In the 2011-2012 academic year, the College disbursed more than $90 million in federal student aid, including more than $47 million in Pell grants that benefited 15,000+ students. We remain committed to advancing the availability of student aid and assisting students in overcoming financial barriers toward earning a degree or certificate.

Filing a FAFSA is the very first step. To help students and their parents start the financial aid application process, the Office of Financial Aid conducts walk-in Financial Planning Workshops almost every day in the Bonnell Building, Room BG-35. Check our monthly schedule under the Financial Services heading in MyCCP.

Who can get federal student aid for 2012–2013? Here are some of the general eligibility requirements:

- Have submitted a 2012–2013 FAFSA if planning to attend Fall 2012, Spring 2013 and/or Summer 2013
- Have resolved all errors, omissions, discrepancies and conflicting data entered on the FAFSA application
- Submit all requested documents to the Office of Financial Aid
- Be a U.S. citizen, permanent resident or eligible noncitizen
- Be a high school or state-approved home school graduate or have a GED
- Have a valid Social Security Number
- Register for Selective Service (males only)
- Be making satisfactory academic progress (SAP)
- Not have defaulted on any federal loan or have any financial aid overpayments
- Not exceed the Pell lifetime eligibility limit (equivalent to 12 full-time semesters)
- Be enrolled in an eligible program of study at the College
- Be enrolled for at least six credits to be eligible for federal loans
- Not have a bachelor’s degree to be eligible for a Pell grant

Common Financial Aid Myths

**MYTH:** Once I submit my FAFSA, I am done.

**FACT:** You must read the Student Aid Report you receive after filing the FAFSA and resolve any identified issues or items. You may also be selected for verification.

**MYTH:** Filing a FAFSA means I do not have to pay my student bill.

**FACT:** Filing a FAFSA does not guarantee that you will be eligible for funds. Your aid application may be incomplete, have errors, data conflicts or any number of other issues.

**MYTH:** Filing a FAFSA means my classes will not be dropped for non-payment.

**FACT:** You may have outstanding items or requirements in your application or your authorized aid may not be enough to cover your bill and you did not pay the difference.

**MYTH:** I don’t live with my parents, so I am independent.

**FACT:** Federal Student Aid will determine your status based on the answers on your FAFSA.

**MYTH:** I can be on financial aid forever.

**FACT:** There are maximum limits for Pell grants and loans.

**MYTH:** I can get bookstore credit if I sign up for a payment plan.

**FACT:** The payment plan stops your classes from being dropped but will not provide you with a bookstore credit.

**MYTH:** Academic Standing policy is the same as Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress, or SAP.

**FACT:** The SAP policy is stricter than the Academic Standing policy. You should become familiar with the policy.

**MYTH:** I must be at least half time to get aid.

**FACT:** The maximum Pell grant is $694 for 1 to 5 credits, however, for loans and the PHEAA state grant you do have to be at least half time.

**MYTH:** Nobody will know if I default on my student loans. I can still get a Pell grant or go to another school.

**FACT:** Every school you plan to attend will eventually know.

For more information, visit the College’s Financial Aid website at www.ccp.edu/site/prospective/financial_aid/