

FAQ

Application Process:

Am I eligible?

To be eligible for Federal Student Financial Aid at CACC, you must:

- Be a U.S. citizen or an eligible noncitizen.
- Be accepted for admission and admitted to an eligible degree-seeking or certificate-seeking program at CACC.
- Meet and maintain all requirements under CACC's Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy.
- Not be in default on a prior student loan or owe a repayment of any Title IV aid.
- Be registered for Selective Service if you are a male at least 18 years old who was born after January 1, 1979.

When should I apply for financial aid?

You must apply for financial aid every year. The best time to apply is as soon as possible after January 1 and before May 1.

How do I apply for financial aid?

The best way to submit your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is on the internet at www.fafsa.gov. If you have a PIN number from the Department of Education, you can do a renewal FAFSA on the internet. You can request a PIN on-line at www.pin.ed.gov.

What is CACC's federal school code?

The federal school code for CACC is 001007.

I don't live with my parents, they don't claim me on their tax returns, and they don't give me any financial support. Do I still have to include their information on my FAFSA application?

If you cannot answer YES to any question in the "Step Three" section of the FAFSA, you **MUST** include parent information. The parent information is required because the federal government feels the cost of education is the responsibility of the student and the student's parents until the student can answer YES to at least one question in "Step Three."

I already completed my FAFSA, but now I'm married. Can I be considered independent now?

Your marital status for financial aid purposes is determined on the day you applied for financial aid. So, if you included parent information on your application, their information will be included for that aid year.

My step-parent is not willing to support me. Do I have to list his/her income under the parent section?

Yes, if your supporting parent is remarried, you must include his/her spouse's information on the FAFSA.

I live with my grandparents/other relatives who support me. Should I report their income on my FAFSA instead of my parents?

No - you must list your parents' information under the parent section. If unusual circumstances exist, you may want to check with the Financial Aid Office prior to submitting your FAFSA.

The Financial Aid Office is asking for a copy of my tax return or W2s and I didn't keep copies. What should I do?

If you had a tax preparer complete your tax returns, you may want to contact him/her for a copy. Otherwise, you can get a printout or transcript from your local IRS office by calling 1-800-829-1040 or completing Form 4506. You should receive your transcript via mail within 10-15 days.

The Financial Aid Office is asking for verification of my Selective Service System registration. I don't have anything. What should I do?

You must contact the Selective Service System at www.sss.gov or 1-847-688-6888 to verify your registration. If it is determined you haven't registered and you are between the ages of 18 and 25 you must do so immediately. If you are not registered and you are over 26 years of age, you need to request a status letter from the Selective Service System and provide a copy of that to the Financial Aid Office.

I've already submitted my FAFSA, but I need to make some changes. How should I make them?

If you have your PIN number from the Department of Education, you can make your changes online at www.fafsa.gov by clicking on "Make Corrections to a Processed FAFSA." If the Financial Aid Office has already begun the processing of your FAFSA, please contact the Financial Aid Office for guidance regarding your changes.

I've already submitted my FAFSA, but I need to add a school. How do I do that?

If you have your PIN number from the Department of Education, you can add a school online at www.fafsa.gov.

How long will it take before I get my Financial Aid Award letter?

All financial aid students must have met all requirements for admissions (including transcripts from all previously attended colleges/universities) before your aid can be awarded. Processing time may take up to 8 weeks after completing all paperwork required by the Financial Aid Office. To ensure the fastest processing time, you should turn in all requested information in a timely manner.

When is it too late to apply for financial aid?

You can apply for financial aid anytime during the current school year as long as CACC receives a valid FAFSA from the federal processor before the last day of the current school year.