SAR
STUDENT AID REPORT

Applying to more than 10 colleges

If you applied for financial aid using the FAFSA, you can check the status of your SAR (Student Aid Report) 3-5 days after submission if you used a PIN to sign, or 7-10 days if you printed, signed and mailed a signature page. It will tell you about your financial aid eligibility including your EFC (Expected Family Contribution). This is marked on the upper right side of Page 1. It tells how much the government has determined your family can afford, and must pay, towards your college education.

1. Read page 1 and follow the directions. Verify the information in Part 2. If everything is correct, check with the colleges to which you have applied to see if they have received the report electronically. If not, you will have to leave that college on your list until they have downloaded your information.

2. If you need to make corrections to the information on the SAR, you can do so online or print out your SAR, sign it, and return the form to the processor at the address listed on the back of Part 2. When you get back the corrected form, follow instruction #1. NOTE: It is much easier and faster to make your corrections online but you must have a PIN to do so.

3. If you need to add a college that was not on the original FAFSA, there are several ways:
   - Print a copy from the web and mail it to the college.
   - Use the SAR correction form, add a school, and return it to the processor.
   - Or call 1-800-4Fed-Aid. Tell the operator which schools to replace, leaving one CA school for Cal Grant consideration. Or go to www.fafsa.ed.gov and click on "Make corrections to an existing FAFSA" and make your corrections online. (You will need a PIN to do this.)

4. Some families will have to go through a process called verification. This is a close look at your reported income and assets and possibly your citizenship status. Sometimes this is done on a random basis; at other times they will be questioning a specific item. Be sure to provide all requested information or your FAFSA will not be fully processed.

5. When award letters begin arriving from the colleges, compare them in order to make a realistic decision about the college you plan to attend. If you have questions about your financial aid packages, call the financial aid administrator at each college to which you have applied. You do not have to accept the entire package as offered by the college. You may accept the grants and work-study, but not the student loans.

6. Important: Carefully follow your college award letter instructions and observe all due dates!! Use the chart on the back of this page to help make your decision.

Keep a copy of your FAFSA and SAR for your records!!