

Scholarship Scams

Scam Warning Signs

- You have to pay a fee or “taxes”
- Money-back offers or guarantees
- Credit card or bank account information required
- Provides “exclusive” information

Scams: “Phishing” & “Pharming”

“Phishing”

- Unsolicited emails that bear the logo of your bank or credit card.
- Appear legitimate but are traps to lure you into giving out your personal or account information.
NEVER give out Social Security, credit card, or bank account numbers to unsolicited emails or calls.

“Pharming”

- Unsolicited emails that encourage you to visit a website or click on suspicious links.
- Make sure your inbox spam filters are up to date.
BE CAREFUL to whom you give out your contact information or email address.

Reporting Scams

National Fraud Information Center (NFIC) File an online complaint at www.fraud.org

Federal Trade Commission (FTC)

File an online complaint at www.ftc.gov/scholarshipscams, call 877-FTC-HELP (877-382-4357), or write to:

Federal Trade Commission
Consumer Response Center
600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20580

State Attorney General’s Office

File your complaint with the Consumer Protection Division in your state. Visit www.naag.org to find your state Attorney General’s Office.

US Postal Inspection Service (USPIS)

File an online complaint involving mail fraud at postalinspectors.uspis.gov, call the Crime Hotline at 877-876-2455 or write to:
Inspection Service Support Group
222 S. Riverside Plaza, Ste. 1250
Chicago, IL 60606-6100

Better Business Bureau (BBB)

File an online complaint about a business at www.bbb.org or call 703-276-0100.

2010-2011 Calendar

August 2010

Remind students to update their Fastweb profile

September 2010

7 — LSAT Registration Deadline for 10/9 Test
11 — ACT Test Day (Selected States)
17 — GRE Registration Deadline for 10/23 Test
24 — GRE Late Registration for 10/23 Test
30 — NACAC’s 66th Nat. Conference, St. Louis, MO

October 2010

9 — SAT/LSAT Test Date
15 — GRE Registration Deadline for 11/20 Test
22 — GRE Late Registration for 11/20 Test
23 — GRE / ACT Test Day
26-29 — NSPA National Conference: Broomfield, CO
27-29 — College Board Nat. Forum: Washington, DC
Early Decision/Action deadlines

November 2010

6 — SAT Test Day
8-12 — National Distance Learning Week
9 — LSAT Registration Deadline for 12/11 Test
20 — GRE Test Day
Confirm or order 2010-2011 paper FAFSA forms

December 2010

4 — SAT Test Day
11 — LSAT / ACT Test Day

January 2011

1 — Remind students to complete FAFSA and submit ASAP to maximize chances for aid
1 — Can complete Federal income tax return
7 — GRE Regular Registration for 2/12 Test
11 — LSAT Regular Registration for 2/12 Test
14 — GRE Late Registration for 2/12 Test
22 — SAT Test Day

February 2011

12 — ACT / LSAT / GRE Test Day (except in NY)
Financial Aid Awareness Month
Remind students to submit 2010-2011 FAFSA

March 2011

12 — SAT Test Day
23-27 — ACA Conference: New Orleans, LA

April 2011

9 — ACT Test Day
15 — 2010 Federal income tax due

May 2011

1 — National Candidates’ Reply Date
7 — SAT Test Day

June 2011

4 — SAT Test Day
6 — LSAT Test Day
11 — ACT Test Day
30 — Last day to submit 2010-2011 FAFSA

July 2011

17-20 — NASFAA Conference - Boston, MA
Order new Fastweb supplies: fastweb.com/educators

Refer to the GMAT, LSAT and MCAT for more test date information

Contacts

Associations/Organizations

NACAC (National Association for College Admission Counseling)
800-822-6285 / info@nacac.com / www.nacacnet.org

NASFAA (National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators)
202-785-0453 / web@nasfaa.org / www.nasfaa.org

NASPA (Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education)
202-265-7500 / office@naspa.org / www.naspa.org

NCAN (National College Access Network)
202-347-4848 / ncan@collegeaccess.org
www.collegeaccess.org

NCHelp (National Council of Higher Education Loan Programs)
202-822-2106 / info@nchelp.org / www.nchelp.org

NSEA (National Student Employment Association)
800-742-0047 / www.nseastudemp.org

NSPA (National Scholarship Providers Association)
303-442-2524 / aweinstein@scholarshipproviders.org
www.scholarshipproviders.org

Government

U.S. Department of Education
800-USA-LEARN (800-872-5327) / www.ed.gov

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
800-4-FED-AID (800-433-3243) / www.fafsa.ed.gov

FSAIC (Federal Student Aid Information Center)
800-4-FED-AID (800-433-3243)
www.studentaid.ed.gov

NCES (National Center for Education Statistics)
202-502-7300 / www.nces.ed.gov

Office of the Inspector General (OIG)
800-MIS-USED (800-647-8733)
www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oig/index.html

Testing

ACT (American College Testing)
319-337-1000 / www.actstudent.org

CLEP (College-Level Examination Program)
800-257-9558 / www.collegeboard.com/clepphone

GRE (Graduate Record Examination)
609-771-7670 / www.ets.org/gre

GMAT (Graduate Management Admissions Test)
800-717-GMAT (800-717-4628)
www.mba.com/mba/theGMAT

LSAT (Law School Admissions Test)
215-968-1001 / www.lsac.org

MCAT (Medical College Admissions Test)
202-828-0690 / www.aamc.org/students/mcat

SAT
866-756-7346 / sat.collegeboard.com

Web Resources

Sources of Aid

Scholarship Search

www.fastweb.com

College Savings Plan Network

www.collegesavings.org

AmeriCorps

www.americorps.gov

City Year

www.cityyear.org

JobCorps

www.jobcorps.gov

State Resources

www.finaid.org/state

Student Tax Info

www.irs.gov/individuals/students

Financial Aid Applications

CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE

profileonline.collegeboard.com

FAFSA

www.fafsa.ed.gov

FAFSA PIN Registration

www.pin.ed.gov

FAFSA 4Caster

www.fafsa4caster.ed.gov

FAA (Access to Central Processing System)

www.fafsa.ed.gov/FOTWWebApp/faa/faa.jsp

Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration

uscis.gov

Selective Service System

www.sss.gov

Social Security Administration

www.ssa.gov

Student Loans and Grants

Common Origination and Disbursement

www.cod.ed.gov

Direct Loans

www.ed.gov/directloan

Direct Loan Servicing

www.dlssonline.com

Direct Consolidation Loan

loanconsolidation.ed.gov

Federal Student Loans

studentloans.gov

FSA Ombudsman

www.ombudsman.ed.gov

National Student Loan Data System

www.nsls.ed.gov

Project on Student Debt

www.projectonstudentdebt.org

Student Loan Borrower Assistance

www.studentloanborrowerassistance.org

Default Management

ifap.ed.gov/DefaultManagement

Financial Aid Information

Fastweb

www.fastweb.com

FinAid

www.finaid.org

Fastweb College Gold

www.collegegold.com

Federal Student Aid for Students

studentaid.ed.gov

Financial Aid Calculators

www.finaid.org/calculators

FTC Project Scholarship Scam

ftc.gov/scholarshipscams

Mapping Your Future

www.mappingyourfuture.org

Student Gateway to the US Government

www.students.gov

The Guide to Federal Student Aid

studentaid.ed.gov/guide

Educator Training/Resources

Fastweb for Educators

www.fastweb.com/educators

IFAP (Information for Financial Aid Professionals)

www.ifap.ed.gov

Learn Student Aid (NASFAA)

www.learnstudentaid.org

TFAP (Training for Financial Aid Professionals)

ed.gov/offices/OSFAP/training/index.html

Higher Ed News & Views

Chronicle of Higher Education

www.chronicle.com

Higher Education Watch

www.higheredwatch.org

Inside Higher Ed

www.insidehighered.com

Student Lending Analytics

www.studentlendinganalytics.com

Research

College Insight

www.college-insight.org

Council on Law in Higher Education

www.clhe.org

Education Resources Info Center

www.eric.ed.gov

FSA Data Center

www.fsadatacenter.ed.gov

Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)

nces.ed.gov/ipeds

National Center for Education Statistics

www.nces.ed.gov

Student Aid Legislation

www.finaid.org/legislation

Choosing a Career

MonsterCollege

www.monstercollege.com

Career Planning

www.fastweb.com

Bureau of Labor Statistics

www.stats.bls.gov

Occupational Outlook Handbook

www.bls.gov/oco

Loan Information

Always borrow federal loans first before pursuing private/alternative loans.

Federal Perkins Loan

Awarded based on exceptional need. Interest is subsidized and fixed at 5%. No fees. Favorable benefits may be lost upon consolidation.

REPAYMENT begins 9 months after graduation or dropping below half-time enrollment status.

Federal Stafford Loan

Subsidized

Interest accrues starting 6 months after graduation. Fixed interest rate is 4.5% if loan originated on/ after July 1, 2010 for undergraduate students, 6.8% for graduate and professional students. 1% fees.

Unsubsidized

Interest accrues during school.

Fixed interest rate is 6.8% if loan originated on/ after July 1, 2006. 1% fees. On loans first disbursed on or after July 1, 2009, annual limits have increased by \$2,000 for dependent and independent undergrads.

REPAYMENT begins 6 months after graduation or after dropping below halftime enrollment status.

Federal Parent PLUS Loan

If loan originated on/after July 1, 2006, Direct PLUS fixed interest rate is 7.9% with 4% fees.

REPAYMENT begins 60 days after full disbursement, or 6 months after student graduates or drops below half-time. Interest continues to accrue during deferment.

Federal Consolidation Loan

Combine loans to one lender. Fixed interest rate is the weighted average of the loans rounded up to the nearest 1/8 of a % and capped at 8.25%.

Lower monthly payments through alternate payment plans, such as extended repayment and income-based repayment.

Private/Alternative Loan

Eligibility, interest rate and fees based on better of borrower and cosigner credit scores. More expensive than Federal student loans. For more information on private/alternative loans, visit: www.finaid.org/privateloans

Have a Question or Comment?

Email: memberservices@fastweb.com