

Welcome to Our Webinar: How Do Families Pay for College After COVID-19



FRANK GREEN
Financial Aid Outreach Specialist
UH West Oahu



GUS COBB ADAMS
College Application & Engagement Specialist,
Hawai'i P-20

Housekeeping Notes

- Your devices have automatically been muted and the chat function has been disabled.
- Questions may be posted in the Q&A section
- Please try to hold your questions until after the presentation
- Please do not post any sensitive personal information



Agenda

- Applying for Financial Aid
 - FSA ID, FAFSA, IRS DRT
- Already Applied – What happens now?
 - Award Notifications
 - Updating your FAFSA
- Special Circumstances/Professional Judgement (PJ)
 - Appealing your Financial Aid Award
- CARES Emergency Student Grants
- Applying for UH Admissions
- Questions



Applying for Financial Aid

- It's not too late to file your FAFSA!
- FAFSA is the first step in the financial aid process
- Used to determine eligibility for all federal aid
- May also be used for:
 - State funds
 - Many private, corporate and non-profit scholarships
- Also needed for student loans



For Free FAFSA Help: FAFSA@hawaii.edu



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Applying for Financial Aid

- If you have not yet filed, these are the steps to follow:
 1. Complete FSA ID (electronic signature) – needed by the student and one parent: www.FSAID.ed.gov
 2. Once you have your FSA ID, go to www.FAFSA.gov and login as a new user with your FSA ID (student)
 3. Select the 2020/2021 FAFSA



IRS Data Retrieval Tool (DRT)

We recommend that when inputting tax information, you use the **IRS Data Retrieval** – this will automatically transfer your tax information from IRS directly into the FAFSA.

- You will need to have a copy of your **2018 1040 tax form**. The IRS site asks for your address **exactly** the way it was filed on your tax form.



Already Applied – Now What?

- Award Notification
 - FAFSA Submitted
 - Accepted for admission
- Will include the type and source of aid with dollar amounts
- Review and compare award notifications
- Accept or decline awards
- Additional forms and institutional procedures to follow



Applying to a New School

- Update your FAFSA
 - Login to your FAFSA as a Returning User: www.FAFSA.gov
 - Select '*Make Corrections*' option
 - Navigate to the '*Add School*' section
 - Add your new school
 - Save and submit
- Schools will receive your application in about 24 hours



Professional Judgement (PJ)

- Authority given to Financial Aid Offices to make adjustments to FAFSA data
- Case by case basis
- Extenuating or special circumstances
 - Death in the family
 - Recent divorce or separation
 - Loss of employment or other reduction in family income
 - Unusual or unexpected expenses



Professional Judgement Con't (PJ)

- Loss or reduction of income is a 'Special Circumstance'
 - We expect to see an increase in these cases
- Requests for Professional Judgment adjustments
 - Submitted directly to the school
 - Decision is up to the school
 - Cannot be appealed
- Contact the Financial Aid office directly and ask what their procedures are – each school is different



Appealing your Financial Aid Award

- School's procedures are different
- To assist students with starting this process:
 - *SwiftStudent* provides a free digital tool to help students seeking adjustments.
<https://formswift.com/swift-student>
 - Creates an appeal letter based on their special circumstances
 - Does not replace an institution's procedures and forms
- We recommend not doing this right now – hold off a bit.
 - Expecting additional guidance from Congress and the Department of Ed
 - Hoping that the process may become a bit easier.



CARES Emergency grants

- Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act
 - Schools receive \$\$ to provide emergency grants to students to assist with their expenses related to the disruption of coronavirus such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child-care expenses.
- The How and When – we just don't know yet
 - Different with each school
 - Additional information soon
- Schools in the UH System have collectively received about \$12 million dollars.



Admissions

- There's still time!
- College is still accessible, attainable and affordable
 - UH Community College System is your most affordable option
 - 10 campuses statewide: very near to your house, close to your community
 - UHCC Hawai'i Promise Scholarship
- UH System schools are still accepting applications
 - Deadline for admissions extended to **August 1, 2020**



Admissions

- Students and parents should complete applications together
 - Ensure proper residency declaration
- Social Security number required for the Financial Aid process, but not required for UH application.
- Social Security number is the mechanism that links a student's financial aid directly to their college application and acceptance



Admissions

- After completing your college application you will be notified via email
- To complete your college application process submit mandated health clearances to the admissions office **by August 1**
 - TB – Tuberculosis
 - MMR – Measles, Mumps, and Rubella
 - Varicella or Chicken Pox vaccination
 - TDAP – Tetanus – Diphtheria – Acellular Pertussis
- School will contact you to continue registration process



Admissions

- The University of Hawai‘i System has gone completely online for the end of the Spring Semester
 - Summer classes also online
 - Possible that having classes online could continue into Fall 2020.
- Saving money, staying home and continuing your college education here in Hawai‘i may be the best option for you!



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<https://apply.hawaii.edu>



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Questions??



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Emails and Web Sites

- For Assistance in completing the FAFSA and general Financial Aid questions: FAFSA@hawaii.edu
- To apply for your FSAID: www.FSAID.ed.gov
- To file your FAFSA: www.FAFSA.gov
- For assistance in writing a Financial Aid appeal letter: <https://formswift.com/swift-student>



Thank you!

- Thank you for joining us today!
- Contact us at FAFSA@hawaii.edu with additional questions.
- Please be well, take care of yourself and each other and be safe
- Aloha