

KC Scholars Eligibility Workshop

2025 Application Cycle



<https://bit.ly/4lsr5c4>

Great Jobs 

A chance to learn. The power to earn.

**SCHOLARS
FIRST**

Agenda



Scholarships
Overview



Create KC Scholars
Application Account



Complete Eligibility
Section

Traditional Scholarship (11th Graders)

SCHOLARSHIP DETAILS

- Up to \$5,000/semester paid directly to the college up to a bachelor's degree or 6-years of scholarship support.
- Maintain GPA and graduate requirements in senior year of high school.
- Advising support in high school and college.
- Enroll full-time in college in Fall 2027.

APPLICATION CYCLE

- January 8 - February 27 at 5:00 p.m. CST.
- Award notification on May 5, 2026 via email and paper mail.

Traditional Scholarship (11th Graders)

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Current 11th grader.
- Live in or be home-schooled or attend public, charter or private school in 6 eligible counties: Wyandotte & Johnson (KS) - Cass, Clay, Jackson & Platte (MO).
- 2.5 cumulative unweighted high school GPA or at least a 16 on the ACT (800 on SAT).
- Income eligible (12,000 or less Student Aid Index on [Federal Student Aid \(FSA\) Estimator](#)). More information on FSA Estimator the next slide
- US Citizenship/Residency is not required.



**Let's Create a KC Scholars
Application Account!**

How to create a KC Scholars Account

1. Go to myportal.kcscholars.org/s/
2. Click on **Create Your Account**
3. Create your account
 - Use your own personal email
 - "**Contact site administrator**" message: return to myportal.kcscholars.org/s/, click **Log in**, then **Reset Password**. Follow the reset password instructions. This process will still create your account.
4. Check your email to confirm your KC Scholars Account

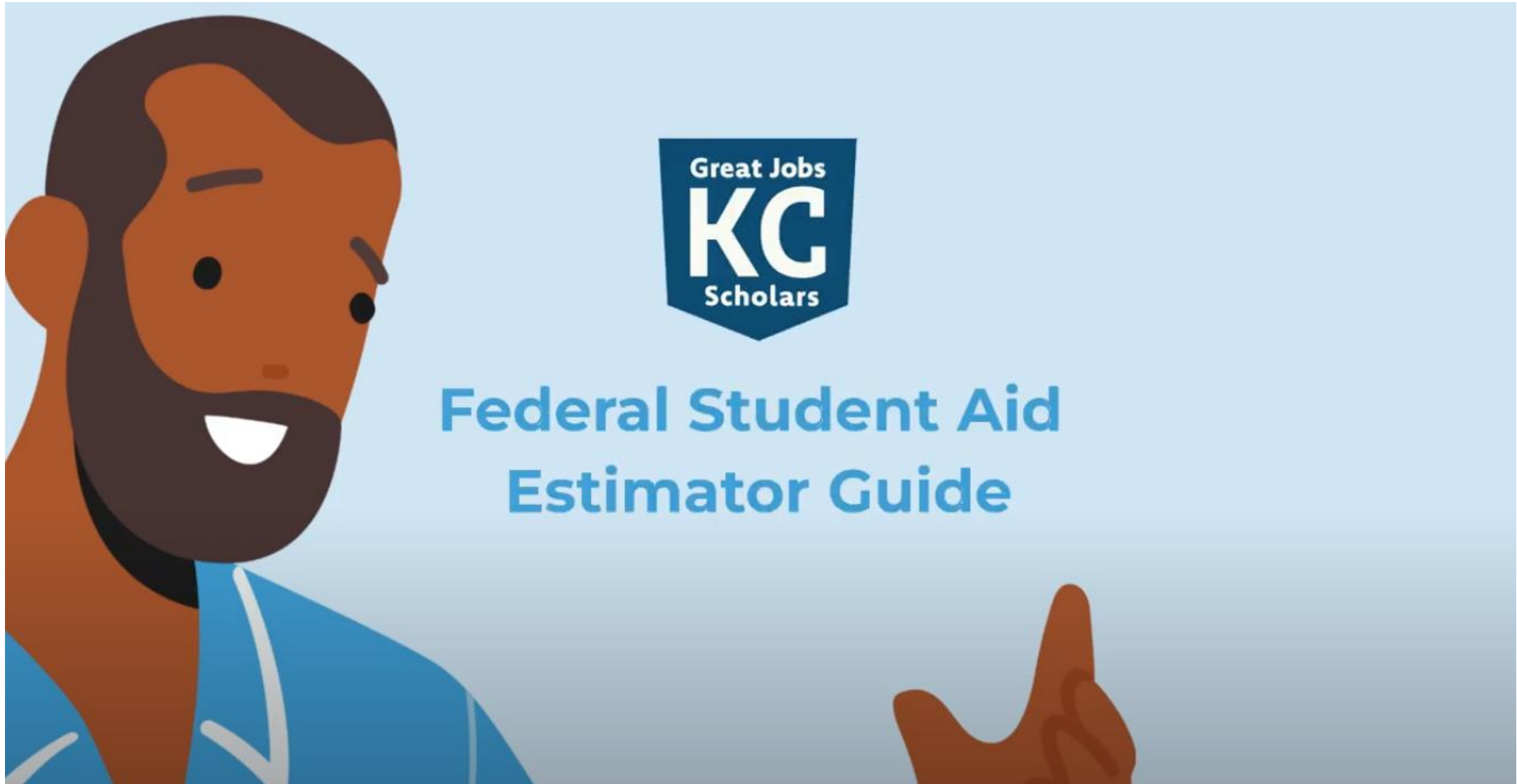


Let's begin the Eligibility Section!

Eligibility Section

This section can be completed before the scholarship applications are open. To complete the eligibility section:

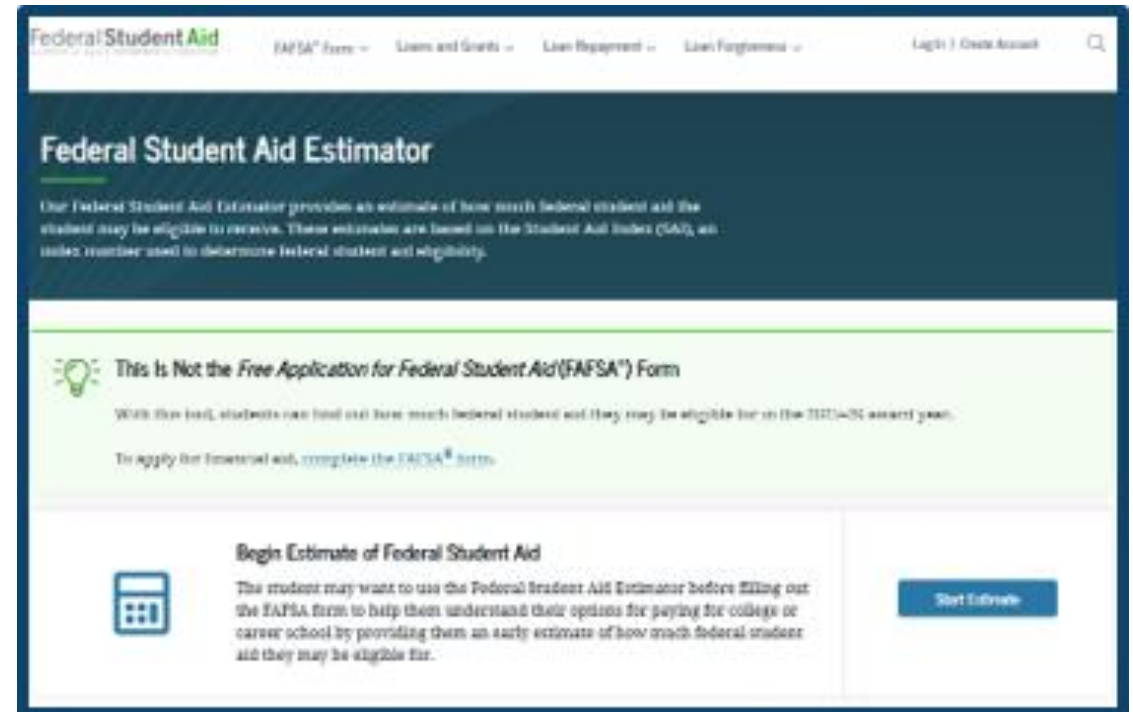
1. Log in to your KC Scholars Application Account
2. Click **Apply/Resume**
3. Select **Traditional Scholarship Application – 2026- 11th Graders** using the drop-down menu, then click **Next**
4. Review the page to confirm the **Scholarship Program Type** is **Traditional Scholarship Application**, then click **Create Application**
5. PAUSE: Before we click **start**, we will determine your SAI. Once you determine your SAI, make sure to download a PDF of your results and start the eligibility section.



Federal Student Aid Estimator Guide

What is the Federal Student Aid (FSA) Estimator? ([Link](#))

- A free financial aid calculation that provides an early estimate of a student's eligibility for federal student aid.
- Assists families in planning for college!



How and Why does KC Scholars Use the FSA Estimator?

- The **Student Aid Index (SAI)** calculated on the [Federal Student Aid Estimator](#) helps determine low to modest income applicants.
- The SAI must be 12,000 or less to be eligible to apply for the [Traditional](#) and [Adult Learner](#) scholarships.
- Applicants are required to upload the downloaded PDF of estimated SAI to their application.
- This step is completed first within the application (Eligibility) to ensure eligibility is met by applicants before proceeding.

What items are needed to fill out the FSA Estimator?

Student Financial Information

- A copy of 2024 tax returns.
 - *If you did not file taxes, you are not required to provide personal financial information.*
- Includes adjusted gross income (AGI), total assets, and annual child support received.
- AGI is found on IRS Form 1040.
- Assests include money in cash, savings, and checking's account.

Students' Spouses' Financial Information

- If the student is independent, their household financials—including their spouse's financials if the student is married—are needed, such as their tax filing status, household income, total assets, and annual child support received.

Students' Parents' Financial Information

- If you are a dependent student, you will need to provide parents' financial information. This Includes adjusted gross income (AGI),total assets, and annual child support received.
- A copy of 2024 tax returns.
 - *If parents were not required to file taxes, you do not need to provide parent's financial information.*
- Parent's AGI is found on IRS Form 1040 from 2024 tax information.
- Assests include money in cash, savings, and checking's account.

Federal Student Aid Estimator Guide

<https://greatjobskc.org/info/scholarships/federal-student-aid-estimator-guide.pdf>

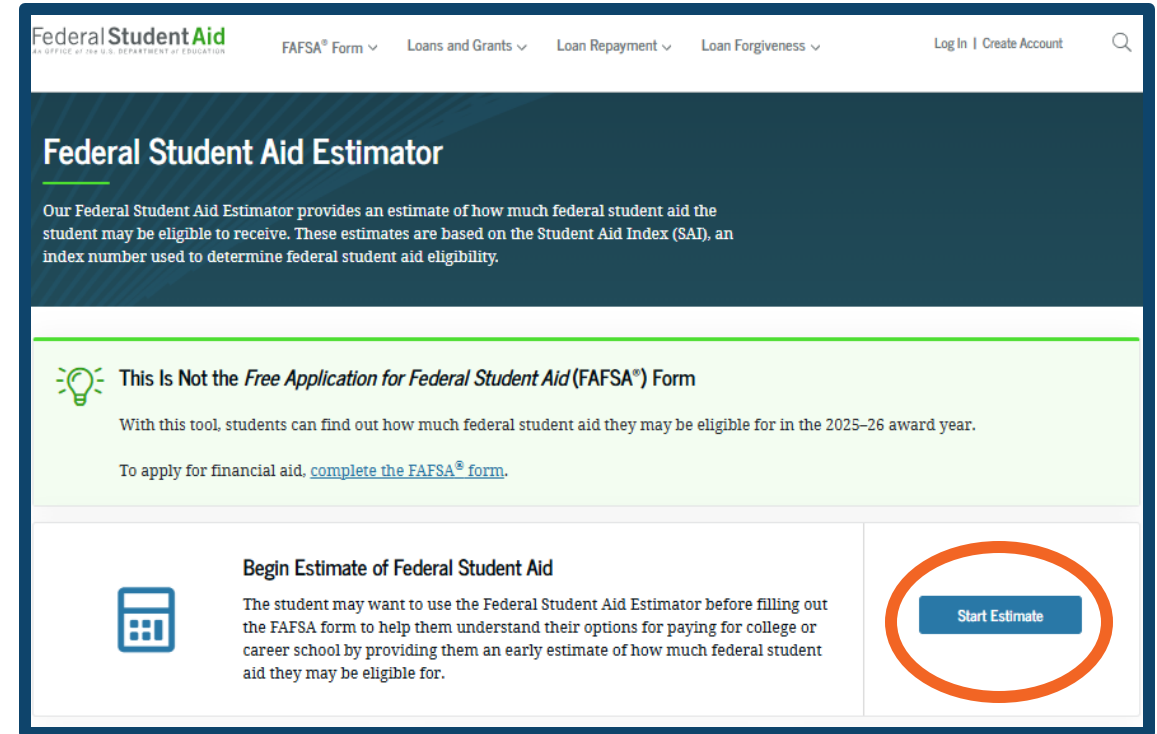
You can find the Federal Student Aid Estimator Guide on the Scholarship Application Resources page on our website!

Additional information on:

- Independent vs. Dependent.
- Parent(s) definition.
- Unusual circumstance assistance.
- Citizenship status.
- Helpful FAFSA resources linked.

Home Page

- Visit <https://studentaid.gov/aid-estimator/> to begin and click "Start Estimate".
- Refer to the "Help" link on each page or (?) next to each question if you need more information.
- Questions will change on the screen according to answers provided.



Federal Student Aid Estimator

1

Student Information

2

Family Information

3

Financial Information

Student Information

Let's start the student's federal student aid estimate by gathering some basic information about the student.



Who Is Considered a Student

For the purposes of the Federal Student Aid Estimator, a "student" is an individual who has or aspires to enroll in a school that is eligible for federal student aid and who can use this tool to estimate how much federal student aid they may be able to get.

[Why do we ask for students' personal information? ~](#)

What is the student's date of birth?

Month

Day

Year

Workshop Step 1: Student Information

- Enter **STUDENT** information.
- Answer all questions.
- All applicants should select "First year (freshmen)."

When the student begins the 2025–26 school year, what will their grade level be? ?



First year (freshman)

First year (freshman)



Second year (sophomore)

Second year (sophomore)

Workshop Step 2: Student Personal Circumstances

- These questions will help determine your [dependency status](#) for federal student aid purposes.
- Answer "**No**" to every question: **Dependent** and must provide parent information.
- Answer "**Yes**" to one or more questions: **Independent** and will not be required to provide parent information. If you are **independent** student, you will skip to step 4.

**If you have any questions on the personal circumstance section or dependency status, please feel free to reach out to one of us and we will come by and assist. You can also refer to slide 6 of the [Federal Student Aid Estimator Guide](#) for additional information*



Federal Student Aid Estimator

1
Student Information

2
Family Information

3
Financial Information

Student Personal Circumstances

Let's look at the student's personal circumstances, which could affect how much federal student aid they may be eligible to receive.

Why do we ask this?

Does the student have children or other dependents that they support?

☐ Yes

☒ No

What are the student's personal circumstances?

Select all that apply or "None of these apply."

☐ The student is currently serving on active duty or a veteran of the U.S. armed forces

☐ At any time since the student turned 13, they were an orphan (no living biological or adoptive parent)

☐ At any time since the student turned 13, they were in foster care or a ward of the court

☐ The student is or was a legally emancipated minor or in legal guardianship

☐ The student is unaccompanied and homeless

☐ None of these apply

Workshop Step 3: Parent Information

For a **DEPENDENT** student:

- This section will ask questions about you and your parent's background.
- These questions help determine which parent(s) information you will provide when filling out the rest of the Federal Student Aid Estimator.
- Answer the questions as they populate until you receive a **blue box** explaining which parent(s) information to provide.

**If you have any questions on reporting parent information please feel free to reach out to one of us and we will come by and assist. You can also refer to Slide 7-8 on the [FSA Estimator Guide](#) for additional information.*

The screenshot shows the 'Federal Student Aid Estimator' interface. At the top, a progress bar indicates three steps: 1. Student Information (active), 2. Family Information, and 3. Financial Information. The main heading is 'Parent Marital Status'. Below this, a green box contains explanatory text: 'For the purposes of the Federal Student Aid Estimator, "parent" means the student's legal (biological or adoptive) parent or stepparent. A parent's marital status helps students determine whom to list as a parent when filling out the Federal Student Aid Estimator.' Below the green box, the question 'Are the student's parents married?' is displayed. There are two radio button options: 'Yes' and 'No'. At the bottom, there are 'Previous' and 'Continue' buttons.

Federal Student Aid Estimator

1 Student Information 2 Family Information 3 Financial Information

Parent Marital Status

For the purposes of the Federal Student Aid Estimator, "parent" means the student's legal (biological or adoptive) parent or stepparent.

A parent's marital status helps students determine whom to list as a parent when filling out the Federal Student Aid Estimator.

Are the student's parents married?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Previous Continue

Workshop Step 4: Family Information

For a **DEPENDENT** student:

- Family Size includes yourself, parents, and the number of people who live with you and receive more than half of their support from your parent(s).

For an **INDEPENDENT** student:

- Family Size includes yourself, parents, and the number of people who live with you and receive more than half of their support from your parent(s).
- After Step 4 you will skip to step 6

Federal Student Aid Estimator

1 ☒ Student Information 2 ☐ Family Information 3 ☐ Financial Information

Family Size

Providing the student's family size helps to determine the amount of federal student aid they may be eligible to receive.

How many people are in the student's family, including the student?

Family Size ?

Family Size

Providing the student's family size helps to determine the amount of federal student aid they may be eligible to receive.

How many people are in the student's family, including the student?

Family Size ?

Workshop Step 5: Financial Information (Family)

For a **DEPENDENT** student:

Parent Income and Assets

- The first question you will respond to is about your parent's tax filing status.
 - *If parents were not required to file taxes, you do not need to provide parent's financial information.*
- Refer to the **blue subtext** to determine how to answer each question about you and your parent's finances.
- **Parent Income:** You will enter the total amount of adjusted gross income. This can be found on line 11 of IRS Form 1040.
- **Parent Assets:** Parent's total cash, savings, and checking accounts. Include net worth of businesses and investments if any.



Federal Student Aid Estimator

✓
Student Information

✓
Family Information

3
Financial Information

Parent Income and Assets

Let's review the parent's income and assets to get an estimate of how much federal student aid the student may be eligible to receive.

[Uncertain about income and assets? ^](#)

If a student or their parent isn't sure if they have all the information they need about their income and assets, they can use their past federal tax information or tax returns to provide information on the Federal Student Aid Estimator—this can help estimate the amount of federal student aid the student may be eligible for.

Did the student's parent file taxes in 2023?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Parent Financials

It includes the total amount of the parent—including any stepparent if the student's primary parent is married or remarried.

Parent Income

A parent's adjusted gross income includes more than just wages. It could also include alimony, Social Security, and business income.

Parent's Adjusted Gross Income

\$.00

[Where to find this information?](#)

Workshop Step 6: Financial Information (Student)

For a **DEPENDENT** student:

Student Income and Assets

- Please complete the finance questions based on your 2024 tax information.
 - If you did not file taxes, select "No" and you will not be required to provide financial information.
- Refer to the **blue subtext** to determine how to answer each question about you and your parent's finances.

Federal Student Aid Estimator

Progress: 1 Student Information (checked), 2 Family Information (checked), 3 Financial Information (active)

Student Income and Assets

Let's review the student's income and assets to get an estimate of how much federal student aid the student may be eligible to receive.

[Uncertain about income and assets?](#)

Did the student file taxes in 2023?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Student Income

A student's adjusted gross income includes more than just wages. It could also include alimony, Social Security, and business income.

Student's Adjusted Gross Income

\$.00

[Where to find this information?](#)

Student Assets

Assets include the student's total cash, savings, and checking accounts; the net worth of their businesses and investment firms; and the net worth of their investments, including real estate (but not the home in which they live).

Student's Total Assets

\$ 0 .00

[What are assets?](#)

[Previous](#) [Continue](#)

Workshop Step 6: Financial Information (Student)

For an **INDEPENDENT** student:

Income and Assets

- The first question you will respond to is about your (and spouse's, if married) tax filing status.
- Refer to the **blue subtext** to determine how to answer each question about you and your spouse's finances.
- **Student's Income:** You will enter the total amount of adjusted gross income. This can be found on line 11 of IRS Form 1040
- **Student's Assets:** Your total cash, savings, and checking accounts. Include net worth of businesses and investments if any.

Federal Student Aid Estimator

Student Information

Family Information

3
Financial Information

Income and Assets

Let's review the student's income and assets to get an estimate of how much federal student aid the student may be eligible to receive.

Uncertain about income and assets? [v](#)

Did the student file taxes in 2023?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Household Financials

Include all income in your household, including your spouse's income (if married).

What was the student's household income in 2023?

The student's household income includes the student's—and, if they're married, their spouse's—adjusted gross income, which includes wages, alimony, Social Security, and business income.

Student's Household Income

\$.00

[Where to find this information?](#)

What is the total value of the student's household assets?

Assets include the student's total cash, savings, and checking accounts; the net worth of their businesses and investment farms; and the net worth of their investments, including real estate (but not the home in which they live).

Student's Household Assets

\$ 0 .00

[What are assets?](#)

Good news! The student may be eligible for federal student aid.



Estimates

These results are based on a method—the Student Aid Index (SAI)—a number used by a college's financial aid office to determine federal student aid eligibility.

Estimated Federal Student Aid

\$18,876

Incorrect Field for Eligibility

Federal student aid from the U.S. Department of Education helps cover expenses such as tuition, fees, books, supplies, food, housing, and travel—but it is not the only source of funding for the students' college costs. Scroll down to the "Other Factors To Consider" section to see some additional options that may help students lower their college costs.

Estimated Federal Pell Grant

\$7,395

Maximum Available Direct Loans

\$9,500

Average Work-Study Funds

\$1,981

These estimates are all approximate calculations.

[More information about these numbers](#) ▼

Estimated Student Aid Index (SAI)

Correct Field for Eligibility

SAI is an eligibility index number that the college's financial aid office uses to determine how much federal student aid the student would receive if the student attended their school. Taking into consideration the student's or parent's income and assets, a need-based analysis generates an estimated SAI value. Learn [how the SAI is calculated](#).

Estimated SAI

-1500

Results

For **DEPENDENT** and **INDEPENDENT** students:

- **DO NOT** input the Estimated Federal Student Aid (circled **red**) amount into the application. **This is NOT your SAI.**
- **DO** input the Estimated SAI (circled **blue**) number into the Eligibility section of the application and upload the PDF available for download (circled **orange**).



Print or Download Estimated Information

Print or Download PDF

Previous

Start Over

Questions?

applicationhelp@greatjobskc.org



Important Dates

Application Opens: January 8, 2026

Application Closes: February 27, 2026, at 5:00p.m.

Awards Day: May 5, 2026

Interest Form



Receive scholarship
application updates and
reminders!

