grants (fill in an amount) \$ 0

Scholarships (fill in an amount) \$ 0

### Work-study

Federal Work-study is part-time employment where you can earn funds while enrolled at the school. Students are paid at least the federal minimum wage and the jobs can be on campus or off campus. Not all colleges participate in the Federal Work-study program and funds may be limited.

Federal Work-study (This amount is the national average for work-study) \$ 1,465

### Student Loans

[Direct Stafford Loans](#) are low-interest loans for undergraduate and graduate students who are enrolled in college at least half-time. Federal student loans are borrowed funds that must be repaid.

Direct Stafford Loan \$ 9,500

**CALCULATE**

### Additional resources you should consider:

Savings is money that you plan to save for the purpose of contributing to your college expenses.

Savings (fill in an amount) \$ 0

You should also learn about [federal tax benefits for education](#), including the *American Opportunity Tax Credit (AOTC)*.

College Cost You Entered \$ 17,350

Total Aid Available \$ 23,852  
This includes the federal student aid we estimated and any of the other aid you entered.

Difference \$ -6,502

Your estimated [EFC](#) is 0.

Sample Cost of Attendance of CSU Long Beach

Expenses	Commuter	On-Campus Housing	Off-Campus Housing
Tuition	\$6,798	\$6,798	\$6,798
Room & Board	\$5,418	\$12,750	\$14,090
Books	\$2,002	\$2,002	\$2,002
Transportation	\$1,586	\$1,472	\$1,544
Personal Expense	\$1,546	\$1,546	\$1,546
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$17,350</b>	<b>\$24,568</b>	<b>\$25,980</b>

### CAL GRANT (State Grant)

A	B (year 1)	B (year 2, 3, 4)
CC: Money on reserve year 1 & 2 at a CC	CC: \$1,672	CC: \$1,672
CSU: \$5,742	CSU: \$1,672	CSU: \$7,414
UC: \$12,570	UC: \$1,672	CSU: \$14,242
Private: \$9,084	Privates: \$1,672	Privates: \$10,756

What is the EFC?

The Expected Family Contribution (EFC) is a number that determines their need for the following federal student financial assistance. The EFC formulas use the financial information which subtracts the EFC from students' cost of attendance (COA) to know how much student needs to pay for college and how much is available to assist.