Steps to Apply to College:

1. Apply to the college as a **First Time Student** Apply for Admission.
2. Create a new account SAVE and write down your Student ID #.
3. Start your application. You will need your social security number.
4. Applying to any college in Colorado, be sure to complete the COF (College Opportunity Fund) You will need your social security number.
   Complete the COF (College Opportunity Fund) application to reduce the tuition and fees cost the student has to pay. Go to COF
   The College Opportunity Fund (COF) is available to undergraduate students who are classified as in-state students for tuition purposes and enrolled in classes. When a student applies for COF, they are applying to receive a state benefit that reduces the student's share of tuition. Just like a grant, it does not need to be repaid.
   Step 1: Apply for COF
   Setp 2: Authorize COF funds go to your college or university



https://cof.college-assist.org/

Complete the FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid

FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid Link

How to Videos to help:

1. Create and access your Student Aid Account Create your student account
2. Gather Information to Complete the FAFSA
   You will need student social security number, parents (the Contributors) social security numbers, and email addresses for Contributors
   Cash on hand in checking, savings, net worth of businesses and farms,
3. Start Your FAFSA Form
4. Understand FAFSA For Contributors (Parents) Parents need to create an account also after the student INVITES them to contribute to their FAFSA form.
5. Why Do My Contributors and Students Need Their Own StudentAid.Gov Accounts?
   Explains why the student and a parent need their own accounts.
6. Complete the Personal Circumstance and Demographics Sections
7. Complete the Financial Section
8. Select Colleges to send your FAFSA. You can select up to 20 colleges
9. Review and Sign your FAFSA
10. What Happens After You Submit FAFSA?

VCA Scholarship List

BEST Scholarship Tips Book: "All the Wisdom and None of the Junk"

Linked to Amazon. Short book, quick and easy to read, but valuable information worth reading!

Reliable Scholarship Search Platforms: Create your profile. Search scholarships by topics, categories, state, and more.

Bold.org

Going Merry.com

Scholarships.com

Big Future College Board.org sign in with your College Board Account.

LENDedu - a national tool with resources for students and families on the importance of searching for scholarships when figuring out how to pay for college.

Financial Aid Appeal Letter Template

There may be times when families have experienced significant financial hardships and changes that aren't reflected in their FAFSA/tax return status. Use this template to appeal to your college with extenuating financial situations.

COLORADO PROMISE

Students who attend public institutions and have family incomes of $90,000 or less are eligible for a complete reimbursement of any out-of-pocket tuition and fees paid for their education. The Colorado Promise offers qualifying students the opportunity to graduate debt-free with a certificate(s), an associate degree, or half of a bachelor's degree.