

What is a Pell Grant?

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- A Pell Grant is money to help you pay for your education after high school. Unlike loans, these grants **do not** have to be repaid. The Pell Grant program is the Government's largest Student Aid Grant program and is the starting point for most students seeking Federal Financial Aid.
- **In order to be eligible for a Pell Grant and other financial aid you will need to be a degree-seeking student and to complete the necessary required forms.**
- To be eligible to receive a Pell Grant, you must file a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

How much can I get?

Awards range up to \$5,550.00 per academic year. The actual amount you receive depends on the financial information you report on your FAFSA application, whether you are a full-time or part-time student, and the cost of your education.

Does it cost anything to apply?

- No. This is a free application, so do not use a website that charges any fees. Even if you think you won't qualify, I would suggest completing a FAFSA just to be sure. The Pell Grant is pro-rated and in some cases students are eligible for smaller amounts.

How do I file a FAFSA application?

- To determine eligibility for a Pell Grant, a FAFSA must be filed using one of the following methods:
 1. **You can complete the FAFSA online** at www.fafsa.ed.gov and follow the simple instructions. **But before beginning the FAFSA application on-line for the first time,** you will need to apply for a US Department of Education pin number at www.pin.ed.gov. This will allow you to sign your FAFSA electronically and speed the process.
 2. If you prefer to **file a paper FAFSA application**, you can obtain it from the FAFSA website or you can stop by the Financial Aid Office.
 3. Or you may **bring your Federal Tax forms and other important asset information to the Financial Aid Office** and we will be glad to submit it electronically for you.
- The student aid report you receive from submitting a FAFSA will be used to determine your eligibility to receive a Pell Grant and possible in-house scholarships. Therefore, it is very important that you apply early and accurately.

What information should I get together before I fill the FAFSA application?

- Your prior year U. S. Federal Income Tax Return is the most important, since you must enter on your application specific data from specific lines on the tax return. If you keep your Federal Tax Return handy as you fill out the application, you should have no trouble completing it or getting it through the processing system.

How long does it take to find out if I qualify?

- One to three days by e-mail if you file your FAFSA on-line **or** four to six weeks after you send in your application, you will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) in the mail.
- The SAR report will list all the information shown on your FAFSA application and will show an EFC number. The lower the number the greater the award.
- The amount of Pell Grant that you may be eligible to receive may be determined by contacting the financial aid office.

How is the actual dollar amount of my award calculated?

- The Financial Aid Office will look your award up on the Pell Grant Schedule issued by the Department of Education. This will determine your actual amount of award.

How does the Pell Grant Program decide who does and does not have a need?

- By a formula that is developed the U. S. Department of Education and approved annually by Congress. Once the formula is approved, it is effective for the entire academic year, and applied uniformly to all applicants. The formula uses the information you put on your application to determine your EFC. The number is not a dollar figure, but is used along with the cost of your education, to determine the actual amount you will receive.

What is a Student Aid Report (SAR)?

- The SAR is the official notification of your eligibility status from the FAFSA application. The SAR normally consists of three parts. If it appears you did not correctly complete your application for a Pell Grant, you will receive only the first two parts of the SAR. They will tell you what information the Department of Education needs to calculate your eligibility and determine your SAR. The SAR has three parts:
 1. Part 1 – is the Eligibility Letter
 2. Part 2 – is the Information Review Form
 3. Part 3 – is the Payment Document

The certification at the bottom of Part 2 should be completed only if you should change information of Part 2. You (and your spouse or parent if appropriate) must sign the Certification to say that the changes or additions you have made are correct.

What do I do if I do not get my SAR?

- Write to: Federal Student Aid Programs, P O Box 4038 Iowa City IA 52243, include your name, social security number and signature.

What should I do with my SAR after I get it?

- Keep that copy for your file. A copy will also be sent electronically to the Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, Financial Aid Office by the Department of Education.

Some of the information on my SAR is wrong. Should I file another application with the right information?

- No. Use Part 2 of the SAR to correct mistakes. In the proper place, write the correct information, sign the Certification statement and send it to the Federal Student Aid Programs, P O Box 4037 Iowa City IA 52243.

Must I apply each year for this grant?

- **Yes.** Each year circumstances change, which may make your award higher or lower.

Please Take Note:

- **Clear Creek Baptist Bible College: school code number is 017044.** This is to be used on the FAFSA Application, Section H.
- The information contained herein is subject to change without notice and is dependent upon the Federal Legislative changes.
- On the main web page you will find the link for the FAFSA online. Please read the instructions carefully; errors will cause delays.