

Scholarship Scams Scam Warning Signs

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

Common Scams

“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 about giving 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.consumer.ftc.gov, call 202-326-2222, 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 www.uspis.gov, call the Crime Hotline at 877-876-2455 or write to:
Criminal Investigations Service Center
433 W. Harrison Street, Room 3255
Chicago, IL 60699

Better Business Bureau (BBB)

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

2025–2026 Important Dates for College Students

September 2025

National College Savings Month

October 2025

Remind students: FAFSA 2026–27 application period opens after Oct. 1st

November 2025

National Scholarship Month

December 2025

Fill out FAFSA ASAP to maximize chances for aid

January 2026

Remind students: Complete FAFSA & Submit

February 2026

Financial Aid Awareness Month

April 2026

National Financial Literacy Month,
Federal income tax due for 2025 – April 15th

May 2026

National Candidates’ Reply Date – May 1st

June 2026

Last day to submit 2025–26 FAFSA – June 30th
Order Fastweb materials for 2026–27

Test Dates

Below is information on test entities and where to find test dates:

GRE (Graduate Record Examination)

www.ets.org/gre

GMAT

(Graduate Management Admissions Test)

www.mba.com/us

LSAT (Law School Admissions Test)

www.lsac.org

MCAT (Medical College Admissions Test)

www.aamc.org



Fastweb Educator Resources

Share Fastweb with your students, order free printed materials find online tools:
www.fastweb.com/educators

Have a question or comment:

memberservices@fastweb.com

Associations/Organizations

ACA (American Counseling Association)

memberservices@counseling.org

www.counseling.org

NACAC (National Association for College Admission Counseling)

info@nacacnet.org

www.nacacnet.org

NASFAA (National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators)

info@nasfaa.org

www.nasfaa.org

NASPA (Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education)

office@naspa.org

www.naspa.org

NCAN (National College Access Network)

ncac@ncan.org

www.ncan.org

NCHER (National Council of Higher Education Resources)

info@ncher.us

www.ncher.us

NSEA

(National Student Employment Association)

nsea@nsea.info

www.nsea.info

NSPA (National Scholarship Providers Association)

info@scholarshipproviders.org

www.scholarshipproviders.org

Government Departments

U.S. Department of Education

www.ed.gov

FAFSA

(Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa

Federal Student Aid Help Center

www.studentaid.gov/help-center

Follow Fastweb @payingforschool



Have a question or comment:

memberservices@fastweb.com

Web Resources

Career Guidance

Monster Career Advice

www.monster.com/career-advice

Career Planning

www.fastweb.com/career-planning

Bureau of Labor Statistics

www.bls.gov

Fastweb Part-Time Jobs

www.fastweb.com/part-time-jobs

Government Services

Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration

www.uscis.gov

Selective Service System

www.sss.gov

Social Security Administration

www.ssa.gov

IFAP (Information for Financial Aid Professionals)

www.fsapartners.gov/home

Training for Financial Aid Professionals

fsatraining.ed.gov

Higher Ed News & Views

Chronicle of Higher Education

www.chronicle.com

Inside Higher Ed

www.insidehighered.com

Student Lending Analytics

www.studentlendinganalytics.com

Research

College Insight

www.collegeinsight.org

Education Resources Info Center

www.eric.ed.gov

FSA Data Center

www.studentaid.gov/sa/data-center

Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)

nces.ed.gov/ipeds

National Center for Education Statistics

nces.ed.gov

Student Tax Info

www.irs.gov/individuals/students

**Share Fastweb with
your students, order free
printed materials:**

www.fastweb.com/educators

Financial Aid

Important Resources

Fastweb

www.fastweb.com

Finaid

www.finaid.org

Financial Aid Calculators

www.finaid.org/calculators

Mapping Your Future

www.mappingyourfuture.org

Financial Aid Applications

FAFSA

studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa

CSS PROFILE

<https://cssprofile.collegeboard.com>

FAA (Access to Central Processing System)

faaaccess.ed.gov

Student Loans and Grants

Common Origination and Disbursement

www.cod.ed.gov

Federal Student Loans

www.studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types/loans

National Student Loan Data System

<https://nsldsfa.ed.gov/login>

Project on Student Debt

www.ticas.org/posd/home

Student Loan Borrower Assistance

www.studentloanborrowerassistance.org

Default Management

ifap.ed.gov/dm



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Federal Loans

US Dept. of Education

The US Dept of Education offers low-interest loans to cover cost of college or career school.

Direct Subsidized Loan

For undergrad students with financial need

School determines amount and may not exceed financial need. Dept of Education pays interest while in school at least half time

Direct Unsubsidized Loan

For undergrad and grad students enrolled no requirement to demonstrate financial need

School determines amount based on cost of attendance and other financial aid. Student is responsible for interest

Direct PLUS Loans

For grad or professional students and parents of dependent undergraduate students

Loan amount is maximum cost of attendance. Credit check required. Dept. of Education is the lender

Private Loans

Students should borrow with federal loans first which are cheaper, more available and have better repayment terms than private/student loans. Eligibility, interest rate and fees for private loans based on credit scores

**More information on
private/alternative loans at
www.finaid.org/loans/**

More Student Aid Resources

Scholarship Search

www.fastweb.com

AmeriCorps

www.americorps.gov

City Year

www.cityyear.org

Student Loans

www.studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types/loans

EduPASS: International Students

www.edupass.org

State Resources

www.finaid.org/state

**Have a question
or comment?**

memberservices@fastweb.com