

Financial Aid data dictionary as of 1/2016

Terminology	Definition
Accounting Standards Codification (ASC)	The Codification, prepared by the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB), reorganizes the thousands of U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) pronouncements into roughly 90 accounting topics and displays all topics using a consistent structure.
Administrative Cost Allowance (ACA)	Funds an institution participating in the Federal Pell Grant, Federal Perkins Loan, Federal Work Study (FWS), or Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) programs is entitled to receive for an award year.
Annual Loan Limit	The statutory maximum a student may borrow at a grade level for one academic year. It varies by grade level and dependency status of borrower.
Award Amount	Amount of aid a school expects to pay a student based on the student's current grant and loan eligibility, enrollment, Expected Family Contribution (EFC), and the school's cost of attendance.
Award Letter	An offer from a college or career school that states the type and amount of financial aid the school is willing to provide if you accept admission and register to take classes at that school.
Award Year	School year for which financial aid is used to fund a student's education. Generally, this is the 12-month period that begins on July 1 of one year and ends on June 30 of the following year.
Campus Based Programs	Federal student aid programs under which funds are provided to participating institutions for awards to eligible students. The Campus-Based Programs include: the Federal Perkins Loan Program, the Federal Work- Study (FWS) Program, and the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) Program.
Cohort (Loan)	A school's current and former students who during a fiscal year enter repayment on any Direct Subsidized Loan or Direct Unsubsidized Loan, they received to attend the school.
Cohort Default Rate (CDR)	The number of students in a cohort who default on their loans during a fiscal year divided by the total number of students in the cohort, expressed by percentage.
Cost of Attendance (COA)	Tuition and fees plus the institution's estimate for room and board, books, transportation and miscellaneous expense. The total amount it will cost you to go to school—usually stated as a yearly figure. COA includes tuition and fees; room and board (or a housing and food allowance); and allowances for books, supplies, transportation, loan fees, and dependent care. It also includes miscellaneous and personal expenses, including an allowance for the rental or purchase of a personal computer; costs related to a disability; and reasonable costs for eligible study-abroad programs.
Default	Failure to repay a loan according to the terms agreed to in the promissory note. For most federal student loans, you will default if you have not made a payment in more than 270 days. You may experience serious legal consequences if you default.
Dependency Status	The determination of a <i>Free Application for Federal Student Aid</i> (FAFSA) applicant as dependent or independent.
Dependent Student	A student who does not meet any of the criteria for an independent student. An independent student is one of the following: at least 24 years old, married, a graduate or professional student, a veteran, a member of the armed forces, an orphan, a ward of the court, someone with legal dependents other than a spouse, an emancipated minor or someone who is homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.
Direct Graduate PLUS loan	A loan available to graduate students and parents of dependent undergraduate students for which the borrower is fully responsible for paying the interest regardless of the loan status.
Direct Parent Loan for Undergraduate Borrower (PLUS)	Loans made to parents of dependent undergraduate students to help pay for education expenses not covered by other financial aid.
Direct Parent Loan for Graduate Borrower (GRADPLUS)	Loans made to graduate or professional students to help pay for education expenses not covered by other financial aid.

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Direct Subsidized Loan	Loans made to eligible undergraduate students who demonstrate <i>financial need</i> to help cover the costs of higher education at a college or career school.
Direct Unsubsidized Loan	Loans made to eligible undergraduate, graduate, and professional students. The student does not have to demonstrate financial need to be eligible for the loan.
Disbursed Amount	The quantity of federal student aid funds disbursed (paid out) to a student by the school. Generally, federal student aid funds are made in two or more disbursements.
Disbursement	Payment of federal student aid funds to the borrower by the school. Students generally receive their federal student loan in two or more disbursements.
Discretionary Funds	CSU Foundation maintains discretionary fund accounts to support CSU programs and projects for which other sources of funding (e.g., state, auxiliary, endowment, etc.) would be inappropriate or unavailable. These funds are generated mainly through private gifts.
Eligible Noncitizen	A U.S. national (includes natives of American Samoa or Swains Island), U.S. permanent resident (who has an I-151, I-551 or I-551C [Permanent Resident Card]), or an individual who has an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) showing one of the following designations: Refugee, Asylum Granted, Cuban-Haitian Entrant, Conditional Entrant, Victims of Human Trafficking, Parolee.
Endowment	A donation which requires the gift corpus be held in perpetuity and only the income generated by investing the corpus can be spent.
Permanent Endowments	A contribution of which the original donated amount (the corpus) is held in perpetuity and invested, while the earnings from the invested asset are expended per the donor's specifications.
Potential Endowments	Endowments which have not reached the funding level necessary to be considered fully endowed (Currently \$25,000).
Quasi-Endowments	Principal may be spent, but gift is invested in the endowment pool. In cases when a portion of the principal is needed, the unit must make a request to the Foundation to decapitalize a portion of the principal.
Enrollment Status	Reported by the school the student attended, indicates whether the student is (or was) full-time, three-quarter time, half-time, less than half-time, withdrawn, graduated, etc.
Expected Family Contribution(EFC)	The amount a family is expected to contribute toward the COA as calculated by a mandated federal formula.
Federal Perkins Loan	A federal student loan, made by the recipient's school, for undergraduate and graduate students who demonstrate financial need, program is ending in 2015-2016. Will only be able to award existing Perkins loan borrowers.
Federal School Code (003032)	An identifier that the U.S. Department of Education assigns to each college or career school that participates in the federal student aid programs. In order to send your FAFSA information to a school, you must list the school's Federal School Code on your application. A list of Federal School Codes is available at www.fafsa.gov . CSU's code is 003032.
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)	The FSEOG program is administered directly by the <i>financial aid office</i> at each participating school and is therefore called "campus-based" aid. Not all schools participate.
Federal Work Study	Provides part-time jobs for undergraduate and graduate students with <i>financial need</i> , allowing them to earn money to help pay education expenses. The program encourages community service work and work related to the student's course of study.
Financial Need Equation	Cost of Attendance minus Expected Family Contribution equals need (COA-EFC= Need).

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First-time Undergraduate Student	An entering undergraduate who has never attended any institution of higher education. It includes a student enrolled in the fall term who attended a postsecondary institution for the first time in the prior summer term and a student who entered with advanced standing (college credit earned before graduation from high school).
Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)	The student aid application provided for under section 483 of the HEA (Higher Education Act), which is used to determine an applicant's eligibility for the federal student aid programs.
Funded scholarships	Gift and endowment dollars awarded to students.
Gift	A donation for which the donor does not expect to receive any reciprocal benefit. Gifts are received through the CSU Foundation and transferred (with restriction) to the appropriate university gift account.
Graduation Rate	Measures the progress of students who began their studies as full-time, first-time degree- or certificate-seeking students by showing the percentage of these students who complete their degree or certificate within a 150% of "normal time" for completing the program in which they are enrolled.
Independent Student	An independent student is one of the following: at least 24 years old, married, a graduate or professional student, a veteran, a member of the armed forces, an orphan, a ward of the court, or someone with legal dependents other than a spouse, an emancipated minor or someone who is homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.
Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR)	FAFSA application and processing results in an electronic file format sent to school.
Lifetime Eligibility Used(LEU)	The amount of all Federal Pell Grant aid (in percentage) awarded to you, divided by the amount of Pell Grant aid you would have been eligible to receive based on full-time enrollment. The amount of Federal Pell Grant funds a student may receive over his or her lifetime is limited by federal law to be the equivalent of six years of Pell Grant funding.
Master Promissory Note (MPN)	A binding legal document that is signed when you receive a federal student loan. The MPN can be used to make one or more loans for one or more academic years (up to 10 years). It lists the terms and conditions under which you agree to repay the loan and explains your rights and responsibilities as a borrower. It's important to read and save your MPN because you'll need to refer to it later when you begin repaying your loan or at other times when you need information about provisions of the loan, such as deferments or forbearances.
Merit-based Aid	Based on a student's academic credentials.
Need-based Aid	Based on a student's financial need.
Net Price	An estimate of the actual cost that a student and family need to pay in a given year to cover education expenses for the student to attend a particular school. Net price is determined by taking the institution's cost of attendance and subtracting any grants and scholarships for which the student may be eligible.
Pell Grant	A federal grant for undergraduate students with financial need.
PeopleSoft Administration	The CSU Student module of enterprise software: Admissions, Registrars, Financial Aid and Treasury Services.
PeopleSoft Finance	The CSU Financial module of enterprise software: Finance, Budget and Purchasing.
PeopleSoft Human Resources	The CSU Human Resources module of enterprise software.
Poverty Guideline	The income categorized by state and family size in the poverty guidelines published annually by the United States Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 9902(2).

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Program Participation Agreement (PPA)	The agreement between the Department of Education and a school that affirms the school has been approved to participate in the federal student aid programs. A program participation agreement conditions the initial and continued participation of an eligible institution in any federal student aid program on compliance with the all applicable regulations, and any additional conditions specified in the program participation agreement that the Department requires the institution to meet. An institution's program participation agreement applies to each branch campus and other location of the institution that meets the applicable requirements of this part unless otherwise specified by the Department.
Scholarship	Funds awarded to a student based on defined criteria which do not need to be repaid.
Scholarship Award Request Form (SAR form)	The CSU form completed by departments and sent to financial aid for awarding of all scholarships.
Standards of Academic Progress	A school's standards for satisfactory academic progress toward a degree or certificate measured by GPA and credit hours earned/hours attempted.
Student Aid Application	An application approved by the US Department of Education and submitted by a student to have their EFC determined under the Federal Pell Grant, Federal Perkins Loan, FWS, FSEOG, Federal Stafford Loan, or William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan programs. See Free Application for Federal Student Aid.
Student Aid Report (SAR)	A report provided to an applicant by the U.S. Department of Education showing the applicant's FAFSA information and the amount of his or her EFC. SARs are the paper or electronic (eSAR) output documents that are sent to students or printed from the FAFSA on the Web and FAA (financial aid access) access to CPS (central processing system) Online Web sites. SARs and ISIRs contain the same processed student information in different formats.
Student Grant-In-Aid	Type of financial aid that does not have to be repaid; usually awarded on the basis of need.
Subsidized Usage Limit Applies (SULA) 150 percent limit	New borrowers on or after July 1, 2013, cannot receive Direct Subsidized Loans for a period of time (measured in academic years) that exceeds 150 percent of the published length of their program of study.
Title IV, HEA Program	Financial Aid programs for postsecondary students, authorized under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended and administered by U.S. Department of Education 34 CFR 668.1.
Unfunded scholarships	University operating dollars reserved for the use of institutional scholarships.
Unmet need	The difference between the student's COA and the student's total available resources.
Verification	Institutions are required to obtain documentation to confirm the information on the FAFSA.