

HIFE CPP REQUIREMENTS:

- ◆ Must have a minimum of 2.5 GPA
- ◆ Must attend an accredited institution
- ◆ Must be willing to complete the assigned homework provided by the HIFE Coach

Inside this issue:

Making Changes To SAR	1
Message From The Dean	1
How Your EFC Determines Your College Cost	2
What To Do The Summer Before Your Senior H.S.	3
Steps To Take When You Receive the SAR	3
What We Do In The HIFE College Planning Program	4

Making Changes To Your Student Aid Report



FAFSA

Once you have received your Student Aid Report or SAR, be sure to review it carefully to determine that the information listed is accurate. Often, colleges and universities accept your application based on the information listed on this report to determine the amount of money you will be awarded. This can affect your decision in determining which school to attend.

Should there be any discrepancies on your SAR, be sure to correct those changes

immediately and resubmit your FAFSA. Here are some options on how to make changes on your SAR & FAFSA form:

- ◆ If you completed the FAFSA online, simply go directly to the "Make Corrections To A Processed FAFSA" section of the Federal Student Aid website to make the changes.
- ◆ If you received your SAR by mail, simply make the appropriate changes directly on the paper report and mail the corrected SAR back to the address listed on the form. Be sure to first make a copy of the corrected SAR for your own personal copy just in case it gets lost in the mail.
- ◆ Get assistance from your HIFE Coach to direct you on what changes you need to make on the SAR.
- ◆ You can also make some changes by contacting the Federal Student Aid Information Center. However, these changes are limited to your current email, mailing address, as well as the college or university you want to receive your FAFSA information. You will need to have your Data Release Number or DRN (which can be found on your SAR) available before your contact the FSAIC office.

Message From The Dean - Bob Fulcomer

Your Expected Family Contribution or EFC is the number the federal government expects for you to contribute toward the your college cost and it helps determine how much financial aid you may qualify for. This number is predicated on the information you provided on

your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Your EFC is generally used by colleges and universities to help calculate how much financial aid you are eligible to receive. The EFC can be found on your Student Aid Report

(SAR) once your FAFSA is processed.

This is why it is so important for you to complete the FAFSA as accurate as possible. Ask your HIFE Coach for assistance in reviewing both the FAFSA and SAR.

How Your EFC Determines Your College Cost



Your Expected Family Contribution or EFC helps determine your financial need. Typically, the lower your EFC, the more financial aid you will receive. Your financial need can be found by subtracting your EFC from a school's Cost of Attendance (COA) which is typically: tuition, books, supplies, transportation, room, and board.

$COA - EFC = \text{Your financial need}$

Based on this formula, your school's financial aid office will prepare a financial aid package. You will be notified with a financial aid award letter detailing your financial aid award, and how much you will be expected to pay out of pocket.

While the cost of attendance varies from school to school, your EFC does not change based on the school you

attend.

Keep in mind that it's possible that the most expensive school on your list might not cost you the most. Don't let a school's sticker price sway your decision to apply. The fact is, most students receive some kind of financial aid including grants, scholarships, and/or work-study. It all depends on the total financial aid package awarded by each school.

The first step in estimating your EFC is determining your dependency status. There are specific criteria that the Department of Education uses to consider whether a student is dependent or independent. You are considered independent if you meet one or more of the following criteria:

- ◆ You were born before January 1, 1991.

- ◆ You are a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces.
- ◆ You are working on a master's or doctorate program during the 2014-2015 school year.
- ◆ You are married as of the date you apply for aid.
- ◆ You are a ward/dependent of the court, or you were a ward/dependent of the court until age 18.
- ◆ You have legal dependents other than a spouse.
- ◆ You are currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training.

If you do not meet at least one of the criteria above, you are considered dependent for the purposes of federal financial aid.



What To Do The Summer Before Your Senior H.S. Year

As you get ready to enter your senior high school year, this is a great opportunity for you to prepare for your college career. Here are some ideas for you to keep yourself busy during your summer vacation.

- ◆ Take the college assessments through the HIFE Kuder Program to help assist you in your career goals, interest and college search
- ◆ Make a list of your Top 3 College Choices

- ◆ Compile a List of Deadlines and a Create a Folder to Store Everything in
- ◆ Create a Resume and Make a List of All Your Achievements/Activities
- ◆ Work on your College application Essay
- ◆ Study for the October SAT
- ◆ Consider taking AP classes
- ◆ Visit 3 to 5 different colleges and get a feel for what suits you best
- ◆ Practice college admissions tests and/or placement tests (SATs and/or ACTs)
- ◆ Register for fall tests
- ◆ Volunteer in your church or local community
- ◆ Work to save some money for any additional expenses for your college as well as gain some experience in the real world.
- ◆ Intern at a place related to a career you want to pursue to see if you really want to be in that field

Steps To Take When You Receive A Student Aid Report

Your *Student Aid Report* (SAR) is a paper or electronic document that gives you some basic information about your eligibility for *federal student aid* as well as listing your answers to the questions on your *FAFSA*™.

How and when will I get my SAR?

Whether you receive your SAR online or on paper depends on whether you provide an e-mail address on your FAFSA.

If you provide a valid e-mail address, you'll receive an e-mail with instructions on how to access an online copy of your SAR.

We encourage you to add our e-mail address, FederalStudentAidFAFSA@cpsemail.ed.gov, to your e-mail contact list so that your SAR notification e-mail won't go to your spam folder.

If you don't provide a valid e-mail address on your FAFSA, you will receive either a SAR or a *SAR Acknowledgement* via postal mail.

The SAR lists your FAFSA information and provides space for you to make corrections. You will receive a paper SAR if you file a paper FAFSA and don't provide an e-mail address.

The *SAR Acknowledgement* lists your FAFSA information, but you'll need to make any corrections at *FAFSA on the Web* (the FAFSA website

at www.fafsa.gov). You'll receive a *SAR Acknowledgement* if you file an electronic FAFSA and don't provide an e-mail address.

If you have a *Federal Student Aid PIN* and your FAFSA has been processed, you can login at *FAFSA on the Web* to view SAR information regardless of whether you filed the online or paper FAFSA or provided an e-mail address or not.

The school(s) you list on your FAFSA will have access to your SAR data electronically within a day after it is processed.

Here's a summary of what you'll receive, and how soon after filing your FAFSA, based on what type of FAFSA you file.

- ◆ If you completed your FAFSA online and provided your email and signed with your PIN, expect within 3-5 days. If you used a signature page, expect 2 weeks.
- ◆ If you had the FAFSA submitted by the school & provided your email, expect within 3-5 days. If you request for a paper SAR, expect 7-10 days.
- ◆ If you submitted a paper copy of FAFSA, expect 2-3 weeks.
- ◆ Any corrections to the FAFSA will take anywhere between 1-10 days.

What information does a SAR contain?

If your application is complete, an *Expected Family Contribution (EFC)* will display in the upper right-hand corner of your SAR. If your application is incomplete, your SAR will not include an EFC, but it will tell you what you need to do to resolve any issues.

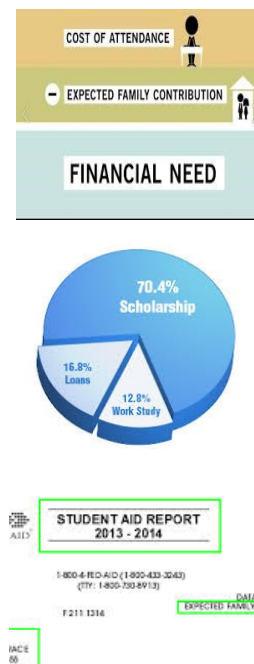
The SAR also contains a four-digit *Data Release Number (DRN)*, which appears on the first page in the upper right corner of the paper SAR and *SAR Acknowledgement*. On the electronic SAR the DRN is located in the box that contains the Application Receipt date, below the EFC. You will need the DRN if you choose to allow your college or career school to change certain information on your FAFSA.

What am I supposed to do with my SAR?

When you get your SAR, review it carefully to make sure it's correct and complete. The school(s) you listed on your FAFSA will use your information to determine your eligibility for federal—and possibly nonfederal—financial aid. A school may ask you to verify the accuracy of the data you provide on the FAFSA, so you need to be sure the information is correct.

If you don't have any changes to make to the information listed on your SAR, just keep it for your records.

Source: www.studentaid.ed.gov



HIFE



COLLEGE PLANNING PROGRAM



What We Do In The HIFE College Planning Program

The HIFE College Planning Program provides many areas of support for both students and parents in preparation for a college career. The success of the program ultimately lies on how proactive each participating student is when it comes to doing the actual work that is assigned by the HIFE Coach.

Although many parents' primary goal is to find funding for their student's education, the college planning and preparation provides an incredible amount of value for the student in determining their career goals.

Here is the summary of what the HIFE CPP entails:

1. We assign you and your student a personal College Coach to discuss with the student his or her career/major choices, college selections, as well as admission and career tips.
2. We guide your student in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
3. We assist in the College Scholarship Service (CSS) Profile and all supporting paperwork if applicable.
4. We provide any other institutional financial aid forms that are required by the individual schools that you

provide for us.

5. We verify the accuracy of the Student Aid Report (SAR) and assist in making any adjustments.

6. We provide a best fit college search. This will be based on the general interests of the student, and the student will be given access to an on-line program which maintains this information. We will also give additional recommendations if needed.

7. We allow your student access to our on-line software which will entail discussing admissions requirements, admissions essays, selecting the right colleges, how to fill out the different types of admission applications, and what the student should be doing now.

8. We provide a college planning checklist containing essential deadlines, upcoming events, and timelines concerning what we will be doing for you and your student and when.

9. We calculate your Estimated Family Contribution (EFC). We will provide recommendations and/or a plan to reduce the EFC.

10. We provide financial aid award estimates for each school being considered as well as recommend additional

schools to be considered.

11. We provide information on how to attain student loans, grants, and scholarship when applicable.

12. We schedule conference calls for what you need to be aware of or what you should be doing at that time to keep everyone on-track.

13. We provide guidelines in the appeal process, how to read your award letters, what to do if they don't offer you enough aid, as well as financial tips that concern paying for college.

14. We perform a career search (including education requirements, career description, as well as starting salary estimates). This will be based on the general interests of the student, and the student will be given access to an on-line program which maintains this information.

Students may enroll in the HIFE CPP as early as the spring semester of their 8th grade up to their high school senior year.

Contact your local HIFE CPP Consultant to learn more about our program or simply visit us on our website at: www.hife-usa.org.

8301 East Prentice Avenue
Suite #312
Greenwood Village, CO 80111

Phone: 303-597-0197
Fax: 303-369-3900
Email: hifecpp@hife-usa.org

Check us out on the web:
www.hife-usa.org