

FINANCIAL AID FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

An Overview

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UES

EXPERT ADMISSIONS

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PRESENTATION OVERVIEW



- Types of college in the U.S.
- Cost of tuition
- Myths and realities
- Types of student funding
- Financial aid and merit scholarships
- Tips for students
- Resources for advisors

TYPES OF COLLEGE IN THE U.S.



- Four-year private non-profit colleges
 - Private research universities e.g. Princeton, Stanford, NYU, USC
 - Technical universities e.g. CalTech, MIT, Georgia Tech
 - Liberal arts colleges e.g. Amherst, Williams, Swarthmore
- Four-year public colleges e.g. UCLA, Rutgers, Florida State
 - Many have Honors Colleges
- Two-year community colleges e.g. Cuesta in California, Bronx CC CUNY
 - Sometimes called 'junior' college

CULTURE AROUND COLLEGE COST IN U.S.



- Very different to the U.K. – Higher Education seen as a privilege not a right
- Private universities free to set their own prices - most prestigious universities have large price tag attached
- Financial fit is one of the big determining factors when choosing colleges
- Families often save for college from when children are young
- Strong culture of philanthropy from wealthy alumni e.g. Bloomberg at JHU
- ≈100 U.S. colleges have an endowment of \$1bn+
- Scholarships and financial aid can be very generous

AVERAGE COST OF TUITION IN THE U.S.



Type of institution	Private non-profit (four year)	Public Four Year – Out of State	Public Four Year – In State	Public Two-Year – In District
Average cost (2018/19)	\$35,830 (£28,124)	\$26,290 £20,636)	\$10,230 (£8,030)	\$3,660 (£2,873)

Source: College Board

EXAMPLES OF FULL EDUCATIONAL COSTS



College	Tuition (p.a.)	Room & Board, Other Expenses (p.a.)	Total (p.a.)
Stanford University (private research)	\$52,857	\$16,433	\$74,570 (£58,532)
University of Texas at Austin (public research)	\$37,580 (out-of- state) \$10,610 (in-state)	\$20,420	\$58,000 (£45,555) (out-of-state) \$31,000 (in-state)
Cuesta College (community college)	\$8,652 (out-of- state) \$1,288 (in-state)	\$19,994 (out-of- state) \$22,379 (in-state)	\$28,646 (£22,502) (out-of-state) \$23,667 (in-state)

TYPES OF FUNDING



- Types of funding available:
 - Financial aid – means tested
 - Merit scholarships – for academic ability, talent in arts
 - University scholarships e.g. Morehead-Cain
 - Sports scholarships - Title 9 means equal funding for men and women
 - Scholarships from external organisations
 - Work-study options – some restrictions for international students

COLLEGE FINANCE - COMMON MYTHS



1. U.S. universities are out of reach to students from all but the highest income brackets
2. Ivy League universities are only for rich students
3. U.S. universities do not offer financial aid for international students
4. U.S. universities charge more to international students than U.S. citizens
5. Universities have a quota for international students or for certain nationalities
6. Ivy League universities offer sports and academic scholarships
7. Public universities are more likely to give funding to low income students than private universities

COLLEGE FINANCE - REALITIES



1. U.S. universities can be affordable for students from all backgrounds
2. Many Ivy League (and other highly selective) universities want to attract students from low-income backgrounds e.g. 70% of undergraduates receive financial aid at Harvard; 20% pay nothing
3. Many U.S. universities offer financial aid for international students
4. International students pay the same fees at private universities as everyone else and are considered 'out-of-state' at public universities
5. Universities are often very keen to recruit internationally and to increase their percentage of overseas students – 125 colleges offer average financial aid awards of \$30,000 or more to students
6. Scholarships are not offered at Ivy League universities – only financial aid
7. Private universities are students' best bet of getting financial aid

FINANCIAL AID

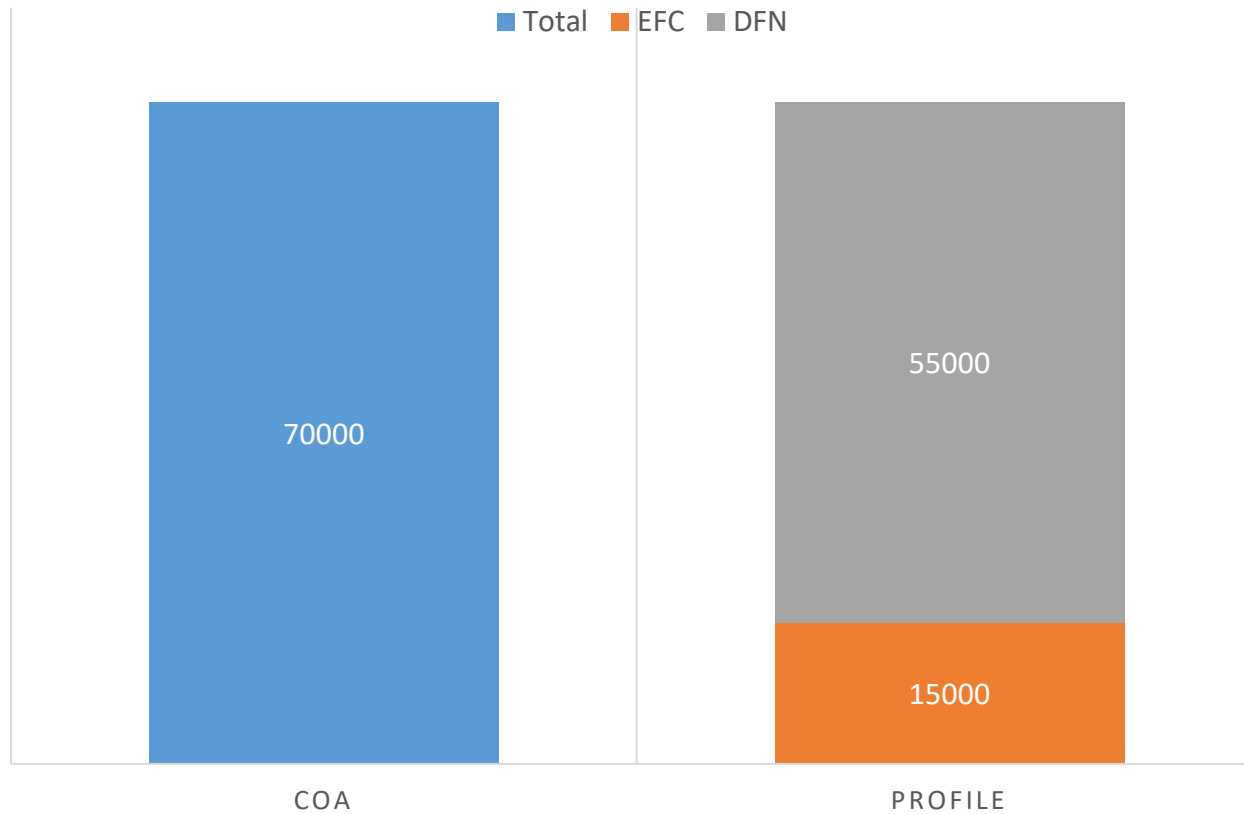


- Financial aid is assessed on parental income and assets
- U.S. students complete a form called a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
- International Students are not eligible for federal aid but may be asked to complete a CSS Profile (College Scholarship Service Profile) that gives info on family income/assets
- COA – EFC = DFN
- Most public (state) universities reserve financial aid for in-state applicants – have less funding for international students

DETERMINING DEMONSTRATED FINANCIAL NEED



FINANCIAL PROFILE



FINANCIAL AID: NEED BLIND VS NEED AWARE



- Need blind colleges do not consider a student's financial situation when making admissions decisions
- Need aware colleges do consider a student's financial situation when making admissions decisions
- Both need blind and need aware institutions may commit to meeting 100% of demonstrated financial need
- Many colleges that are fully need blind for domestic students are need aware for international students (and many meet full need)

FINANCIAL AID: NEED BLIND COLLEGES



Five colleges are both need blind and meet full financial need for international students:

- Amherst College
- Harvard
- MIT
- Princeton
- Yale

FINANCIAL AID: MOST GENEROUS COLLEGES



University	No of awards for international students	Average award
Columbia University (NY)	257	\$66,350
Harvard University (MA)	594	\$64,459
Skidmore College (NY)	83	\$63,855
Williams College (MA)	92	\$62,873
Trinity College (CT)	170	\$62,241
Amherst College (MA)	147	\$62,022
Wesleyan University (CT)	98	\$61,549
Duke University (NC)	207	\$61,497
Wellesley College (MA)	90	\$61,386
Vassar College (NY)	77	\$61,052

Source: US News

SCHOLARSHIPS



- Scholarships are assessed independently of a family's financial situation and ability to pay
- Universities will use scholarships to attract talented students to their universities
- Most scholarships are offered on academic merit – others on ability
- When considering U.K. applicants for merit scholarships, colleges will consider a student's GCSE grades, IB/A-Level predictions and overall profile
- Students may also be offered scholarships based on ability in arts e.g. drama, dance, music, art
- Some scholarships such as the Morehead-Cain at UNC look for attributes in several areas including leadership, physical vigour, scholarship, and character
- Sports scholarships are highly competitive and students are usually competing on a national level to be considered

SCHOLARSHIPS – HOW TO APPLY



- Students are often considered for merit scholarships automatically when applying to a college
- Other scholarships require supplements within the application process, such as essays or artistic portfolios
- Performing arts scholarships may require video or in-person auditions
- High-profile scholarships such as the Morehead-Cain can require a separate application process and several stages, including regional interviews and finals at host university
- Sports scholarships are mostly governed by the NCAA and there are strict guidelines that need to be followed e.g. amateur status

OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDING



- External scholarships are awarded by funding bodies and can set their own criteria – this can include country of origin, sex, ethnicity, religion, discipline, or talent
- Work-study programmes are available to students on an F-1 visa
- NB - F-1 visas are only awarded to students who can demonstrate full financial support – work-study is not substitute for this
- Through work-study programmes, students can work up to 20 hours a week during term time and full time in holidays
- Work must be on campus in first year but students can apply to work off-campus from second year onwards, including Optional Practical Training
- We recommend avoiding student loans, which can be expensive

TIPS FOR STUDENTS WHO NEED FINANCIAL HELP



- Determine financial fit early on in the process of compiling a list of colleges
- Look at how these colleges assess financial need and complete CSS profile
- Able students from low income backgrounds should only target universities that meet full need for international students
- Students should look outside “usual suspects” to target colleges keen to attract international students, especially liberal arts colleges and universities in Midwest or South
- Students should research scholarships that are available to international students and apply early
- Students should compile a spreadsheet of suitable scholarships with assessment criteria and deadlines
- Universities have well-resourced admissions departments and are happy to answer enquiries from students

RESOURCES FOR ADVISORS



- Look on:
 - College websites – lots of information! (see Common Data Set report)
 - Big Future section of College Board: www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org/
 - IEFA for external scholarships: (www.iefaf.org)
 - Fulbright Commission (www.fulbright.org.uk)
 - International Association for College Admission Counseling: <https://www.internationalacac.org/> (membership is \$50/year)
 - UES can send you data n colleges that provide financial aid for international students

OUR SERVICES



- SAT-ACT Online Diagnostic test offered as service to schools
- In school SAT-ACT courses
- Essay workshops for Lower Sixth in summer term
- Discounted intensive course rates
- CPD through conferences, training, and masterclasses (Teacher Training Day on Monday 23rd September 2019)
- Links to specialists in different areas including sports scholarship advisors and global college counsellor
- Individual test preparation and essay advice services for students

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