

**ARAPAHOE HIGH SCHOOL
GUIDANCE CENTER
SCHOLARSHIP AND FINANCIAL AID BULLETIN**

The philosophy upon which scholarships are awarded has changed during the past few years. Rather than competing for top scholars by offering them money, colleges subscribe to the idea that they recognize a student's academic achievement by offering him or her admission. If the admitted student needs financial assistance to attend that college, the institution will offer the student a financial aid "package." Typically, an aid package is a combination of grant and/or scholarship, on-campus employment, and a loan. Financial aid is awarded on a yearly basis.

CollegeInColorado.org **www.CollegeInColorado.org**

Financial Aid User's Guide – Clearly explains the confusing world of financial aid. Provides a Financial Aid Estimator and a section on interpreting offers of financial aid. This site also includes information about FAFSA. Colorado Institutions of higher education.

COLLEGE INVEST **www.collegeinvest.org**

As a not-for-profit division of the Colorado Department of Education, their goal is to help students get an education beyond high school. They are there to help plan, prepare for and meet the financial challenges college presents.

FAFSA **www.fafsa.ed.gov**

Helpline: 1-800-433-3243 or 1-800-4-FED AID. Refer to FAFSA Section beginning on page 35.

CSS PROFILE (OPTIONAL) **www.collegeboard.com**

It is used in addition to FAFSA. The CSS/Financial Aid Profile Service (Profile) is designed to help institutions and programs award their private student aid funds. For many colleges this will mean the reduction or elimination of separate institutional applications. **There is a fee to process this form.** This form is available on line.

It is important that this form be completed as soon as possible. The most reliable source of information about which forms a student needs to complete at any particular college is the financial aid office of that college.

FEDERAL GRANTS **<http://studentaid.ed.gov>**

Federal Grants are sponsored by the Federal Government. For many students, Pell Grants provide a Unlike loans, grants don't have to be paid back. All colleges in Colorado **REQUIRE** that aid applicants apply for Pell, using the FAFSA form.

FINANCIAL AID PLANNING TOOLS

College Board (www.collegeboard.com) and ACT (www.act.org) provide tools to assist in financial planning and paying for college as well as help in estimating the cost of colleges you are considering and your family contribution to your student's college costs.

COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY FUND **www.CollegeInColorado.org**

A fund created by the Colorado State Legislature to provide a stipend to eligible undergraduate students. It pays a portion of you in-state tuition when you attend a Colorado public college or a participating private institution. Register NOW.

ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Athletic offices award athletic scholarships. Your high school coach can advise you. Refer to the information in the Colorado Collegiate Handbook for specific guidelines for In-State Colleges.

GENERAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The AHS Guidance and Post Grad Centers receive numerous scholarship applications that arrive throughout the school year. Scholarships are posted on the AHS website and on Naviance. Paper copies of scholarships are filed in the Post Grad Center. Students are encouraged to search for scholarships frequently. Post Grad Center staff is available to assist in searches, and counselors can advise students about scholarships and financial aid opportunities. (Refer to section on scholarship scams.)

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