

Quick Reference 2025–26 High School Educators

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

**Have a question
or comment?**

memberservices@fastweb.com

2025–2026 Key Dates for High School 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 Information

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

ACT (American College Testing)

www.actstudent.org

AP (Advanced Placement)

apcentral.collegeboard.com

CLEP (College-Level Examination Program)

clep.collegeboard.org

PSAT (Preliminary SAT) / NMSQT

(National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test)

www.satsuite.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt

SAT and SAT (Scholastic Assessment Test)

Subject Tests

www.satsuite.collegeboard.org/sat



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

Contacts

Associations/Organizations

ACA (American Counseling Association)

memberservices@counseling.org
www.counseling.org

ASCA

(American School Counselor Association)

asca@schoolcounselor.org
www.schoolcounselor.org

The College Board

counselorconnect@collegeboard.org
www.collegeboard.com

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

NCAN (National College Access Network)

ncac@ncan.org
www.ncan.org

NSPA

(National Scholarship Providers Assoc)

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

NCES (National Center for Education Statistics)

www.nces.ed.gov

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College & Career

College Admissions

College Search

www.fastweb.com/college-search/articles

Common Application

www.commonapp.org

Job Corps

www.jobcorps.gov

NACAC College Fairs

www.nacacnet.org/nacac-college-fairs/

TRIO Programs

www.coenet.org

Educational Opportunity Centers Program

www.ed.gov/grants-and-programs/grants-higher-education/trio/educational-opportunity-centers

Jobs & Career

Monster Career Advice

www.monster.com/career-advice

Fastweb Part-Time Jobs

www.fastweb.com/part-time-jobs

Career Planning

www.fastweb.com/career-planning

Bureau of Labor Statistics

www.bls.gov

Web Resources

ERIC (Education Resources Info Center)

www.eric.ed.gov

College Insight

www.collegeinsight.org

Student Tax Info

www.irs.gov/individuals/students

Selective Service System

www.sss.gov

Social Security Administration

www.ssa.gov

Share Fastweb with
your students, order free
printed materials:

www.fastweb.com/educators

Financial Aid

Important Resources

Fastweb for Educators

www.fastweb.com/educators

Finaid

www.finaid.org

FAFSA

(Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

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

CSS PROFILE

<https://cssprofile.collegeboard.com>

Federal Student Aid for Counselors

financialaidtoolkit.ed.gov

IFAP

(Information for Financial Aid Professionals)

www.fsapartners.gov/home

Mapping Your Future

www.mappingyourfuture.org

NASFAA

(National Association of Financial Aid Administrators)

www.nasfaa.org

NACAC (National Association for College Admission Counseling)

www.nacacnet.org

OPE (Office of Postsecondary Education)

www.ed.gov/about/ed-offices/ope

Financial Aid Calculators

www.finaid.org/calculators

Higher Ed News & Views

Chronicle of Higher Education

www.chronicle.com

Inside Higher Ed

www.insidehighered.com



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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 Loan

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

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