

FINANCIAL AID 101

1. **FAFSA - Free Application for Federal Student Aid**

- ALL students need to complete the FAFSA as soon as possible, regardless of postsecondary plans or family income level! www.fafsa.ed.gov

- **FSA ID** – both student AND parent must have one to complete the FAFSA
 - Visit www.StudentAid.gov/fsaid to learn about and create an FSA ID.
 - Here's what you need to get your FSA ID:
 - SSN
 - Date of Birth
 - Full name
 - Email address you will have access to throughout college
 - Takes 1-3 business days to process

2. **Types of Financial Aid (must complete the FAFSA to qualify):**

- See Federal Student Aid at a Glance handout
- For ALL types of postsecondary education; not just four-year colleges
- TOPS*

3. **ACT**

- It's not too late to retake the ACT to improve your score for college admissions and scholarships!

Test Date	Registration Deadline	LATE Registration Deadline	Photo Upload Deadline
December 10	November 4	November 18	December 2
February 11	January 13	January 20	February 3
April 8	March 3	March 17	March 31
June 10	May 5	May 19	June 2

*The April test date is typically the last test opportunity to qualify for all 8 semesters of TOPS eligibility.

4. **Crunch the numbers: Estimate your total college costs.**

To calculate net price, search "Net Price Calculator" on the college's website

School	BRCC	LSU	SELU	ULM	ULL
Total Cost – 1 yr.	\$17,494	\$26,357	\$18,718	\$17,124	\$23,270

*Total cost includes room and board, textbooks, and supplies.

5. **Scholarship Searching**

Free online scholarship searches:

- www.fastweb.com
- www.tuitionfundingsources.com
- www.bruslyhigh.weebly.com