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.ftc.gov/scholarshipscams, 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 postalinspectors.uspis.gov, call the Crime Hotline at 877-876-2455 or write to:
Criminal Investigations Service Center
222 S. Riverside Plaza, Ste. 1290
Chicago, IL 60606-6100

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

2020–2021 Important Dates for College Students

September 2020
National College Savings Month

October 2020
Remind students: FAFSA application period begins, submit ASAP to maximize chances for aid

November 2020
National Scholarship Month

January 2021
Remind students: Complete FAFSA & Submit

February 2021
Financial Aid Awareness Month

April 2021
National Financial Literacy Month, Federal income tax due for 2020 – April 15th

May 2021
National Candidates’ Reply Date – May 1st

June 2021
Last day to submit 2021–2022 FAFSA – June 30th

2020–2021 Test Dates
Due to Covid-19, test dates are subject to change by the testing entity. Below is information on test entities and where to confirm test dates:

ACT (American College Testing)
www.act.org

CLEP (College-Level Examination Program)
ciep.collegeboard.org

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

SAT and SAT (Scholastic Assessment Test)
Subject Tests
collegereadiness.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

Associations/Organizations
ACA (American Counseling Association)
membership@counseling.org

NACAC (National Association for College Admission Counseling)
info@nacacnet.org

NASFAA (National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators)
info@nasfaa.org

NASPA (Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education)
oice@naspa.org

NCAN (National College Access Network)
ncan@collegeaccess.org

NCHER (National Council of Higher Education Resources)
info@ncher.us

NSEA (National Student Employment Association)
nsea@nsea.info

NSPA (National Scholarship Providers Association)
nspa@scholarshipproviders.org

Government Departments
U.S. Department of Education
www.ed.gov

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa

FSAIC (Federal Student Aid Information Center)
www.studentaidhelp.ed.gov

NCES (National Center for Education Statistics)
www.nces.ed.gov

Office of the Inspector General (OIG)
www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oig
Quick Reference 2020–21

Web Resources

Career Guidance
Monster Career Advice
www.monster.com/career-advice/career-levels/entry-level

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.ifap.ed.gov

TFAP (Training for Financial Aid Professionals)
www2.ed.gov/offices/OSFAP/training

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
councilonlaw.org

Education Resources Info Center
www.eric.ed.gov

FSA Data Center
www.studentaid.gov/so/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

Financial Aid

Important Resources

Fastweb
www.fastweb.com

FinAid
www.finaid.org

Federal Student Aid
www.studentaid.ed.gov

Financial Aid Calculators
www.finaid.org/calculators

FEDSA Project Scholarship Scam
www.fedsa.org/scholarshipscams

Mapping Your Future
www.mappingyourfuture.org

The Guide to Federal Student Aid
studentaid.ed.gov/guide

Financial Aid Applications

FAFSA
studentaid.gov/fafsa

FAA Management
https://studentaid.gov/npsas/index.htm

CSS PROFILE
https://css.profile.collegeboard.com

FASFA 4Caster
https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/estimate

FAD (Access to Central Processing System)
faaccess.ed.gov

Student Loans and Grants

Common Origination and Disbursement
www.cob.ed.gov

Federal Student Loans
studentaid.gov/loans

National Student Loan Data System
www.nslds.ed.gov

Project on Student Debt
www.ticas.org/posa/home

Student Loan Borrower Assistance
www.studentloans.gov/borrowerassistance.org

Default Management
ifap.ed.gov/dm

Total & Permanent Disability (TPD) Discharge
www.disabilitydischarge.com

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

Have a question or comment:
memberservices@fastweb.com

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/loans

EduPass: International Students
www.edupass.org

State Resources
www.finaid.org/state

fastweb
A MONSTER Company

25 ANNIversary