

FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES

FAFSA AND CSS PROFILE

Colleges and scholarship committees require the Free Application for Federal Financial Aid (FAFSA). All senior parents are encouraged to complete the form. Most colleges require the information contained in this form for loans, grants and scholarships. The forms are available online. Before completing the FAFSA online, you will need to set up a Personal Identification Number (PIN) by going online at www.pin.ed.gov. *** Please be certain you are using the government's **free** website (www.fafsa.ed.gov).* Some other websites will ask for a credit card number to guide you through filling out the FAFSA.

For help completing the FAFSA and answers to most questions, go to www.studentaid.ed.gov/completefafsa.

In addition to the FAFSA, some private colleges require the **CSS/Financial Aid Profile**, which has a fee associated with it. The CSS Profile is available online at <https://profileonline.collegeboard.com/index.jsp>.

Be sure to check with each college to find out which forms are required and the deadline dates. The federal aid hot-line (1-800-4-FED-AID) may be able to answer questions for you.

ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL AID WEB SITES

- **College Board** - Paying for College (www.collegeboard.com)
- **College Preparation Checklist** (<http://www.edpubs.gov/document/en0920h.pdf>)
- **College Checklist** – tips on the FAFSA, scholarships, etc. (<http://www.studentaid.ed.gov/collprep>)
- **College Scholarships.org** (<http://collegescholarships.org>)
- **CT Financial Aid Resources** - (<http://www.ctohe.org/>)
- **CT Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority** – (www.chesla.org)
- **FAFSA** – Free Application for Federal Student Aid. The FAFSA hotline is 1-800-433-3243. (www.fafsa.ed.gov)
- **FastWeb** - Assistance on scholarship searches, choosing a college, paying for college and finding jobs and internships (www.fastweb.com)
- **Funding Education Beyond High School** booklet (www.studentaid.ed.gov/guide)
- **Sallie Mae** - Information on the college process (www.wiredscholar.com)
- **School Soup** - Free scholarship search (www.schoolsoup.com)
- **State of CT Department of Higher Education** (<http://www.ctohe.org/sfa/>)
- **Student Aid on the Web** - Free information from the US Department of Education on preparing for and funding education beyond high school (www.studentaid.ed.gov)
- **The SmartStudent Guide to Financial Aid** (www.finaid.org)

SCHOLARSHIPS

An online directory of scholarships available to college-bound seniors in the greater Hartford area is available from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. The directory includes more than 100 scholarships available from the Hartford Foundation and other organizations. For details, visit www.hfpg.org/scholarships.

The guidance office regularly receives notices of state and national scholarships. These usually have very specific qualifications and are highly competitive. Most applications are advertised in Naviance (<http://connection.naviance.com/rockyhill>). Click on the **Colleges** tab, then select **Scholarship List**. Copies of applications not available online are in the filing cabinets in Guidance; however a majority of scholarship applications are online. . By the middle of March, a number of local scholarships will become available to Rocky Hill High School seniors.